

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To authorize resources for sustained research and analysis to address colony collapse disorder and the decline of North American pollinators.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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

A BILL

To authorize resources for sustained research and analysis to address colony collapse disorder and the decline of North American pollinators.

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 “Pollinator Protection
5 Research Act of 2007”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

8 (1) many of the crops that humans and live-
9 stock consume rely on pollinators for healthy
10 growth;

1 (2) pollination by honey and native bees adds
2 more than \$18,000,000,000 annually to the value of
3 United States crops;

4 (3) $\frac{1}{3}$ of the food supply of the United States
5 depends on bee pollination, which makes the man-
6 agement and protection of pollinators an issue of
7 paramount importance to the security of the United
8 States food supply system;

9 (4) colony collapse disorder is the name that
10 has been given to the latest die-off of honey bee colo-
11 nies, exacerbating the continual decline of pollinators
12 in North America;

13 (5) honey bee colonies in more than 23 states
14 have been affected by colony collapse disorder;

15 (6) if the current rate of decline continues, the
16 United States will be forced to rely more heavily on
17 imported foods, which will destabilize the food secu-
18 rity of the United States through adverse affects on
19 the availability, price, and quality of the many fruits,
20 vegetables, and other products that depend on ani-
21 mal pollination; and

22 (7) enhanced funding for research on honey
23 bees, native bees, parasites, pathogens, toxins, and
24 other environmental factors affecting bees and polli-
25 nation of cultivated and wild plants will result in

1 methods of response to colony collapse disorder and
2 other factors causing the decline of pollinators in
3 North America.

4 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATIONS OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

5 (a) AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE.—There is
6 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Agri-
7 culture, acting through the Agricultural Research Serv-
8 ice—

9 (1) \$3,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008
10 through 2012, to be used for new personnel, facili-
11 ties improvement, and additional research at Depart-
12 ment of Agriculture Bee Research Laboratories;

13 (2) \$2,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2008
14 and 2009, to be used for research on honey and na-
15 tive bee physiology, insect pathology, insect chemical
16 ecology, and honey and native bee toxicology at
17 other Department of Agriculture facilities in New
18 York, Florida, California, Utah, and Texas; and

19 (3) \$1,750,000 for each of fiscal years 2008
20 through 2010, to be used for an area-wide research
21 and extension program to identify causes and solu-
22 tions for colony collapse disorder in affected States,
23 of which—

24 (A) \$875,000 for each fiscal year shall be
25 used to carry out the program at the bee lab-

1 oratory of the Agricultural Research Service lo-
2 cated in Beltsville, Maryland; and

3 (B) \$875,000 for each fiscal year shall be
4 used to carry out the program at the bee lab-
5 oratory of the Agricultural Research Service lo-
6 cated in Tucson, Arizona.

7 (b) COOPERATIVE STATE RESEARCH, EDUCATION,
8 AND EXTENSION SERVICE.—There is authorized to be ap-
9 propriated to the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through
10 the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension
11 Service, \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through
12 2012 to be used to fund Department of Agriculture exten-
13 sion and research grants to investigate—

14 (1) honey bee biology, immunology, and ecology;

15 (2) honey bee genomics;

16 (3) honey bee bioinformatics;

17 (4) native bee crop pollination and habitat con-
18 servation;

19 (5) native bee taxonomy and ecology;

20 (6) pollination biology;

21 (7) sublethal effects of insecticides, herbicides,
22 and fungicides on honey bees, native pollinators, and
23 other beneficial insects;

1 (8) the effects of genetically-modified crops, in-
2 cluding the interaction of genetically-modified crops
3 with honey bees and other native pollinators; and

4 (9) honey, bumble, and other native bee
5 parasites and pathogens and effects on other native
6 pollinators.

7 (c) ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERV-
8 ICE.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-
9 retary of Agriculture, acting through the Animal and
10 Plant Health Inspection Service, \$2,250,000 for each of
11 fiscal years 2008 through 2012 to conduct a nationwide
12 honey bee pest and pathogen surveillance program.

13 **SEC. 4. ANNUAL REPORTS.**

14 The Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Ag-
15 ricultural Research Service and the Cooperative State Re-
16 search, Education, and Extension Service, shall submit to
17 the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representa-
18 tives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and
19 Forestry of the Senate a report on the status and progress
20 of bee research projects that are carried out by the Sec-
21 retary.