

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2654

To make funds available for Dungeness crab and rock crab emergency disaster assistance, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 8, 2016

Mrs. BOXER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Appropriations

A BILL

To make funds available for Dungeness crab and rock crab emergency disaster assistance, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Crab Emergency Dis-
5 aster Assistance Act of 2016”.

6 **SEC. 2. DUNGENESS CRAB AND ROCK CRAB FISHERY FAIL-**
7 **URE AND FISHERY RESOURCE DISASTER.**

8 (a) DISASTER ASSISTANCE.—

9 (1) APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS.—In addition to
10 any other funds available for such purpose, there is

1 appropriated to the Secretary of Commerce
2 \$138,150,000 to make a lump sum payment to the
3 Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission.

4 (2) DISTRIBUTION.—The Commission shall dis-
5 tribute such amount among fishing communities, In-
6 dian tribes, small businesses, including fishermen,
7 fish processors, and related businesses, individuals,
8 and other entities, for assistance for the economic
9 and social effects of the commercial fishery failure in
10 the Dungeness crab fishery or rock crab fishery de-
11 termined under section 312(a) of the Magnuson-Ste-
12 vens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16
13 U.S.C. 1861a(a)) or the fishery resource disaster in
14 either such fishery determined under section 308(d)
15 of the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act of 1986 (16
16 U.S.C. 4107(d)), to mitigate the economic losses to
17 such communities, tribes, businesses, individuals or
18 other entities caused by closures or other restrictions
19 on the harvesting of Dungeness crab or rock crab.

20 (3) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts appropriated by
21 this subsection shall remain available for the period
22 with respect to which the determination referred to
23 in paragraph (2) is made.

24 (4) UNUSED FUNDS.—Any amount appro-
25 priated by this subsection that is not expended or

1 otherwise obligated for the purpose described in
 2 paragraph (1) shall be returned to the Treasury of
 3 the United States.

4 (5) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This subsection shall
 5 take effect on—

6 (A) the date the Secretary of Commerce
 7 publishes notice of a determination under sec-
 8 tion 312(a) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery
 9 Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C.
 10 1861a(a)) that there is a commercial fishery
 11 failure in the Dungeness crab fishery or rock
 12 crab fishery; or

13 (B) the date the Secretary of Commerce
 14 publishes notice of a determination under sec-
 15 tion 308(d) of the Interjurisdictional Fisheries
 16 Act of 1986 (16 U.S.C. 4107(d)) that there is
 17 a fishery resource disaster in either such fish-
 18 ery.

19 (b) RESEARCH.—

20 (1) APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS.—There is ap-
 21 propriated to the Secretary of Commerce—

22 (A) \$1,000,000 for West Coast domoic
 23 acid sampling and monitoring; and

1 (B) \$5,000,000 for competitive grants for
2 projects, activities, and research that advance
3 the capacity—

4 (i) to predict the occurrence of harm-
5 ful algal blooms in the offshore waters of
6 California, Washington, and Oregon; and

7 (ii) to evaluate the toxicity of domoic
8 acid bioaccumulation and transmission to
9 humans through the food supply.

10 (2) ESTABLISHMENT OF GRANT PROGRAM.—

11 The Secretary shall establish a grant program with
12 amounts appropriated by paragraph (1)(B) not later
13 than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this
14 Act.

15 (c) LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—

16 The Secretary of Commerce may not use more than 4 per-
17 cent of the amount appropriated under each of subsections
18 (a) and (b) for administrative expenses.

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