

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3962

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## AN ACT

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize the National Estuary Program, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2       This Act may be cited as the “Enhancing Science,  
3 Treatment, and Upkeep of America’s Resilient and Impor-  
4 tant Estuarine Systems Act” or the “ESTUARIES Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM.**

6       Section 320 of the Federal Water Pollution Control  
7 Act (33 U.S.C. 1330) is amended—

8           (1) in subsection (a)(2)(B), by striking “and  
9 Pensacola and Perdido Bays, Florida” and inserting  
10 “Pensacola and Perdido Bays, Florida; and Mis-  
11 sissippi Sound, Mississippi”; and

12           (2) in subsection (i)(1), in the matter preceding  
13 subparagraph (A), by striking “2026” and inserting  
14 “2031”.

15 **SEC. 3. INELIGIBILITY WITH RESPECT TO FISCAL YEARS**  
16 **2025 AND 2026.**

17       With respect to the amendment made by section 2(1),  
18 the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agen-  
19 cy may not use for the implementation of that amendment,  
20 including, with respect to Mississippi Sound, Mississippi,  
21 convening a management conference, developing or car-  
22 rying out a comprehensive conservation and management  
23 plan, or providing grants under section 320 of the Federal  
24 Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1330)—

1           (1) any amounts appropriated to carry out the  
2       national estuary program under that section for fis-  
3       cal year 2025; or

4           (2) unless the total amount appropriated to  
5       carry out that program for fiscal year 2026 is at  
6       least \$850,000 more than the total amount appro-  
7       priated to carry out that program for fiscal year  
8       2024, any amounts appropriated to carry out that  
9       program for fiscal year 2026.

Passed the House of Representatives December 15,  
2025.

Attest:

*Clerk.*

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