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(Original Signature of Member)

113TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**H. R.** 5753

To amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to provide for the assessment and management of the risk of cyanotoxins in drinking water, and for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. LATTA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee  
on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to provide for the assessment and management of the risk of cyanotoxins in drinking water, 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 “Drinking Water Pro-  
5 tection Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENT TO THE SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT.**

2 (a) AMENDMENT.—At the end of part E of the Safe  
3 Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300j et seq.) add the fol-  
4 lowing new section:

5 **“SEC. 1459. CYANOTOXIN RISK ASSESSMENT AND MANAGE-**  
6 **MENT.**

7 “(a) STRATEGIC PLAN.—

8 “(1) DEVELOPMENT.—Not later than 90 days  
9 after the date of enactment of this section, the Ad-  
10 ministrator shall develop and submit to Congress a  
11 strategic plan for assessing and managing risks as-  
12 sociated with cyanotoxins in drinking water provided  
13 by public water systems. The strategic plan shall in-  
14 clude steps and timelines to—

15 “(A) evaluate the risk to human health  
16 from drinking water provided by public water  
17 systems contaminated with cyanotoxins;

18 “(B) establish, publish, and update a com-  
19 prehensive list of cyanotoxins determined by the  
20 Administrator to be harmful to human health  
21 when present in drinking water provided by  
22 public water systems;

23 “(C) summarize—

24 “(i) the known adverse human health  
25 effects of cyanotoxins included on the list  
26 published under subparagraph (B) when

1 present in drinking water provided by pub-  
2 lic water systems; and

3 “(ii) factors that cause cyanobacteria  
4 to proliferate and express toxins;

5 “(D) with respect to cyanotoxins included  
6 on the list published under subparagraph (B),  
7 determine whether to—

8 “(i) publish health advisories pursuant  
9 to section 1412(b)(1)(F) for such  
10 cyanotoxins in drinking water provided by  
11 public water systems;

12 “(ii) establish guidance regarding fea-  
13 sible analytical methods to quantify the  
14 presence of cyanotoxins; and

15 “(iii) establish guidance regarding the  
16 frequency of monitoring necessary to deter-  
17 mine if such cyanotoxins are present in  
18 drinking water provided by public water  
19 systems;

20 “(E) recommend feasible treatment op-  
21 tions, including procedures and equipment, to  
22 mitigate any adverse public health effects of  
23 cyanotoxins included on the list published under  
24 subparagraph (B); and

1           “(F) enter into cooperative agreements  
2           with, and provide technical assistance to, af-  
3           fected States and public water systems, as iden-  
4           tified by the Administrator, for the purpose of  
5           managing risks associated with cyanotoxins in-  
6           cluded on the list published under subpara-  
7           graph (B).

8           “(2) UPDATES.—The Administrator shall, as  
9           appropriate, update and submit to Congress the  
10          strategic plan developed under paragraph (1).

11          “(b) INFORMATION COORDINATION.—In carrying out  
12          this section the Administrator shall—

13               “(1) identify gaps in the Agency’s under-  
14               standing of cyanobacteria, including—

15                       “(A) the human health effects of  
16                       cyanotoxins included on the list published under  
17                       subsection (a)(1)(B); and

18                       “(B) methods and means of testing and  
19                       monitoring for the presence of harmful  
20                       cyanotoxins in source water of, or drinking  
21                       water provided by, public water systems;

22          “(2) as appropriate, consult with—

23                       “(A) other Federal agencies that—

24                               “(i) examine or analyze cyanobacteria;

25                               or

1                   “(ii) address public health concerns  
2                   related to harmful algal blooms;

3                   “(B) States;

4                   “(C) operators of public water systems;

5                   “(D) multinational agencies;

6                   “(E) foreign governments; and

7                   “(F) research and academic institutions;

8                   and

9                   “(3) assemble and publish information from  
10                  each Federal agency that has—

11                  “(A) examined or analyzed cyanobacteria;

12                  or

13                  “(B) addressed public health concerns re-  
14                  lated to harmful algal blooms.

15                  “(c) USE OF SCIENCE.—The Administrator shall  
16                  carry out this section in accordance with the requirements  
17                  described in section 1412(b)(3)(A), as applicable.

18                  “(d) FEASIBLE.—For purposes of this section, the  
19                  term ‘feasible’ has the meaning given such term in section  
20                  1412(b)(4)(D).”.

21                  (b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 90 days  
22                  after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller  
23                  General of the United States shall prepare and submit to  
24                  Congress a report that includes—

25                         (1) an inventory of funds—

1           (A) expended by the United States, for  
2           each of fiscal years 2010 through 2014, to ex-  
3           amine or analyze cyanobacteria or address pub-  
4           lic health concerns related to harmful algal  
5           blooms; and

6           (B) that includes the specific purpose for  
7           which the funds were made available, the law  
8           under which the funds were authorized, and the  
9           Federal agency that received or spent the  
10          funds; and

11          (2) recommended steps to reduce any duplica-  
12          tion, and improve interagency coordination, of such  
13          expenditures.