

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5764

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 10, 2014

Received

AN ACT

To authorize the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, 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 “Great Lakes Restora-
3 tion Initiative Act of 2014”.

4 **SEC. 2. GREAT LAKES RESTORATION INITIATIVE.**

5 Section 118(c) of the Federal Water Pollution Con-
6 trol Act (33 U.S.C. 1268(c)) is amended by striking para-
7 graph (7) and inserting the following:

8 “(7) GREAT LAKES RESTORATION INITIA-
9 TIVE.—

10 “(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is estab-
11 lished in the Agency a Great Lakes Restoration
12 Initiative (referred to in this paragraph as the
13 ‘Initiative’) to carry out programs and projects
14 for Great Lakes protection and restoration.

15 “(B) FOCUS AREAS.—The Initiative shall
16 prioritize programs and projects carried out in
17 coordination with non-Federal partners and
18 programs and projects that address priority
19 areas each fiscal year, including—

20 “(i) the remediation of toxic sub-
21 stances and areas of concern;

22 “(ii) the prevention and control of
23 invasive species and the impacts of invasive
24 species;

1 “(iii) the protection and restoration of
2 nearshore health and the prevention and
3 mitigation of nonpoint source pollution;

4 “(iv) habitat and wildlife protection
5 and restoration, including wetlands res-
6 toration and preservation; and

7 “(v) accountability, monitoring, eval-
8 uation, communication, and partnership
9 activities.

10 “(C) PROJECTS.—Under the Initiative, the
11 Agency shall collaborate with Federal partners,
12 including the Great Lakes Interagency Task
13 Force, to select the best combination of pro-
14 grams and projects for Great Lakes protection
15 and restoration using appropriate principles
16 and criteria, including whether a program or
17 project provides—

18 “(i) the ability to achieve strategic
19 and measurable environmental outcomes
20 that implement the Great Lakes Action
21 Plan and the Great Lakes Water Quality
22 Agreement;

23 “(ii) the feasibility of—

24 “(I) prompt implementation;

1 “(II) timely achievement of re-
2 sults; and

3 “(III) resource leveraging; and

4 “(iii) the opportunity to improve
5 interagency and inter-organizational co-
6 ordination and collaboration to reduce du-
7 plication and streamline efforts.

8 “(D) IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECTS.—

9 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Funds made avail-
10 able to carry out the Initiative shall be
11 used to strategically implement—

12 “(I) Federal projects; and

13 “(II) projects carried out in co-
14 ordination with States, Indian tribes,
15 municipalities, institutions of higher
16 education, and other organizations.

17 “(ii) TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—With
18 amounts made available for the Initiative
19 each fiscal year, the Administrator may—

20 “(I) transfer not more than
21 \$300,000,000 to the head of any Fed-
22 eral department or agency, with the
23 concurrence of the department or
24 agency head, to carry out activities to

1 support the Initiative and the Great
2 Lakes Water Quality Agreement; and

3 “(II) enter into an interagency
4 agreement with the head of any Fed-
5 eral department or agency to carry
6 out activities described in subclause
7 (I).

8 “(E) SCOPE.—

9 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Projects shall be
10 carried out under the Initiative on multiple
11 levels, including—

12 “(I) Great Lakes-wide; and

13 “(II) Great Lakes basin-wide.

14 “(ii) LIMITATION.—No funds made
15 available to carry out the Initiative may be
16 used for any water infrastructure activity
17 (other than a green infrastructure project
18 that improves habitat and other ecosystem
19 functions in the Great Lakes) for which
20 amounts are made available from—

21 “(I) a State water pollution con-
22 trol revolving fund established under
23 title VI; or

24 “(II) a State drinking water re-
25 volving loan fund established under

1 section 1452 of the Safe Drinking
2 Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300j–12).

3 “(F) ACTIVITIES BY OTHER FEDERAL
4 AGENCIES.—Each relevant Federal department
5 or agency shall, to the maximum extent prac-
6 ticable—

7 “(i) maintain the base level of funding
8 for the Great Lakes activities of that de-
9 partment or agency without regard to
10 funding under the Initiative; and

11 “(ii) identify new activities and
12 projects to support the environmental goals
13 of the Initiative.

14 “(G) FUNDING.—There is authorized to be
15 appropriated to carry out the Initiative
16 \$300,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2015
17 through 2019.”.

Passed the House of Representatives December 9,
2014.

Attest:

KAREN L. HAAS,
Clerk.