

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 718

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to direct the Great Lakes National Program Office of the Environmental Protection Agency to develop, implement, monitor, and report on a series of indicators of water quality and related environmental factors in the Great Lakes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 9, 2005

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to direct the Great Lakes National Program Office of the Environmental Protection Agency to develop, implement, monitor, and report on a series of indicators of water quality and related environmental factors in the Great Lakes.

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 Controlled
5 Data Collection and Monitoring Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds that—

3 (1) there are no comprehensive, regularly-col-
4 lected data that reveal whether the water quality or
5 related environmental factors of the Great Lakes
6 have improved as a result of efforts to remediate
7 and protect the Great Lakes;

8 (2) that lack of data was confirmed in Sep-
9 tember 2004 in a report by the General Accounting
10 Office that concluded that existing data were inad-
11 equate to assess the overall progress of restoration
12 efforts in the Great Lakes; and

13 (3) without those data, it is impossible to deter-
14 mine whether—

15 (A) progress is being made toward achiev-
16 ing the goals contained in the Great Lakes
17 Water Quality Agreement between the United
18 States and Canada; or

19 (B) Federal and State water quality stand-
20 ards and remediation programs are effective.

21 **SEC. 3. GREAT LAKES WATER QUALITY INDICATORS AND**
22 **MONITORING.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 118(c) of the Federal
24 Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1268(c)) is
25 amended—

1 (1) in paragraph (1)(B) by inserting “, subject
2 to paragraph (14),” after “establish”; and

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

4 “(14) SURVEILLANCE NETWORK TO MONITOR
5 WATER QUALITY.—

6 “(A) INDICATORS.—Not later than 2 years
7 after the date of enactment of this clause, the
8 Administrator, in cooperation with Canada and
9 appropriate Federal agencies (including the
10 United States Geological Survey, the National
11 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and
12 the United States Fish and Wildlife Service),
13 shall develop and implement a set of science-
14 based indicators of water quality and related
15 environmental factors in the Great Lakes, in-
16 cluding, at a minimum, measures of toxic pol-
17 lutants that have accumulated in the Great
18 Lakes for a substantial period of time, as deter-
19 mined by the Program Office.

20 “(B) NETWORK.—Not later than 4 years
21 after the date of enactment of this paragraph,
22 the Administrator shall establish a Federal net-
23 work for the regular monitoring of, and collec-
24 tion of data throughout, the Great Lakes basin
25 with respect to the indicators described in sub-

1 paragraph (A) and collect an initial set of
2 benchmark data from the network.

3 “(C) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years
4 after the date of collection of the data described
5 in subparagraph (B), and biennially thereafter,
6 the Administrator shall submit to Congress,
7 and make available to the public, a report (in
8 addition to the report required under paragraph
9 (10)), that—

10 “(i) describes the water quality and
11 related environmental factors of the Great
12 Lakes (including any changes in those fac-
13 tors), as determined through the regular
14 monitoring of indicators under subpara-
15 graph (B) for the period covered by the re-
16 port; and

17 “(ii) identifies any emerging problems
18 in the water quality or related environ-
19 mental factors of the Great Lakes.”.

20 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section
21 118 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33
22 U.S.C. 1268) is amended—

23 (1) in each of subsections (c)(12)(H)(i) and
24 (c)(13)(B) by striking “2008” and inserting
25 “2009”; and

1 (2) by striking subsection (h) and inserting the
2 following:

3 “(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be
5 appropriated to carry out this section (other than
6 subsection (c)(1)(B)(12), (c)(13), and (c)(14))
7 \$32,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2006 through
8 2009.

9 “(2) GREAT LAKES WATER QUALITY INDICA-
10 TORS AND MONITORING.—There are authorized to
11 be appropriated to carry out subsections (c)(1)(B)
12 and (c)(14)—

13 “(A) \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2006;

14 “(B) \$7,000,000 for fiscal year 2007;

15 “(C) \$9,000,000 for fiscal year 2008; and

16 “(D) \$11,000,000 for fiscal year 2009.”.

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