

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4375

To direct the Commandant of the Coast Guard to submit to Congress a strategy detailing how the Coast Guard will complete design and construction of a Great Lakes Icebreaker, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 14, 2025

Ms. McDONALD RIVET (for herself, Mr. WIED, and Mr. MILLER of Ohio) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To direct the Commandant of the Coast Guard to submit to Congress a strategy detailing how the Coast Guard will complete design and construction of a Great Lakes Icebreaker, 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 “Great Lakes Ice-
5 breaker Act of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. GREAT LAKES ICEBREAKING.**

7 (a) GREAT LAKES ICEBREAKER.—

1 (1) STRATEGY.—Not later than 90 days after
2 the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant
3 shall submit to the Committee on Commerce,
4 Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the
5 Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of
6 the House of Representatives a strategy detailing
7 how the Coast Guard will complete design and con-
8 struction of a Great Lakes icebreaker at least as ca-
9 pable as the Coast Guard cutter Mackinaw (WLBB-
10 30) as expeditiously as possible after funding is pro-
11 vided for such icebreaker, including providing a cost
12 estimate and an estimated delivery timeline that
13 would facilitate the expedited delivery detailed in the
14 strategy.

15 (2) GREAT LAKES ICEBREAKER PILOT PRO-
16 GRAM.—

17 (A) IN GENERAL.—During the 5 ice sea-
18 sons beginning after the date of enactment of
19 this Act, the Commandant shall conduct a pilot
20 program to determine the extent to which the
21 Coast Guard Great Lakes icebreaking cutter
22 fleet is capable of maintaining tier one and tier
23 two waterways open 95 percent of the time dur-
24 ing an ice season.

1 (B) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days
2 after the end of each of the 5 ice seasons begin-
3 ning after the date of enactment of this Act,
4 the Commandant shall submit to the Committee
5 on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of
6 the Senate and the Committee on Transpor-
7 tation and Infrastructure of the House of Rep-
8 resentatives a report that details—

9 (i) the results of the pilot program re-
10 quired under subparagraph (A); and

11 (ii) any relevant new performance
12 measures implemented by the Coast
13 Guard, including the measures described in
14 pages 5 through 7 of the report of the
15 Coast Guard titled “Domestic Icebreaking
16 Operations” and submitted to Congress on
17 July 26, 2024, as required by section
18 11212(a)(3) of the Don Young Coast
19 Guard Authorization Act of 2022 (Public
20 Law 117-263), and the results of the im-
21 plementation of such measures.

22 (b) MODIFICATION TO REPORTING REQUIREMENT
23 RELATING TO ICEBREAKING OPERATIONS IN GREAT
24 LAKES.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 11213(f) of the Don
2 Young Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2022
3 (Public Law 117–263) is amended to read as fol-
4 lows:

5 “(f) PUBLIC REPORT.—Not later than July 1 after
6 the first winter in which the Commandant has submitted
7 the report required by paragraph (3) of section 11212(a),
8 the Commandant shall publish on a publicly accessible
9 website of the Coast Guard a report on the cost to the
10 Coast Guard of meeting the proposed standards described
11 in paragraph (2) of such section.”.

12 (2) PUBLIC REPORT.—Section 11272(c) of the
13 James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization
14 Act for Fiscal Year 2023 is amended by adding at
15 the end the following:

16 “(7) PUBLIC REPORT.—

17 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30
18 days after the date of enactment of the Coast
19 Guard Authorization Act of 2025, the Com-
20 mandant shall brief the Committee on Trans-
21 portation and Infrastructure of the House or
22 Representatives and the Committee on Com-
23 merce, Science, and Transportation of the Sen-
24 ate on the cost to the Coast Guard of meeting

1 the requirements of section 564 of title 14,
2 United States Code, in fiscal year 2024.

3 “(B) SECONDARY BRIEFINGS.—Not later
4 than November, 2025 and November, 1, 2026,
5 the Commandant shall brief the committees de-
6 scribed in subparagraph (A) on the cost to the
7 Coast Guard of meeting the requirements of
8 section 564 of title 14, United States Code, in
9 fiscal years 2025 and 2026, respectively.”.

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