

National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act Reauthorization of 2015 Passes

(Washington D.C.) -- In only the 2nd day of session in the brand new 114th Congress, the House Science, Space and Technology Committee Chairman Lamar Smith was able to get Rep. Neugebauer's HR. 23, National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act Reauthorization of 2015 scheduled for floor consideration and it passed overwhelmingly.

This exact same bill passed the House last session but it was never taken up by the Senate. With the 114th Congress just beginning, all of the bills that did not pass both houses by the close of the 113th Congress must be reintroduced for further consideration.

This measure was written with the assistance of TTU's own Dr. John Schroeder. And Rep. Neugebauer's press conference announcing the original introduction of this bill in 2013 took place at TTU's NWI facility. TTU's Dr. Ernie Kiesling was called to testify before the House Science, Space and Technology on behalf of the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act when it was approved by the committee in 2013.

The bill provides an authorization for an appropriations for wind research funding through FEMA for (1) \$5,332,000 for fiscal year 2015; (2) \$5,332,000 for fiscal year 2016; and (3) \$5,332,000 for fiscal year 2017.

National Science Foundation- (1) \$9,682,000 for fiscal year 2015,(2) \$9,682,000 for fiscal year 2016; and (3) \$9,682,000 for fiscal year 2017.

National Institute of Standards and Technology- (1) \$4,120,000 for fiscal year 2015, (2) \$4,120,000 for fiscal year 2016; and (3) \$4,120,000 for fiscal year 2017.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration- (1) \$2,266,000 for fiscal year 2015, (2) \$2,266,000 for fiscal year 2016; and (3) \$2,266,000 for fiscal year 2017.

With the GOP now in the majority in the US Senate, efforts are already underway to move HR 23 through the Senate this session. We will aide in these efforts to support Chairman Smith and Rep. Neugebauer to pass HR 23 in the Senate.

Dr. Schroeder and Dr. Kiesling have done a great job ensuring that this important measure received critical technical support from TTU ensuring its passage last session and today.