

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Lasky, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate agreed to the following resolution:

##### S. RES. 229

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran was born in Pontotoc, Mississippi, in 1937;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran graduated from Byram High School in Hinds County, Mississippi, as valedictorian, an Eagle Scout, a member of 4-H, and a student athlete;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran studied at the University of Mississippi in Oxford, Mississippi;

Whereas, while a student at the University of Mississippi, the Honorable William Thad Cochran was president of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity, vice president of the student body, company commander in the Navy Reserve Officers' Training Corps, and head cheerleader;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran was commissioned an Ensign in the United States Naval Reserve, served aboard the USS MACON from 1959 to 1961, served on staff of the Commandant of the Eighth Naval District in New Orleans, Louisiana, taught military law and naval orientation at the Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island, from 1962 to 1964, and was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in the United States Naval Reserve;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran studied at the University of Mississippi School of Law in Oxford, Mississippi, and at Trinity College, University of Dublin, in Dublin, Ireland, on a Rotary Foundation Graduate Fellowship;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran joined the law firm of Watkins & Eager in Jackson, Mississippi, in 1964, was made a partner at that firm in less than 3 years, and served as chairman of the Mississippi Law Institute, lawyers' chairman for the Heart Fund and United Givers Fund, president of the Young Lawyers Division of the Mississippi Bar Association, a board member of the Jackson Rotary Club, and chairman of the Legal Services program of the Jackson Junior Bar;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran was elected to the House of Representatives to represent the Fourth District of Mississippi in 1972, and was reelected in 1974 and 1976;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran was elected to the Senate in 1978, becoming the first Republican in more than 100 years to win a statewide election in the State of Mississippi, and was reelected in 1984, 1990, 1996, 2002, 2008, and 2014, with a total period of service lasting from December 27, 1978, to April 1, 2018;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran served as Chair of the Senate Republican Conference from 1991 to 1997;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran served as Chairman of the Com-

mittee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate from 2003 to 2005;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran served as Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate from 2005 to 2007 and from 2015 to 2018;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran championed education programs, including programs to increase educational achievement among disadvantaged children, particularly in rural areas, to build the research capabilities of universities, and to support Historically Black Colleges and Universities;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran worked to strengthen the Armed Forces by supporting shipbuilding programs for the Navy, the Marine Corps, the Coast Guard, and other critical Federal organizations and the military bases and installations in the State of Mississippi and across the United States;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran was the chief sponsor of the National Missile Defense Act of 1999 (Public Law 106-38; 113 Stat. 205), which made the United States exponentially safer by creating the missile defense system used by the United States as of June 2019;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran was a leader in agriculture and worked to promote United States agricultural innovation around the world through the development of the Cochran Fellowship Program of the Department of Agriculture, which trains fellows from middle-income countries to strengthen and enhance trade linkages between the countries of the fellows and agricultural interests in the United States;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran led the effort to provide critical Federal assistance to the State of Mississippi and other Gulf Coast States devastated by Hurricane Katrina in 2005, the worst natural disaster in the history of the United States;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran was a devoted father, grandfather, and husband;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran was awarded honorary degrees from Kentucky Wesleyan College, Mississippi College, Blue Mountain College, the University of Richmond, Belhaven University, and Tougaloo College;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran was recognized as the tenth-longest serving Senator in the history of the United States;

Whereas the service of the Honorable William Thad Cochran on behalf of the people of the State of Mississippi and all people of the United States earned the Honorable William Thad Cochran the respect and devotion of colleagues and the title "the Quiet Persuader"; and

Whereas the death of the Honorable William Thad Cochran has deprived the State of Mississippi and the United States of one of the most distinguished statesmen: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) has heard with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the death of the Honorable William Thad Cochran, former Senator for the State of Mississippi; and

(2) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate—

(A) communicate this resolution to the House of Representatives; and

(B) transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the family of the Honorable William Thad Cochran.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the fol-

lowing title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1235. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of ratification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, giving women in the United States the right to vote.

#### NATIONAL ESTUARIES AND ACIDIFICATION RESEARCH ACT OF 2019

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 988) to provide for a study by the Ocean Studies Board of the National Academies of Science examining the impact of ocean acidification and other stressors in estuarine environments, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

##### H.R. 988

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "National Estuaries and Acidification Research Act of 2019" or the "NEAR Act of 2019".

#### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Ocean acidification impacts human health, natural resources, and the environmental, economic, and recreational uses of the coastline.

(2) The current understanding of ocean acidification impacts on estuarine ecosystems is inadequate to fully prepare and manage for changing environmental conditions in nearshore locations.

(3) While pH can be measured with high precision and accuracy in open ocean environments, more understanding of the carbonate system in estuarine ecosystems is needed for precise and accurate measurements and observations.

(4) The interaction of multiple stressors, including salinity, pH, temperature, sea level rise, and nutrient input, within estuarine ecosystems is inadequately understood for managing the health, economic, recreational, and environmental impacts driven by these interactions.

(5) A better understanding is needed of how anthropogenic influences in coastal environments affect estuarine ecosystems.

(6) More integration and coordination is needed among regional, national, and global environmental observations in estuarine environments, supporting prior investments in related topics such as nutrient loading, hypoxia, ocean acidification, and harmful algae bloom research and observational systems.

#### SEC. 3. STUDY EXAMINING THE IMPACT OF OCEAN ACIDIFICATION AND OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL STRESSORS ON ESTUARINE ENVIRONMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Commerce shall make appropriate arrangements with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (referred to in this Act as the "National Academies") under which the National Academies shall conduct a study that—

(1) examines the existing science of ocean acidification in estuarine environments;

(2) examines the challenges to studying ocean acidification and ocean acidification's interactions with other environment stressors in estuarine environments;

(3) provides recommendations for improving future research with respect to ocean acidification in estuarine environments; and

(4) identifies pathways for applying science in management and mitigation decisions relating to ocean acidification in estuarine environments.

(b) CONTENTS OF STUDY.—The study described under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) the behavior of the carbonate system within estuarine environments;

(2) the interactions of the carbonate system with other biotic and abiotic characteristics of estuarine ecosystems;

(3) how environmental and anthropogenic changes or disturbances could affect abiotic and biotic processes within estuaries;

(4) how estuarine biotic and abiotic processes will be affected under predicted environmental changes;

(5) the current state of data collection, interpretation, storage, and retrieval and observational infrastructure of abiotic and biotic parameters in estuarine ecosystems;

(6) the gaps that exist in understanding the socio-economic and health impacts of ocean acidification in estuaries;

(7) future directions for scientific research; and

(8) pathways for applying science in management and mitigation decisions.

(c) REPORT.—In entering into an arrangement under subsection (a), the Secretary shall request that the National Academies transmit to Congress a report on the results of the study not later than 24 months after the date of enactment of this Act.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$1,000,000.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON) and the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LUCAS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on H.R. 988, the bill now under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 988, the National Estuaries and Acidification Research Act of 2019, or the NEAR Act.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to thank the sponsor of the legislation, Mr. POSEY, for his work on this bill and his general support and understanding in addressing the serious problem of ocean acidification.

Mr. POSEY's bill takes a focused look at a unique part of our coastal environment estuaries. Our estuaries are valuable and part of our marine community, both from an economic, as well as an ecological perspective. These environments are complex and the effects of ocean acidification on them is well understood.

H.R. 988 would address the gaps in our knowledge by commissioning a review by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine on the impacts of ocean acidification on estuaries.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support this good, bipartisan bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 988, the National Estuaries and Acidification Research Act of 2019, a bipartisan bill sponsored by Congressman BILL POSEY.

This legislation directs the Secretary of Commerce to coordinate a study with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to examine the effects of ocean acidification on estuary environments, and to submit the report to Congress within 2 years. Specifically, this study would provide Congress a greater understanding of the biological and economic impacts of ocean acidification on inland marine environments beyond what is called for under current law.

Estuaries are ecologically unique and economically important brackish water ecosystems that occur when inland rivers meet oceans. These areas possess unique biological characteristics and have not been the subject of studying the effects of ocean acidification to date.

Mr. Speaker, we have heard about the need for additional study for ocean acidification during the debate on the previous bills. However, this legislation would further improve our knowledge of this topic by utilizing the expertise and resources of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Ocean Studies Board to gain a better understanding of the importance of this issue.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. BONAMICI).

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the chairwoman for yielding me the time and for her support of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Congressman POSEY's bipartisan National Estuaries and Acidification Research Act. I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this bill, which would direct the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Ocean Studies Board to conduct a study that examines the existing science of ocean acidification and estuaries and provide recommendations to improve future research and management to inform mitigation decisions.

As co-chair of the House Oceans Caucus and the Congressional Estuary Caucus, I know that acidification is not only affecting open oceans. Estuaries and nearshore waters are also faced with environmental stressors. Ocean and coastal acidification often present itself in the context of other coastal processes like runoff, erosion, and upwelled water from the oceans making it difficult to measure its individual effects on estuaries.

We know that estuaries and nearshore waters are also experiencing the

consequences of our inaction to address ocean and coastal acidification, and research has not kept pace with the needs of coastal communities.

The NEAR Act would address the significant research gaps and urgent need to improve our understanding of the effects of ocean and coastal acidification.

I want to thank Congressman POSEY for his leadership on this bill, and his efforts to preserve our Nation's estuaries. I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. POSEY), the author of this outstanding piece of legislation and someone who has a tremendous working knowledge of all of these issues.

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding and his kind words.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 988, the National Estuaries and Acidification Research Act.

First, I want to thank Congresswoman SUZANNE BONAMICI and Congressman BRIAN MAST for working with me and our staff to advance this important bipartisan legislation. I also want to thank the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine for their valuable input.

The NEAR Act is a national proposal with a very special connection. People in my district, the Eighth Congressional District of Florida, understand in a very deep way the economic and environmental importance of the ocean and our estuary.

My district is bounded on the east by the Indian River Lagoon, which is North America's most diverse estuary. As the name implies, our estuary is a lagoon. It is an estuary separated from the ocean by barrier islands. The exchange of waters between the lagoon and the sea makes it an estuary.

□ 1000

The lagoon is 156 miles long, but it is only a half mile to 5 miles wide and averages just 3 feet in depth. Our lagoon is a wondrous nursery for sea life, but its physical features make it especially vulnerable to environmental threats. Unfortunately, the Indian River Lagoon and other valuable estuaries throughout our country are being threatened by ocean acidification, along with other stressors.

EPA tells us that, when carbon dioxide is released into the atmosphere, about one-third of that carbon dioxide is absorbed by seawater, creating carbonic acid. We have seen this happen in the ocean, but this process is now seeming to occur in estuaries and coastal zones.

Ten years of Federal investments in ocean acidification research show that acidification hurts tourism, recreational fishing, and coastal communities that depend on healthy marine ecosystems. Shellfish are especially at peril.

The threats of coastal acidification to our environment and our economy

are significant. The story of my district and the Indian River Lagoon plays out along our entire national coastline. More than half of the U.S. population lives in coastal areas.

Coastal watershed counties provide an estimated 69 million U.S. jobs and contribute an estimated \$7.9 trillion to the GDP, annually. That is why I joined with Congresswoman BONAMICI to cofound the bipartisan Congressional Estuary Caucus to work for policies that preserve and restore our estuaries and to help support other efforts like research and development to contribute to healthy estuaries.

Regrettably, we don't know a lot about how increasing ocean acidification affects a nearshore water body like the Indian River Lagoon. That is because acidification often acts, alongside other coastal processes, like runoff, erosion, and upwelled water from the ocean.

These estuary conditions aren't present in the same way in the open ocean, and they make it difficult to measure acidification's impact from what we know about the open ocean. As a result, we don't yet have a great way to measure how acidification plays out in estuaries. We need more research to support efforts to prevent and mitigate coastal acidification.

The NEAR Act is a great step toward increasing our knowledge of how acidification affects our estuaries. The study proposed in this bill can give us invaluable information to bolster our efforts to preserve and restore healthy estuaries.

Mr. Speaker, when we take care of our environment, we take care of ourselves; and, therefore, I ask my colleagues to join me in taking this important step toward understanding how ocean acidification affects our precious estuaries and support this bill today.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I urge support of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 988, the "National Estuaries and Acidification Research Act of 2019."

H.R. 988 provides a study by the Ocean Studies Board of the National Academies of Science examining the impact of ocean acidification and other stressors in estuarine environments.

The bill would authorize the appropriation of \$1 million for a report, to be completed in two years, that examines the challenges to studying ocean acidification, provides recommendations for improving future research, and identifies ways to apply science while mitigating and managing ocean acidification in estuarine environments.

Ocean acidification occurs when there are changes in ocean water chemistry from the absorption of excess carbon dioxide, but the current understanding of ocean acidification impacts on estuarine ecosystems is inadequate to fully prepare and manage for changing environmental conditions in nearshore locations.

It is critical that we better understand the interaction of multiple stressors, including salinity, pH, temperature, sea level rise, and nutrient input, within estuarine ecosystems so that the health, economic, recreational, and environmental impacts driven by these interactions can be effectively managed.

This bill will allow the Ocean Studies Board of the National Academies to conduct a study that—examines the existing science of ocean acidification in estuarine environments; examines the challenges to studying ocean acidification and ocean acidification's interactions with other environment stressors in estuarine environments; provides recommendations for improving future research with respect to ocean acidification in estuarine environments; and identifies pathways for applying science in management and mitigation decisions relating to ocean acidification in estuarine environments.

Through transportation, recreation, tourism, and other port activities, healthy estuaries are critical to the economy of coastal communities and contribute \$320 billion to our nation's GDP.

In addition, estuaries filter sediments and pollutants out before river water reaches the ocean and provide habitat for more than 75 percent of commercially caught fish in the United States.

When enacted, H.R. 988 will create a better understanding of coastal acidification, so we can better manage and mitigate its effects on our nation's estuaries and other natural treasures.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 988 to confront ocean acidification, which poses a strong threat to the estuaries that America's coastal residents depend on for nutrition, employment, and recreation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 988, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to provide for a study by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine examining the impact of ocean acidification and other stressors in estuarine environments."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### OCEAN ACIDIFICATION INNOVATION ACT OF 2019

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1921) to authorize Federal agencies to establish prize competitions for innovation or adaptation management development relating to ocean acidification, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by

the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 395, nays 22, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 241]

YEAS—395

Abraham	Davis (CA)	Johnson (TX)
Adams	Davis, Danny K.	Joyce (OH)
Aderholt	Davis, Rodney	Joyce (PA)
Aguilar	DeFazio	Kaptur
Allen	DeGette	Katko
Allred	DeLauro	Keating
Amodel	DelBene	Keller
Armstrong	Delgado	Kelly (IL)
Arrington	Demings	Kelly (MS)
Axne	DeSaulnier	Kelly (PA)
Babin	DesJarlais	Kennedy
Bacon	Deutch	Khanna
Baird	Diaz-Balart	Kildee
Balderson	Dingell	Kilmer
Banks	Doggett	Kim
Barr	Doyle, Michael	Kind
Barragán	F.	King (IA)
Bass	Duffy	King (NY)
Beatty	Dunn	Kinzing
Bera	Emmer	Kirkpatrick
Bergman	Engel	Krishnamoorthi
Beyer	Escobar	Kuster (NH)
Billirakis	Eshoo	Kustoff (TN)
Bishop (GA)	Espallat	LaHood
Bishop (UT)	Estes	LaMalfa
Blumenauer	Evans	Lamb
Blunt Rochester	Finkenauer	Lamborn
Bonamici	Fitzpatrick	Langevin
Bost	Fleischmann	Larsen (WA)
Boyle, Brendan	Fletcher	Larson (CT)
F.	Flores	Latta
Brady	Fortenberry	Lawson (FL)
Brindisi	Foster	Lee (CA)
Brooks (IN)	Fox (NC)	Lee (NV)
Brown (MD)	Frankel	Lesko
Brownley (CA)	Fudge	Levin (CA)
Buchanan	Fulcher	Levin (MI)
Bucshon	Gabbard	Lewis
Budd	Gaetz	Lieu, Ted
Burgess	Gallagher	Lipinski
Bustos	Gallego	Loebach
Butterfield	Garamendi	Lofgren
Byrne	Garcia (IL)	Long
Calvert	Garcia (TX)	Loudermilk
Carbajal	Gianforte	Lowenthal
Cárdenas	Gibbs	Lowe
Carson (IN)	Golden	Lucas
Carter (GA)	Gomez	Luetkemeyer
Carter (TX)	Gonzalez (OH)	Lujan
Cartwright	Gonzalez (TX)	Luria
Case	Gooden	Lynch
Casten (IL)	Gottheimer	Malinowski
Castor (FL)	Granger	Maloney,
Castro (TX)	Graves (GA)	Carolyn B.
Chabot	Graves (LA)	Maloney, Sean
Cheney	Green (TX)	Marchant
Chu, Judy	Griffith	Marshall
Cicilline	Grijalva	Mast
Cisneros	Guest	Matsui
Clark (MA)	Guthrie	McAdams
Clarke (NY)	Haaland	McBath
Clay	Hagedorn	McCarthy
Cleaver	Harder (CA)	McCaul
Cloud	Hartzler	McCollum
Cohen	Hayes	McEachin
Cole	Heck	McGovern
Collins (GA)	Hice (GA)	McHenry
Collins (NY)	Higgins (NY)	McKinley
Comer	Hill (AR)	McNerney
Conaway	Hill (CA)	Meeks
Connolly	Himes	Meng
Cook	Holding	Meuser
Cooper	Hollingsworth	Miller
Correa	Horn, Kendra S.	Mitchell
Costa	Horsford	Moolenaar
Courtney	Houlahan	Moore
Cox (CA)	Hoyer	Morelle
Craig	Hudson	Moulton
Crawford	Huffman	Mucarsel-Powell
Crenshaw	Huizenga	Mullin
Crist	Hurd (TX)	Murphy
Crow	Jackson Lee	Nadler
Cuellar	Jayapal	Napolitano
Cummings	Jeffries	Neal
Cunningham	Johnson (GA)	Neguse
Curtis	Johnson (LA)	Newhouse
Davids (KS)	Johnson (OH)	Norcross
Davidson (OH)	Johnson (SD)	Nunes