

.....  
(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To require the District Commanders of the Corps of Engineers to provide to offices of Members of Congress annual briefings on projects funded or led by the Corps of Engineers in watersheds within such district, and for other purposes.

\_\_\_\_\_  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. TORRES of New York introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**A BILL**

To require the District Commanders of the Corps of Engineers to provide to offices of Members of Congress annual briefings on projects funded or led by the Corps of Engineers in watersheds within such district, 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 referred to as the “Army Corps Con-  
5       gressional Engagement Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ANNUAL BRIEFINGS ON CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
2 **PROJECTS WITHIN UNITED STATES WATER-**  
3 **SHEDS.**

4 (a) ANNUAL BRIEFING.—For each calendar year be-  
5 ginning after the date of enactment of this Act, the Dis-  
6 trict Commander of each district of the Corps of Engi-  
7 neers shall provide to each office of a Member of Congress  
8 for which the respective congressional district is located,  
9 fully or partially, in the district of the Corps of Engineers,  
10 an annual briefing, virtually or in-person at the discretion  
11 of the District Commander—

12 (1) regarding each project that is—

13 (A) located in the district of the Corps of  
14 Engineers and, fully or partially, in the respec-  
15 tive congressional district;

16 (B) fully or partially located within a wa-  
17 tershed; and

18 (C) funded, partially funded, led, or par-  
19 tially led by the Corps of Engineers, or on  
20 which the Corps of Engineers has consulted  
21 during the period covered by the report;

22 (2) conveying for each such project—

23 (A) the location, including identification of  
24 any other congressional districts in which the  
25 project is being carried out;

1 (B) the status and progress towards  
2 project completion;

3 (C) any delays, or potential delays, in the  
4 project timeline;

5 (D) the amount of funding expended by  
6 the Corps of Engineers, total and for the period  
7 covered by the report;

8 (E) an estimation any additional funds re-  
9 quired to complete the project;

10 (F) a list of project expenses for which  
11 funds were expended by the Corps of Engi-  
12 neers, since project inception and for the period  
13 covered by the report;

14 (G) a summary of any environmental im-  
15 pacts of the project and any identifiable im-  
16 pacts of the project on the community local to  
17 the project;

18 (H) a summary of any engagement be-  
19 tween the Corps of Engineers and a non-Fed-  
20 eral sponsor or the public with respect to the  
21 project; and

22 (I) any opportunities identified by the Dis-  
23 trict Commander for a related study or project  
24 authorization that may be carried out in the

1 same congressional district in which the project  
2 is being carried out;

3 (3) detailing any request for additional appro-  
4 priations for use in one or more such projects; and

5 (4) that includes a period during which the  
6 Member of Congress and staff of the office may ask  
7 questions regarding any project being carried out in  
8 the congressional district of the Member.

9 (b) FAILURE TO BRIEF.—

10 (1) WRITTEN STATEMENT.—For each calendar  
11 year beginning after the date of enactment of this  
12 Act, if a District Commander has not provided an  
13 annual briefing required under subsection (a) by De-  
14 cember 1 of the calendar year, the District Com-  
15 mander shall, prior to December 31 of the calendar  
16 year, submit to each office of a Member of Congress  
17 the District Commander has yet to brief as required  
18 under subsection (a) a written statement that in-  
19 cludes—

20 (A) an explanation of why the briefing has  
21 not occurred;

22 (B) indication of whether the District  
23 Commander has contacted the office about  
24 scheduling the briefing; and

1 (C) a description of how the District Com-  
2 mander plans to ensure that the briefing is  
3 scheduled as soon as possible.

4 (2) INVESTIGATION.—If a District Commander  
5 fails to submit a written statement required under  
6 paragraph (1), not later than 30 day after the date  
7 on which the written statement was due, the Inspec-  
8 tor General of the Army shall submit to each office  
9 of a Member of Congress the District Commander  
10 has yet to brief as required under subsection (a) and  
11 the relevant Congressional Committees a report con-  
12 taining—

13 (A) the results of an investigation of the  
14 Inspector General as to why the briefing did not  
15 occur during the calendar year in which it was  
16 required; and

17 (B) recommendations of the Inspector  
18 General to facilitate and ensure the briefing  
19 takes place as soon as possible.

20 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

21 (1) MEMBER OF CONGRESS.—The term “Mem-  
22 ber of Congress” includes a Delegate to Congress  
23 and a Resident Commissioner to Congress.

1           (2) RELEVANT CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-  
2           TEES.—The term “relevant Congressional Commit-  
3           tees” means—

4                   (A) the Committee on Armed Services of  
5                   the House of Representatives;

6                   (B) the Committee on Transportation and  
7                   Infrastructure of the House of Representatives;

8                   (C) the Committee on Armed Services of  
9                   the Senate; and

10                   (D) the Committee on Environment and  
11                   Public Works of the Senate.