

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 1586

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 7, 2018

Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

AN ACT

To require the Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere to update periodically the environmental sensitivity index products of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for each coastal area of the Great Lakes, 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 Environ-
3 mental Sensitivity Index Act of 2017”.

4 **SEC. 2. UPDATE TO ENVIRONMENTAL SENSITIVITY INDEX**

5 **PRODUCTS OF NATIONAL OCEANIC AND AT-**
6 **MOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION FOR GREAT**
7 **LAKES.**

8 (a) **UPDATE REQUIRED ENVIRONMENTAL SENSI-**
9 **TIVITY INDEX PRODUCTS FOR GREAT LAKES.**—Not later
10 than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act,
11 the Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere shall
12 commence updating the environmental sensitivity index
13 products of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin-
14 istration for each coastal area of the Great Lakes.

15 (b) **PERIODIC UPDATES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SEN-**
16 **SITIVITY INDEX PRODUCTS GENERALLY.**—Subject to the
17 availability of appropriations and the priorities set forth
18 in subsection (c), the Under Secretary shall—

19 (1) periodically update the environmental sensi-
20 tivity index products of the Administration; and

21 (2) endeavor to do so not less frequently than
22 once every 7 years.

23 (c) **PRIORITIES.**—When prioritizing geographic areas
24 to update environmental sensitivity index products, the
25 Under Secretary shall consider—

1 (1) the age of existing environmental sensitivity
2 index products for the areas;

3 (2) the occurrence of extreme events, be it nat-
4 ural or man-made, which have significantly altered
5 the shoreline or ecosystem since the last update;

6 (3) the natural variability of shoreline and
7 coastal environment; and

8 (4) the volume of vessel traffic and general vul-
9 nerability to spilled pollutants.

10 (d) ENVIRONMENTAL SENSITIVITY INDEX PRODUCT
11 DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term “environmental
12 sensitivity index product” means a map or similar tool
13 that is utilized to identify sensitive shoreline, coastal or
14 offshore, resources prior to an oil spill event in order to
15 set baseline priorities for protection and plan cleanup
16 strategies, typically including information relating to
17 shoreline type, biological resources, and human use re-
18 sources.

19 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be
21 appropriated to the Under Secretary \$7,500,000 to
22 carry out subsection (a).

23 (2) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts appropriated or
24 otherwise made available pursuant to paragraph (1)

- 1 shall be available to the Under Secretary for the
- 2 purposes set forth in such paragraph until expended.

Passed the Senate September 6, 2018.

Attest:

JULIE E. ADAMS,
Secretary.