

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study with respect to stormwater runoff from oil and gas operations, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. CARDIN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study with respect to stormwater runoff from oil and gas operations, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Focused Reduction of
5 Effluence and Stormwater runoff through Hydrofracking
6 Environmental Regulation Act of 2015” or the “FRESH-
7 ER Act of 2015”.

1 **SEC. 2. STORMWATER RUNOFF FROM OIL, GAS, AND MIN-**
2 **ING OPERATIONS.**

3 (a) **LIMITATION ON PERMIT REQUIREMENT.**—Sec-
4 tion 402(*l*) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act
5 (33 U.S.C. 1342(*l*)) is amended—

6 (1) by striking paragraph (2);

7 (2) by redesignating paragraph (3) as para-
8 graph (2); and

9 (3) in paragraph (2)(C) (as so redesignated), by
10 striking “402(*l*)(3)(A)” each place it appears and in-
11 sserting “subparagraph (A)”.

12 (b) **DEFINITIONS.**—Section 502 of the Federal Water
13 Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1362) is amended—

14 (1) by striking paragraph (24); and

15 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (25) and (26)
16 as paragraphs (24) and (25), respectively.

17 (c) **STUDY.**—

18 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of the Inte-
19 rior shall conduct a study of stormwater impacts
20 with respect to any area that the Secretary deter-
21 mines may be contaminated by stormwater runoff
22 associated with oil or gas operations, which shall in-
23 clude an analysis of—

24 (A) measurable contamination in the area;

25 (B) ground water resources in the area;

26 and

1 (C) the susceptibility of aquifers in the
2 area to contamination from stormwater runoff
3 associated with the oil or gas operations.

4 (2) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the
5 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall
6 submit to Congress a report on the results of the
7 study conducted under paragraph (1).