

## Union Calendar No. 56

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1716

[Report No. 116–81]

To direct the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to conduct coastal community vulnerability assessments related to ocean acidification, and for other purposes.

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### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 13, 2019

Ms. PINGREE (for herself, Mr. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. THOMPSON of California) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

MAY 23, 2019

Additional sponsors: Mr. GOLDEN, Mr. CRIST, Ms. GABBARD, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. WEXTON, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Ms. JOHNSON of Texas

MAY 23, 2019

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italie*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on March 13, 2019]

# **A BILL**

To direct the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to conduct coastal community vulnerability assessments related to ocean acidification, 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 “Coastal Communities*  
5       *Ocean Acidification Act of 2019”.*

6       **SEC. 2. STATE AND UNITED STATES DEFINED.**

7       *Section 12403 of the Federal Ocean Acidification Re-*  
8       *search And Monitoring Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3702) is*  
9       *amended—*

10               *(1) by redesignating paragraph (3) as para-*  
11               *graph (4);*

12               *(2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-*  
13               *lowing:*

14               *“(3) STATE.—The term ‘State’ means each State*  
15               *of the United States, the District of Columbia, the*  
16               *Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, American Samoa,*  
17               *Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana*  
18               *Islands, the Virgin Islands of the United States, and*  
19               *any other territory or possession of the United*  
20               *States.”; and*

21               *(3) by adding at the end the following:*

22               *“(5) UNITED STATES.—The term ‘United States’*  
23               *means the States, collectively.”.*

1 **SEC. 3. COASTAL COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY ASSESS-**  
 2 **MENT.**

3 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—Section 12406 of the Federal Ocean  
 4 Acidification Research And Monitoring Act of 2009 (33  
 5 U.S.C. 3705) is amended—

6 (1) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection  
 7 (d); and

8 (2) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-  
 9 lowing:

10 “(b) *COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT.*—

11 “(1) *IN GENERAL.*—The Secretary, through the  
 12 program established under subsection (a), shall con-  
 13 duct an ocean acidification coastal community vul-  
 14 nerability assessment, and issue a corresponding pub-  
 15 lic report, which shall be updated at least once every  
 16 7 years.

17 “(2) *REQUIREMENTS.*—The assessment conducted  
 18 under paragraph (1) shall—

19 “(A) identify the United States coastal com-  
 20 munities, including island communities, low-  
 21 population rural communities, and subsistence  
 22 communities, that are most dependent on coastal  
 23 and ocean resources that may be impacted by  
 24 ocean acidification;

25 “(B) assess the nature of the social and eco-  
 26 nomic vulnerabilities of those communities, in-

cluding the economic impact on local or regional commercial fisheries and recreational opportunities;

“(C) identify the ocean acidification impacts that might harm those communities, including impacts from changes in ocean and coastal marine resources that are not managed by the Federal Government;

“(D) identify key knowledge gaps where research could be devoted to better understand the possible impacts of ocean acidification on those communities, the risks and threats facing those communities, and possible adaptation strategies for those communities; and

“(E) be conducted in collaboration with experts, indigenous knowledge groups, and stakeholders who are familiar with the unique economic, social, ecological, geographic, and resource concerns of coastal communities in the United States, including representatives of—

“(i) the National Marine Fisheries Service and the Office for Coastal Management of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration;

1           “(ii) *National Integrated Coastal and*  
2           *Ocean Observation System regional infor-*  
3           *mation coordination entities established*  
4           *under section 12304(c)(4) of the Integrated*  
5           *Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act*  
6           *of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3603(c)(4));*

7           “(iii) *regional ocean acidification net-*  
8           *works; and*

9           “(iv) *State sea grant programs (as de-*  
10          *finied in section 203 of the National Sea*  
11          *Grant College Program Act (33 U.S.C.*  
12          *1122)).*

13          “(c) *SUPPORT FOR STATE AND LOCAL VULNERABILITY*  
14          *ASSESSMENTS AND STRATEGIC RESEARCH PLANNING.—In*  
15          *carrying out the program established under subsection (a),*  
16          *the Secretary shall collaborate with State, local, and tribal*  
17          *government entities that are conducting or have completed*  
18          *vulnerability assessments, strategic research planning, or*  
19          *other similar activities related to ocean acidification and*  
20          *its impacts on coastal communities, for the purpose of—*

21               “(1) *determining whether such activities can be*  
22               *used as a model for other communities; and*

23               “(2) *identifying opportunities for the National*  
24               *Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and other*  
25               *relevant Federal agencies to support such activities.”.*

1       (b)     ONGOING     INPUT     MECHANISM.—Section  
2     12404(b)(5) of the Federal Ocean Acidification Research  
3     And Monitoring Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3703(b)(5)) is  
4     amended—

5             (1) by striking “including information” and in-  
6     serting the following: “including—

7                     “(A) information”;

8             (2) by striking the period at the end and insert-  
9     ing “; and”; and

10            (3) by adding at the end the following:

11                    “(B) an ongoing mechanism that allows af-  
12     fected industry members, coastal stakeholders,  
13     non-Federal resource managers, community  
14     acidification networks, indigenous knowledge  
15     groups, and scientific experts not employed by  
16     the Federal Government to provide input on re-  
17     search, data, and monitoring that is necessary to  
18     support on-the-ground management, decision-  
19     making, and adaptation related to ocean acidifi-  
20     cation and its impacts.”.

21       (c) STRATEGIC RESEARCH PLAN.—Section 12405 of  
22     the Federal Ocean Acidification Research And Monitoring  
23     Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3704) is amended—

24             (1) in subsection (b)—

1                   (A) in paragraph (8), by striking “and”  
 2                   after the semicolon;

3                   (B) in paragraph (9), by striking the period  
 4                   at the end and inserting “; and”; and

5                   (C) by adding at the end the following:

6                   “(10) make recommendations for research that  
 7                   should be conducted, including in the social sciences  
 8                   and economics, to address the key knowledge gaps  
 9                   identified in the community vulnerability assessment  
 10                  report conducted under section 12406(b).”; and

11                  (2) in subsection (e), by inserting “, tribal gov-  
 12                  ernments, indigenous knowledge groups,” after “in-  
 13                  dustry”.

14                  (d) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—Section  
 15                  12409(a) of the *Federal Ocean Acidification Research And*  
 16                  *Monitoring Act of 2009* (33 U.S.C. 3708(a)) is amended  
 17                  to read as follows:

18                  “(a) NOAA.—There are authorized to be appropriated  
 19                  to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
 20                  to carry out the purposes of this subtitle \$2,700,000 for each  
 21                  of fiscal years 2020 through 2024.”.

22                  (e) *REPORT ON SUPPORT FOR STATE AND LOCAL VUL-*  
 23                  *NERABILITY ASSESSMENTS AND STRATEGIC RESEARCH*  
 24                  *PLANNING.*—Not later than 180 days after the date of the  
 25                  enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the National



1 *Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall submit to*  
2 *Congress a report on the efforts of the National Oceanic and*  
3 *Atmospheric Administration to support State, local, and*  
4 *tribal community vulnerability assessments, strategic re-*  
5 *search and planning, and monitoring needs, pursuant to*  
6 *section 12406(c) of the Federal Ocean Acidification Re-*  
7 *search And Monitoring Act of 2009 (as added by subsection*  
8 *(a) of this section).*

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