

# The Lower Missouri River Flood Prevention Act

## Problem/Need for Proposal:

- Due to recent historic and catastrophic flooding, there is urgent need for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to respond to these types of events and manage water resource projects along the lower Missouri River differently in order to be better prepared for future emergencies.
- The lower Missouri River basin system, comprised mostly of non-federal levees, needs to be restored and intact to withstand future flooding events.

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## Steps Taken to Date:

- Congress identified this is a regional problem and authorized a new start for a Lower Missouri Basin Flood Risk and Resiliency Study in FY 2020 Energy & Water appropriations, which is included in the Corps' FY 2020 work plan.
- Complementary to the 4 lower basin Governors working together to address flooding at the state level.

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## Status of Legislation:

- S. 3403 was formally introduced on March 5, 2020.
- All 8 lower Missouri River basin Senators are original co-sponsors:
  - Missouri: Blunt, Hawley
  - Iowa: Ernst, Grassley
  - Nebraska: Fischer, Sasse
  - Kansas: Roberts, Moran

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## Solution - Key Points of Proposal:

- Program authority to encompass 735 miles of the Missouri River (from Sioux City, Iowa, to the mouth of the river);
- Require the Secretary of the Army to administer a program to study, design, and construct water resources development projects to provide flood protection to affected communities;
- Require the Secretary of the Army to develop a system plan for reducing flood risk and improving flood resiliency;

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## Solution - Key Points of Proposal:

- Provide authority, after development of a project feasibility report, for the Secretary of the Army to construct projects where the federal share does not exceed \$75 million;
- Require congressional authorization for projects where the federal share exceeds \$75 million. The federal cost-share for feasibility reports and construction would be 80%; and
- Require consultation with applicable federal and state agencies, tribes, and stakeholders.

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## Supporters:

- Missouri Levee & Drainage District Association
- Coalition to Protect the Missouri River
- MO, KS, IA, and NE Corn and Soybean Associations
- MO, IA, and NE Farm Bureaus
- Agricultural Business Council of Kansas City
- Missouri and Associated Rivers Coalition (MOARC)

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Thank you and happy to answer questions.

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