

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 208

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 SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 31, 2005

Mr. LEVIN (for himself, Mr. DEWINE, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. VOINOVICH) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

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 Water
5 Quality Indicators 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 May
9 2003 in a report by the Government Accountability
10 Office that concluded existing data were inadequate
11 to assess the overall progress of restoration efforts
12 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)(1) of the Federal
24 Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1268(c)(1)) is
25 amended by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the
26 following:

1 “(B)(i) not later than 2 years after the
2 date of enactment of this clause, in cooperation
3 with Canada and appropriate Federal agencies
4 (including the United States Geological Survey,
5 the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin-
6 istration, and the United States Fish and Wild-
7 life Service), develop and implement a set of
8 science-based indicators of water quality and re-
9 lated environmental factors in the Great Lakes,
10 including, at a minimum, measures of toxic pol-
11 lutants that have accumulated in the Great
12 Lakes for a substantial period of time, as deter-
13 mined by the Program Office;

14 “(ii) not later than 4 years after the date
15 of enactment of this clause—

16 “(I) establish a Federal network for
17 the regular monitoring of, and collection of
18 data throughout, the Great Lakes basin
19 with respect to the indicators described in
20 clause (i); and

21 “(II) collect an initial set of bench-
22 mark data from the network; and

23 “(iii) not later than 2 years after the date
24 of collection of the data described in clause
25 (ii)(II), and biennially thereafter, in addition to

1 the report required under paragraph (10), sub-
 2 mit to Congress, and make available to the pub-
 3 lic, a report that—

4 “(I) describes the water quality and
 5 related environmental factors of the Great
 6 Lakes (including any changes in those fac-
 7 tors), as determined through the regular
 8 monitoring of indicators under clause
 9 (ii)(I) for the period covered by the report;
 10 and

11 “(II) identifies any emerging problems
 12 in the water quality or related environ-
 13 mental factors of the Great Lakes.”.

14 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section
 15 118 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33
 16 U.S.C. 1268) is amended by striking subsection (h) and
 17 inserting the following:

18 “(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

19 “(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be
 20 appropriated to carry out this section (other than
 21 subsection (c)(1)(B)) \$25,000,000 for each of fiscal
 22 years 2006 through 2010.

23 “(2) GREAT LAKES WATER QUALITY INDICA-
 24 TORS AND MONITORING.—There are authorized to
 25 be appropriated to carry out subsection (c)(1)(B)—

- 1 “(A) \$4,000,000 for fiscal year 2006;
- 2 “(B) \$6,000,000 for fiscal year 2007;
- 3 “(C) \$8,000,000 for fiscal year 2008; and
- 4 “(D) \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2009.”.

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