

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1391

To amend the Federal Ocean Acidification Research And Monitoring Act of 2009 to require the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to collaborate with State and local governments and Indian Tribes on vulnerability assessments related to ocean acidification, research planning, and similar activities, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 9, 2025

Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. SULLIVAN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. KING, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. PETERS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To amend the Federal Ocean Acidification Research And Monitoring Act of 2009 to require the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to collaborate with State and local governments and Indian Tribes on vulnerability assessments related to ocean acidification, research planning, and similar activities, 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 “Coastal Communities
3 Ocean Acidification Act of 2025”.

4 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

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

8 (1) by striking paragraph (4);

9 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (2), (3), and
10 (5) as paragraphs (4), (5), and (6) respectively;

11 (3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the fol-
12 lowing:

13 “(2) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term ‘Indian Tribe’
14 has the meaning given that term in section 4 of the
15 Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance
16 Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

17 “(3) NATIVE HAWAIIAN ORGANIZATION.—The
18 term ‘Native Hawaiian organization’ has the mean-
19 ing given that term in section 3 of the NATIVE Act
20 (25 U.S.C. 4352).”;

21 (4) in paragraph (4), as redesignated by para-
22 graph (2), by inserting “an increase of” before “car-
23 bon dioxide”; and

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

25 “(7) SUBCOMMITTEE.—The term ‘Sub-
26 committee’ means the National Science and Tech-

1 nology Council Subcommittee on Ocean Science and
 2 Technology.

3 “(8) UNITED STATES.—The term ‘United
 4 States’ means the States, collectively.”.

5 **SEC. 3. IMPROVEMENT OF COLLABORATION ON OCEAN**
 6 **ACIDIFICATION.**

7 (a) ONGOING INPUT MECHANISM.—Section
 8 12404(c)(2) of the Federal Ocean Acidification Research
 9 And Monitoring Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3703(c)(2)) is
 10 amended—

11 (1) in subparagraph (B), by striking “; and”
 12 and inserting a semicolon;

13 (2) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period
 14 at the end and inserting “; and”; and

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

16 “(D) maintain or establish an ongoing
 17 mechanism (such as a liaison or other contact
 18 of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Ad-
 19 ministration, standing meetings, or an online
 20 platform) to engage affected industry members,
 21 coastal stakeholders, community acidification
 22 networks, fishery management councils and
 23 commissions, Indigenous knowledge groups,
 24 non-Federal resource managers, and scientific
 25 experts not employed by the Federal Govern-

1 ment to provide input on research, data, and
 2 monitoring that is necessary to support on-the-
 3 ground management, decision making, and ad-
 4 aptation related to ocean acidification and
 5 coastal acidification and the impacts of ocean
 6 acidification and coastal acidification.”.

7 (b) ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERSHIP.—Section
 8 12404(c)(3) of the Federal Ocean Acidification Research
 9 And Monitoring Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3703(c)(3)) is
 10 amended—

11 (1) by redesignating subparagraphs (G)
 12 through (Q) as subparagraphs (H) through (R), re-
 13 spectively;

14 (2) by inserting after subparagraph (F) the fol-
 15 lowing:

16 “(G) Two representatives from Indian
 17 Tribes, Native Hawaiian organizations, Tribal
 18 organizations, and Tribal consortia affected by
 19 ocean acidification and coastal acidification.”;
 20 and

21 (3) in subparagraph (H), as redesignated by
 22 paragraph (1), by striking “Six” and inserting
 23 “Four”.

24 (c) APPOINTMENT OF ADVISORY BOARD MEM-
 25 BERS.—Section 12404(c)(4)(C) of the Federal Ocean

1 Acidification Research And Monitoring Act of 2009 (33
2 U.S.C. 3703(c)(4)(C)) is amended by striking “State and
3 local” and inserting “State, local, and Indigenous”.

4 (d) ENGAGEMENT AND COORDINATION WITH INDIAN
5 TRIBES.—Paragraph (9) of section 12404(c) of the Fed-
6 eral Ocean Acidification Research And Monitoring Act of
7 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3703(c)) is amended to read as follows:

8 “(9) ENGAGEMENT AND COORDINATION WITH
9 INDIAN TRIBES.—

10 “(A) POLICY REQUIRED.—Not later than
11 one year after the date on which the Advisory
12 Board is established, the Advisory Board shall
13 develop and commence maintaining a policy for
14 engagement and coordination with Indian
15 Tribes affected by ocean acidification and coast-
16 al acidification.

17 “(B) CONSULTATION.—In developing the
18 policy under subparagraph (A), the Advisory
19 Board shall consult with Indian Tribes affected
20 by ocean acidification and coastal acidifica-
21 tion.”.

22 (e) COLLABORATION ON VULNERABILITY ASSESS-
23 MENTS, RESEARCH PLANNING, AND SIMILAR ACTIVI-
24 TIES.—Section 12404(e)(4)(A) of the Federal Ocean

1 Acidification Research And Monitoring Act of 2009 (33
2 U.S.C. 3703(e)(4)(A)) is amended—

3 (1) by redesignating clauses (ix) and (x) as
4 clauses (x) and (xi), respectively; and

5 (2) by inserting after clause (viii) the following:

6 “(ix) identifies the efforts of the Sec-
7 retary to collaborate with State and local
8 governments, Indian Tribes, and Native
9 Hawaiian organizations on community vul-
10 nerability assessments, research planning,
11 and similar activities, pursuant to section
12 12406(e);”.

13 (f) CONTENTS OF STRATEGIC RESEARCH PLAN.—
14 Section 12405(b) of the Federal Ocean Acidification Re-
15 search And Monitoring Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3704(b))
16 is amended—

17 (1) in paragraph (10), by striking “section
18 12404(c)(4)” and inserting “section 12404(e)(4)”;
19 and

20 (2) in paragraph (11), by striking “potentially
21 affected industry members, coastal stakeholders,
22 fishery management councils and commissions, Trib-
23 al governments, non-Federal resource managers, and
24 scientific experts” and inserting “affected industry
25 members, coastal stakeholders, community acidifica-

tion networks, fishery management councils and commissions, Indigenous knowledge groups, non-Federal resource managers, and scientific experts not employed by the Federal Government”.

(g) IMPROVING COLLABORATION ON NOAA OCEAN ACIDIFICATION ACTIVITIES.—Section 12406 of the Federal Ocean Acidification Research And Monitoring Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3705) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in subparagraph (C), by striking “maximize” and inserting “take into consideration”;

(ii) in subparagraph (D), by adding a semicolon at the end; and

(iii) in subparagraph (F), by striking “Tribal governments” and inserting “Indian Tribes, Native Hawaiian organizations”; and

(B) in paragraph (4), by striking “industry members, coastal stakeholders, fishery management councils and commissions, non-Federal resource managers, community acidification networks, indigenous knowledge groups, and scientific experts” and inserting “affected industry

members, coastal stakeholders, community acidification networks, fishery management councils and commissions, Indigenous knowledge groups, non-Federal resource managers, and scientific experts not employed by the Federal Government”;

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “State, local, and Tribal governments” and inserting “State and local governments, Indian Tribes,”; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking “; or” and inserting a semicolon;

(ii) by redesignating subparagraph (B) as subparagraph (C);

(iii) by inserting after subparagraph (A) the following:

“(B) on ocean acidification and coastal acidification research, data, and monitoring from affected industry members, coastal stakeholders, community acidification networks, fishery management councils and commissions, Indigenous knowledge groups, non-Federal re-

source managers, and scientific experts not employed by the Federal Government; or”; and

(iv) in subparagraph (C), as redesignated by clause (ii), by striking “State governments, local governments, Tribal governments” and inserting “State and local governments, Indian Tribes”;

(3) in subsection (d)(1)(C), by striking “Tribes or Tribal governments” and inserting “Indian Tribes, Native Hawaiian organizations, Tribal organizations, and Tribal consortia”; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

“(e) BETTER COLLABORATION ON VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENTS, RESEARCH PLANNING, AND SIMILAR ACTIVITIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the program under subsection (a), and in support of vulnerability assessments transmitted under section 12404(e)(4) and recommendations included in the strategic research plan described in section 12405(b)(10), the Secretary shall build upon existing activities and collaborate with State and local governments and Indian Tribes that are conducting or have completed vulnerability assessments, research planning, climate action plans, or other simi-

lar activities related to ocean acidification and coastal acidification and the impacts of ocean acidification and coastal acidification on coastal communities, for the purpose of—

“(A) supporting collaborative interagency relationships and information sharing at the State, local, and Tribal levels; and

“(B) assisting State and local governments and Indian Tribes in—

“(i) improving existing systems and programs to better address ocean acidification and coastal acidification; and

“(ii) identifying whether such activities can be used as a model for other communities.

“(2) NATIVE HAWAIIAN ORGANIZATIONS, TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS, AND TRIBAL CONSORTIA.—In carrying out the program under subsection (a), and in support of vulnerability assessments transmitted under section 12404(e)(4) and recommendations included in the strategic research plan described in section 12405(b)(10), the Secretary may build upon existing activities and collaborate with Native Hawaiian organizations, Tribal organizations, and Tribal consortia that are conducting or have completed

1 vulnerability assessments, research planning, climate
 2 action plans, or other similar activities related to
 3 ocean acidification and coastal acidification and the
 4 impacts of ocean acidification and coastal acidifica-
 5 tion on coastal communities.

6 “(3) PRIORITY.—In carrying out paragraphs
 7 (1) and (2), the Secretary shall prioritize under-
 8 served populations and entities in the use of re-
 9 sources of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
 10 Administration.”.

11 **SEC. 4. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.**

12 The Federal Ocean Acidification Research And Moni-
 13 toring Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3701 et seq.) is amended—

14 (1) in section 12402 (33 U.S.C. 3701)—

15 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “develop-
 16 ment coordination and implementation” and in-
 17 serting “development, coordination, and imple-
 18 mentation”; and

19 (B) in paragraph (4), by striking “research
 20 adaptation strategies and mitigating the im-
 21 pacts” and inserting “research on adaptation
 22 strategies and mitigation of the impacts”;

23 (2) in section 12404 (33 U.S.C. 3703)—

24 (A) in subsection (b)(5), by striking “;
 25 and” and inserting a period;

1 (B) in subsection (c)(2)(A)—

2 (i) in clause (i), by striking “sub-
3 section (d)(2)” and inserting “subsection
4 (e)(2)”; and

5 (ii) in clause (ii), by striking “sub-
6 section (d)(3)” and inserting “subsection
7 (e)(3)”; and

8 (C) in subsection (d)(3), by striking “this
9 section” and inserting “this subsection”; and

10 (D) in subsection (e)—

11 (i) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking
12 “interagency” and inserting “the”; and

13 (ii) in paragraph (3), by striking
14 “years until 2031 thereafter” and inserting
15 “years thereafter until 2031”; and

16 (3) in section 12406(d)(2) (33 U.S.C.
17 3705(d)(2)), by striking “The Secretary to,” and in-
18 serting “The Secretary, to”.

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