116TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION H.R. 1317

AUTHENTICATED U.S. GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

To improve the resilience of the built and natural environment to natural disasters and climate change using, among other measures, natural and nature-based features, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 22, 2019

Mr. ROUDA (for himself, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. PETERS, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, and Ms. MENG) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Oversight and Reform, Financial Services, and Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

- To improve the resilience of the built and natural environment to natural disasters and climate change using, among other measures, natural and nature-based features, 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 Adaptation Act".

1 SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

2 In this Act:

3	(1) Administrator.—The term "Adminis-
4	trator" means the Administrator of the National
5	Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.
6	(2) COASTAL STATE.—The term "coastal
7	State"—
8	(A) means a State of the United States in,
9	or bordering on, the Atlantic, Pacific, or Arctic
10	Ocean, the Gulf of Mexico, the Long Island
11	Sound, or one or more of the Great Lakes; and
12	(B) includes the District of Columbia,
13	Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, the
14	Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Is-
15	lands, the Trust Territories of the Pacific Is-
16	lands, and American Samoa.
17	(3) NATURAL FEATURE.—The term "natural
18	feature" means a feature that is created through the
19	action of physical, geological, biological, and chem-
20	ical processes over time.
21	(4) NATURE-BASED FEATURE.—The term "na-
22	ture-based feature" means a feature that is created
23	by human design, engineering, and construction to
24	provide risk reduction in coastal areas by acting in
25	concert with natural processes.

1	(5) Nonstructural measure.—The term
2	"nonstructural measure" means an action, including
3	a modification in public policy, management prac-
4	tice, regulation, or pricing policy, that reduces harm-
5	ful consequences of flooding, but does not create a
6	structural barrier to floodwaters.
7	(6) Secretary.—The term "Secretary" means
8	the Secretary of Commerce.
9	SEC. 3. RESEARCH AND GRANTS TO IMPROVE RESILIENCE
10	OF BUILT ENVIRONMENT.
11	(a) Definition of Windstorm.—Section 203(4) of
12	the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act of 2004
13	(42 U.S.C. 15702(4)) is amended to read as follows:
14	"(4) WINDSTORM.—The term 'windstorm'
15	means any storm with a damaging or destructive
16	wind component, including—
17	"(A) a hurricane;
18	"(B) a tropical storm;
19	"(C) a northeaster;
20	"(D) a tornado;
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<i>L</i> 1	"(E) a thunderstorm; and
21 22	"(E) a thunderstorm; and "(F) any water induced forces from waves,

1	(b) NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND
2	TECHNOLOGY.—Section 204(b) of the National Wind-
3	storm Impact Reduction Act of 2004 (42 U.S.C.
4	15703(b)) is amended—
5	(1) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking "buildings"
6	and inserting "buildings, structures,"; and
7	(2) by amending paragraph (2) to read as fol-
8	lows:
9	"(2) NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND
10	TECHNOLOGY.—In addition to the lead agency re-
11	sponsibilities described under paragraph (1), the Di-
12	rector of the National Institute of Standards and
13	Technology shall—
14	"(A) carry out research and development
15	to improve the resilience and responsiveness of
16	buildings, structures, and lifelines to wind-
17	storms, including by recommending for the de-
18	sign, construction, and retrofit of buildings,
19	structures, and lifelines—
20	"(i) model building codes;
21	"(ii) voluntary design standards; and
22	"(iii) best practices;
23	"(B) award grants on a competitive basis
24	for research and development for the purpose
25	described in subparagraph (A);

"(C) in coordination with other relevant
entities, provide research and guidance related
to windstorms and other climate change or extreme weather to standards developing organizations for their consideration in the development of design standards and building codes;
and

8 "(D) conduct public outreach and edu-9 cation and training programs related to this 10 chapter for design and construction profes-11 sionals.".

(c) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION.—Section
204(b)(3) of the National Windstorm Impact Reduction
Act of 2004 (42 U.S.C. 15703(b)(3)) is amended to read
as follows:

"(3) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION.—The
Director of the National Science Foundation, in coordination with the heads of other Federal agencies
conducting related activities, shall support research,
including multidisciplinary research—

21 "(A) on engineering and the atmospheric
22 sciences to improve the understanding of the
23 behavior of windstorms and their impact on
24 buildings, structures, and lifelines;

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1	"(B) on the impact of economic and social
2	factors on windstorm risk reduction measures;
3	"(C) to improve the resilience of buildings,
4	structures, and lifelines to windstorms; and
5	"(D) to improve the responsiveness of
6	buildings, structures, and lifelines after a wind-
7	storm.".
8	(d) Department of Housing and Urban Devel-
9	OPMENT.—Section 204(b) of the National Windstorm Im-
10	pact Reduction Act of 2004 (42 U.S.C. $15703(b)$) is
11	amended by adding at the end the following:
12	"(6) Department of housing and urban
13	DEVELOPMENT.—The Secretary of the Department
14	of Housing and Urban Development shall promote
15	the adoption of windstorm preparedness and mitiga-
16	tion measures for manufactured HUD code housing
17	units.".
18	(e) Interagency Coordinating Committee on
19	WINDSTORM IMPACT REDUCTION.—Section 204(e)(2)(A)
20	of the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act of 2004
21	(42 U.S.C. 15703(e)(2)(A)) is amended—
22	(1) in clause (iv), by striking "; and" and in-
23	serting a semicolon; and
24	(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(vi) the Department of Housing and
 Urban Development; and".

3 SEC. 4. BUILT TO LAST STAMP.

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—In order to afford the public a di5 rect and tangible way to contribute to funding for shore6 line risk and climate change adaptation, the United States
7 Postal Service shall issue a semipostal (referred to in this
8 section as the "Built to Last Stamp") in accordance with
9 subsection (b).

(b) REQUIREMENTS.—The provisions of section 416
of title 39, United States Code, shall apply as practicable
with respect to the Built to Last Stamp, subject to the
following:

- 14 (1) DESIGN.—The Built to Last Stamp shall
 15 depict such design as the Postal Service, in consulta16 tion with the Secretary, considers appropriate.
- 17 (2) DISPOSITION OF PROCEEDS.—Subject to
 18 subsection (d)(3) of that section, the amounts be19 coming available from the sale of the Built to Last
 20 Stamp shall be deposited in the Built to Last Stamp
 21 Fund under subsection (c) of this section.

22 (c) Built to Last Stamp Fund.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in
the Treasury of the United States a fund, to be
known as the Built to Last Stamp Fund.

(2) ASSETS.—The Built to Last Stamp Fund
 shall consist of the following:

- 3 (A) Amounts deposited under subsection
 4 (b)(2).
- 5 (B) Such amounts as are appropriated or6 otherwise made available to the fund.

7 (3) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts in the Built to
8 Last Stamp Fund shall remain available to the Sec9 retary to carry out sections 5 and 6 of this Act until
10 expended.

11 SEC. 5. PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may carry out a
program to award prizes competitively under section 24
of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of
1980 (15 U.S.C. 3719), for the purpose described in subsection (b).

17 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose described in this sub18 section is to stimulate innovation to advance coastal risk
19 reduction and resilience measures as follows:

20 (1) Natural features, including dunes, reefs,21 and wetlands.

(2) Nature-based features, including beach
nourishment, dune restoration, wetland and other
coastal habitat restoration, and living shoreline construction.

(3) Nonstructural measures, including flood 1 2 proofing of structures, flood warning systems, and 3 elevated development. 4 SEC. 6. CATALOG OF RESEARCH ON APPLICABLE COASTAL 5 **RISK REDUCTION AND RESILIENCE MEAS-**6 URES. 7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the 8 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, acting 9 through the Administrator, shall— 10 (1) identify all Department of Commerce re-11 search activities regarding applicable coastal risk re-12 duction and resilience measures; 13 (2) consult with the heads of other Federal 14 agencies to identify what activities, if any, those 15 Federal agencies are conducting regarding applicable 16 coastal risk reduction and resilience measures; 17 (3) evaluate the effectiveness of the activities 18 identified under paragraphs (1) and (2); and 19 (4) appoint one or more officers or employees of 20 the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administra-21 tion to liaise with non-Federal entities conducting 22 research related to applicable coastal risk reduction and resilience measures in order to eliminate 23 24 redundancies, cooperate for common climate re-

search goals, and to make research findings readily
 available to the public.

3 (b) DEFINITION OF APPLICABLE COASTAL RISK RE4 DUCTION AND RESILIENCE MEASURES.—In this section,
5 the term "applicable coastal risk reduction and resilience
6 measures" means natural features, nature-based features,
7 or nonstructural measures.

8 SEC. 7. GRANTS TO COASTAL STATES FOR ESTABLISHMENT 9 OF REVOLVING FUNDS.

10 (a) CAPITALIZATION GRANTS.—

11 (1)IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting 12 through the Administrator, shall award capitaliza-13 tion grants to each coastal State for the purpose of 14 establishing a community resilience revolving fund 15 under subsection (b) to carry out the activities de-16 scribed in paragraph (3) of that subsection.

17 (2) SCHEDULE OF GRANT PAYMENTS.—The
18 Administrator shall pay to the coastal State the
19 amount of each grant to be made to the coastal
20 State under paragraph (1) in quarterly installments.

(3) AGREEMENTS.—To receive a capitalization
grant under paragraph (1), a coastal State shall
enter into an agreement with the Administrator
that—

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(A) the coastal State will accept grant payments with funds to be made available under paragraph (1) and will deposit all such payments in the community resilience revolving fund established by the coastal State under subsection (b);

7 (B) the coastal State will deposit in the 8 fund from State moneys an amount equal to at 9 least 20 percent of the total amount of all cap-10 italization grants which will be made to the 11 coastal State with funds to be made available 12 under this section on or before the date on 13 which each quarterly grant payment will be 14 made to the coastal State under this paragraph 15 (2) of this subsection;

16 (C) the coastal State will enter into bind-17 ing commitments to provide assistance in ac-18 cordance with the requirements of this section 19 in an amount equal to 120 percent of the 20 amount of each such grant payment not later 21 than 1 year after the date of receipt of such 22 grant payment;

23 (D) all funds in the community resilience24 revolving fund established by the coastal State

will be expended in an expeditious and timely manner;

(E) in addition to complying with the requirements of this section, the coastal State will commit or expend each quarterly grant payment which it will receive under this subsection in accordance with laws and procedures applicable to the commitment or expenditure of revenues of the coastal State;

10 (F) the coastal State will use accounting,
11 audit, and fiscal procedures conforming to gen12 erally accepted government accounting stand13 ards;

14 (G) the coastal State will require as a con-15 dition of making a loan or providing other as-16 sistance from the community resilience revolv-17 ing fund established by the coastal State that 18 the recipient of such assistance will maintain 19 project accounts in accordance with generally 20 accepted government accounting standards, in-21 cluding standards relating to the reporting of 22 infrastructure assets;

(H) the coastal State will make annual reports to the Administrator on the actual use of
funds;

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1 (I) the coastal State will establish, main-2 tain, invest, and credit the community resilience 3 revolving fund established by the coastal State 4 with repayments, such that the fund balance will be available in perpetuity for activities 5 6 under this section; 7 (J) any fees charged by the coastal State 8 to recipients of assistance that are considered 9 program income will be used for the purpose of 10 financing the cost of administering the commu-11 nity resilience revolving fund established by the 12 coastal State or financing projects or activities 13 eligible for assistance from the community resil-14 ience revolving fund; 15 (K) the coastal State will require as a con-16 dition of providing assistance to a municipality 17 or intermunicipal, interstate, or State agency 18 that the recipient of such assistance certify, in 19 a manner determined by the Governor of the 20 coastal State, that the recipient has studied and 21 evaluated the sustainability of the processes,

materials, techniques, and technologies for car-

rying out the proposed project or activity for

which assistance is sought under this section;

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1 (L) a contract to be carried out using 2 funds directly made available by a capitalization grant under this section for program manage-3 4 ment, construction management, feasibility 5 studies, preliminary engineering, design, engi-6 neering, surveying, mapping, or architectural 7 related services shall be negotiated in the same 8 manner as a contract for architectural and en-9 gineering services is negotiated under chapter 10 11 of title 40, United States Code, or an equiv-11 alent State qualifications-based requirement (as 12 determined by the Governor of the coastal 13 State).

(b) COMMUNITY RESILIENCE REVOLVING FUNDS.—
(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Before a coastal State
may receive a capitalization grant with funds made
available under subsection (a)(1), the coastal State
shall first establish a community resilience revolving
fund which complies with the requirements of this
section.

(2) ADMINISTRATION.—Each coastal State
community resilience revolving fund shall be administered by an instrumentality of the coastal State
with such powers and limitations as may be required

1	to operate such fund in accordance with the require-
2	ments and objectives of this section.
3	(3) USE OF FUNDS.—The amounts of funds
4	available to each coastal State community resilience
5	revolving fund shall be used only for providing finan-
6	cial assistance to any municipality or intermunicipal,
7	interstate, or State agency—
8	(A) for the completion of a vulnerability
9	assessment;
10	(B) for the protection of natural flood risk
11	mitigation features, including land acquisition
12	from willing sellers;
13	(C) for the construction of natural features
14	or nature-based features, including beach nour-
15	ishment and dune restoration;
16	(D) for the implementation of a regional
17	sediment management program;
18	(E) for the development and implementa-
19	tion of a shoreline conservation and manage-
20	ment plan;
21	(F) for the restoration, repair, or replace-
22	ment of wetlands and living shorelines;
23	(G) for other measures to prevent, man-
24	age, mitigate, or adapt to shoreline erosion,
25	saltwater intrusion, nuisance flooding, sea level

1	rise, and other coastal hazards related to cli-
2	mate change;
3	(H) to carry out nonstructural measures to
4	mitigate flood risk; and
5	(I) to plan, develop, and obtain financing
6	for eligible projects under this subsection, in-
7	cluding planning, design, and associated
8	preconstruction activities.
9	(4) ISSUANCE OF LOANS.—Except as otherwise
10	limited by State law, a community resilience revolv-
11	ing fund of a coastal State under this section may
12	be used only—
13	(A) to make loans, on the condition that—
14	(i) such loans are made at or below
15	market interest rates, including interest
16	free loans, at terms not to exceed the less-
17	er of 30 years and the projected useful life
18	(as determined by the coastal State) of the
19	project to be financed with the proceeds of
20	the loan;
21	(ii) annual principal and interest pay-
22	ments will commence not later than 1 year
23	after the date of completion of any project
24	and all loans will be fully amortized upon
25	the expiration of the term of the loan;

1	(iii) the recipient of a loan will estab-
2	lish a dedicated source of revenue for re-
3	payment of loans; and
4	(iv) the fund will be credited with all
5	payments of principal and interest on all
6	loans;
7	(B) to buy or refinance the debt obligation
8	of municipalities and intermunicipal and inter-
9	state agencies within the coastal State at or
10	below market rates, where such debt obligations
11	were incurred after January 1, 2013;
12	(C) to guarantee, or purchase insurance
13	for, local obligations where such action would
14	improve credit market access or reduce interest
15	rates;
16	(D) as a source of revenue or security for
17	the payment of principal and interest on rev-
18	enue or general obligation bonds issued by the
19	coastal State if the proceeds of the sale of such
20	bonds will be deposited in the community resil-
21	ience revolving fund;
22	(E) to provide loan guarantees for similar
23	revolving funds established by municipalities or
24	intermunicipal agencies;

1	(F) to earn interest on community resil-
2	ience revolving fund accounts; and
3	(G) for the reasonable costs of admin-
4	istering the community resilience revolving fund
5	and conducting activities under this section, ex-
6	cept that such amounts shall not exceed 3 per-
7	cent of all grant awards to such fund under this
8	section, plus the amount of any fees collected
9	by the coastal State for such purpose regardless
10	of the source.
11	(5) SUBSIDIZATION.—
12	(A) IN GENERAL.—In any case in which a
13	coastal State provides assistance to a munici-
14	pality or an intermunicipal, interstate, or State
15	agency, the coastal State may provide addi-
16	tional subsidization, including forgiveness of
17	principal and negative interest loans—
18	(i) to benefit a municipality or inter-
19	municipal agency that—
20	(I) meets the affordability cri-
21	teria of the coastal State established
22	under subparagraph (B); or
23	(II) does not meet the afford-
24	ability criteria of the coastal State if
25	the recipient—

1	(aa) seeks additional sub-
2	sidization to benefit individual
3	ratepayers in the residential user
4	rate class;
5	(bb) demonstrates to the
6	coastal State that such rate-
7	payers will experience a signifi-
8	cant hardship from the increase
9	in rates necessary to finance the
10	project or activity for which as-
11	sistance is sought; and
12	(cc) ensures, as part of an
13	assistance agreement between the
14	coastal State and the recipient,
15	that the additional subsidization
16	provided under this paragraph is
17	directed through a user charge
18	rate system (or other appropriate
19	method) to such ratepayers; or
20	(ii) to implement a process, material,
21	technique, or technology—
22	(I) to address resilience goals; or
23	(II) to encourage sustainable
24	project planning, design, and con-
25	struction.

(B) AFFORDABILITY CRITERIA.—

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- 2 (i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than Jan-3 uary 1, 2020, and after providing notice 4 and an opportunity for public comment, a 5 coastal State shall establish affordability 6 criteria to assist in identifying municipali-7 ties that would experience a significant 8 hardship raising the revenue necessary to 9 finance a project or activity eligible for as-10 sistance under paragraph (3) if additional 11 subsidization is not provided.
- 12 (ii) BASIS OF CRITERIA.—The criteria 13 under clause (i) shall be based on income 14 unemployment and data, population trends, and other data determined relevant 15 16 by the coastal State, including whether the 17 project or activity is to be carried out in an 18 economically distressed area, as described 19 in section 301 of the Public Works and 20 Economic Development Act of 1965 (42) 21 U.S.C. 3161).

(C) Additional subsidization.—

23 (i) IN GENERAL.—A coastal State
24 may provide additional subsidization in a
25 fiscal year under this paragraph only if the

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- 1 total amount appropriated for making capitalization grants to all coastal States 2 3 under this section for the fiscal year ex-4 ceeds \$500,000,000. (ii) LIMITATION.—Except as provided 5 6 in clause (iii), a coastal State may use not 7 more than 30 percent of the total amount 8 received by the coastal State in capitaliza-9 tion grants under subsection (b) for a fis-10 cal year for providing additional subsidiza-11 tion under this paragraph. 12 (iii) EXCEPTION.—If, in a fiscal year, 13 the amount appropriated for making cap-14 italization grants to all coastal States 15 under this section exceeds \$500,000,000 16 by a percentage that is less than 30 per-17 cent, clause (ii) shall be applied by sub-18 stituting that percentage for 30 percent. 19 (c) COMPLIANCE. 20 (1) IN GENERAL.—If the Administrator deter-21 mines that a coastal State has not complied with its 22 agreement with the Administrator under subsection
- (a)(3) or any other requirement of this section, the
 Administrator shall notify the coastal State of such
 noncompliance and the necessary corrective action.

1 (2) WITHHOLDING PAYMENTS.—If a coastal 2 State does not take corrective action within 60 days after the date the coastal State receives notification 3 4 of such action under paragraph (1), the Adminis-5 trator shall withhold additional payments to the 6 coastal State until the Administrator is satisfied 7 that the coastal State has taken the necessary cor-8 rective action.

9 (3) REALLOTMENT OF PAYMENTS.—If the Ad-10 ministrator is not satisfied that adequate corrective 11 actions have been taken by the coastal State not 12 later than 12 months after the coastal State is noti-13 fied of such actions under paragraph (1), the pay-14 ments withheld from the coastal State by the Ad-15 ministrator under paragraph (2) shall be made avail-16 able for reallotment in accordance with the most re-17 cent formula for allotment of funds under this sec-18 tion.

19 (d) FISCAL CONTROL AND AUDITING PROCE-DURES.—Each coastal State electing to establish a com-20 21 munity resilience revolving fund under this section shall 22 establish fiscal controls and accounting procedures suffi-23 cient to assure proper accounting during appropriate ac-24 counting periods for—

25 (1) payments received by the fund;

(2) disbursements made by the fund; and

2 (3) fund balances at the beginning and end of3 the accounting period.

4 (e) ANNUAL FEDERAL AUDITS.—Not less frequently 5 than once each year, the Administrator shall conduct or require each coastal State to have independently con-6 7 ducted reviews and audits as may be deemed necessary 8 or appropriate by the Administrator to carry out the objec-9 tives of this section. Audits of the use of funds deposited 10 in the community resilience revolving fund established by such coastal State shall be conducted in accordance with 11 the auditing procedures of the Government Accountability 12 13 Office, including chapter 75 of title 31, United States Code. 14

(f) INTENDED USE PLAN.—After providing for public comment and review, each coastal State shall annually
prepare a plan identifying the intended uses of the
amounts available to its community resilience revolving
fund. Such intended use plan shall include—

20 (1) a list of those projects for construction;

(2) a description of the short- and long-term
goals and objectives of its community resilience revolving fund;

(3) information on the activities to be sup ported, terms of financial assistance, and commu nities served; and

4 (4) the criteria and method established for the5 distribution of funds.

6 (g) ANNUAL REPORT.—Beginning the first fiscal 7 year after the receipt of payments under this section and 8 each fiscal year thereafter, each coastal State shall provide 9 a report to the Administrator describing how the coastal 10 State has met the goals and objectives for the previous 11 fiscal year as identified in the plan prepared for the pre-12 vious fiscal year pursuant to subsection (f).

13 (h) ANNUAL FEDERAL OVERSIGHT REVIEW.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not less frequently than
15 once each year, the Administrator shall conduct an
16 oversight review of each coastal State plan prepared
17 under subsection (f), each coastal State report pre18 pared under subsection (g), and other such materials
19 as are considered necessary and appropriate in car20 rying out the purposes of this section.

(2) AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS.—After reasonable notice by the Administrator to the coastal State
or the recipient of a loan from a community resilience revolving fund, the coastal State or loan recipient shall make available to the Administrator such

1 records as the Administrator reasonably requires to

2 review and determine compliance with this section.