119TH CONGRESS
1st Session

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT
119–356

TO REAUTHORIZE THE YOUNG FISHERMEN'S DEVELOPMENT ACT

OCTOBER 31, 2025.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

---

Mr. WESTERMAN, from the Committee on Natural Resources, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H.R. 3692]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Natural Resources, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 3692) to reauthorize the Young Fishermen's Development Act, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE LEGISLATION

The purpose of H.R. 3692 is to reauthorize the Young Fishermen's Development Act.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

In 2020, Congress passed the Young Fishermen's Development Act (Public Law 116–289), which was signed into law on January 5, 2021. This legislation created the Young Fishermen's Development Grant Program and directed the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the National Sea Grant Office, to "make competitive grants to support new and established local and regional training, education, outreach, and technical assistance initiatives for young fishermen."[1] This program established criteria for the types of activities that these grants could support, set a limit of $200,000 per fiscal year, and imposed a term limit of no more than three fiscal years.[2] The statute also directed the Secretary of Commerce to en-

[1] Public Law 116–289, "Young Fishermen's Development Act," https://www.congress.gov/116/statute/STATUTE-134/STATUTE-134-Pg4886.pdf.
[2] *Id.*

69–006

sure regional balance in awarding grants.[3] Finally, the legislation directed the Secretary of Commerce to work with sea grant organizations, fishing organizations, and the eight Regional Fishery Management Councils to carry out its terms. The grant program was initially authorized through Fiscal Year (FY) 2026. H.R. 3692, introduced by Representative Seth Moulton (D–MA–06), reauthorizes the Young Fishermen's Development Act, with all the existing criteria and guardrails, through FY 2031.

Committee Action

H.R. 3692 was introduced on June 3, 2025, by Representative Seth Moulton (D–MA). The bill was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and within the Committee to the Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries. On September 3, 2025, the Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries held a hearing on the bill. On September 17, 2025, the Committee on Natural Resources met to consider the bill. The Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3692 by unanimous consent. The bill was ordered favorably reported to the House of Representatives by unanimous consent.

Hearings

For the purposes of clause 3(c)(6) of House rule XIII, the following hearing was used to develop or consider this measure: hearing by the Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries held on September 3, 2025.

Section-by-Section Analysis

Section 1. Young Fishermen's Development Act reauthorization

Section 1 reauthorizes the Young Fishermen's Development Act through FY 2031.

Committee Oversight Findings and Recommendations

Regarding clause 2(b)(1) of rule X and clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Natural Resources' oversight findings and recommendations are reflected in the body of this report.

Compliance With House Rule XIII and Congressional Budget Act

1. *Cost of Legislation and the Congressional Budget Act.* With respect to the requirements of clause 3(c)(2) and (3) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and sections 308(a) and 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee has received the following estimate for the bill from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office:

[3] *Id.*

H.R. 3692, a bill to reauthorize the Young Fishermen's Development Act **As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on September 17, 2025**			
By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2026	2026-2030	2026-2035
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	0	0
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	0	7	10

Increases *net direct spending* in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2036?	No	Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	No
		Mandate Effects	
Increases *on-budget deficits* in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2036?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No

H.R. 3692 would reauthorize the appropriation of $2 million each year from 2027 through 2031 for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to provide grants for training, education, outreach, and technical assistance to young fishermen. In 2024, the Congress appropriated $1 million for the program.

The costs of the legislation, detailed in Table 1, fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

TABLE 1.—ESTIMATED INCREASES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION UNDER H.R. 3692

	By fiscal year, millions of dollars—					
	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2026–2030
Authorization	0	2	2	2	2	8
Estimated Outlays	0	1	2	2	2	7

CBO assumes that the bill will be enacted early in fiscal year 2026 and that the authorized amounts will be provided in each year. Based on historical spending patterns for similar activities, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 3692 would cost $7 million over the 2026–2030 period and $3 million after 2030.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Aurora Swanson. The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.

PHILLIP L. SWAGEL,
Director, Congressional Budget Office.

2. *General Performance Goals and Objectives.* As required by clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII, the general performance goal or objective of this bill is to reauthorize the Young Fishermen's Development Act.

EARMARK STATEMENT

This bill does not contain any Congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined under clause 9(e), 9(f), and 9(g) of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

UNFUNDED MANDATES REFORM ACT STATEMENT

According to the Congressional Budget Office, H.R. 3692 contains no unfunded mandates as defined by the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.

EXISTING PROGRAMS

Directed Rule Making. This bill does not contain any directed rule makings.

Duplication of Existing Programs. This bill does not establish or reauthorize a program of the federal government known to be duplicative of another program. Such program was not included in any report from the Government Accountability Office to Congress pursuant to section 21 of Public Law 111–139 or identified in the most recent Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance published pursuant to the Federal Program Information Act (Public Law 95–220, as amended by Public Law 98–169) as relating to other programs.

APPLICABILITY TO LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

The Committee finds that the legislation does not relate to the terms and conditions of employment or access to public services or accommodations within the meaning of section 102(b)(3) of the Congressional Accountability Act.

PREEMPTION OF STATE, LOCAL OR TRIBAL LAW

Any preemptive effect of this bill over state, local, or tribal law is intended to be consistent with the bill's purposes and text and the Supremacy Clause of Article VI of the U.S. Constitution.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW MADE BY THE BILL, AS REPORTED

In compliance with clause 3(e) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, changes in existing law made by the bill, as reported, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italics, and existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

YOUNG FISHERMEN'S DEVELOPMENT ACT

* * * * * * *

SEC. 5. FUNDING.

(a) AUTHORIZATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act $2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through ⟦2026⟧ *2031*.

(b) DERIVATION.—Funds to carry out the activities under this Act shall be derived from amounts authorized to be appropriated pursuant to the preceding subsection that are enacted after the date of the enactment of this Act.

○