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Public Law 116–337
116th Congress

An Act

Jan. 13, 2021
[H.R. 4044]

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize the National Estuary Program, and for other purposes.

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

Protect and Restore America's Estuaries Act. 33 USC 1251 note.

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Protect and Restore America's Estuaries Act".

State listing.

SEC. 2. MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE.

Section 320(a)(2)(B) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1330(a)(2)(B)) is amended by striking "and Peconic Bay, New York" and inserting "Peconic Bay, New York; Casco Bay, Maine; Tampa Bay, Florida; Coastal Bend, Texas; San Juan Bay, Puerto Rico; Tillamook Bay, Oregon; Piscataqua Region, New Hampshire; Barnegat Bay, New Jersey; Maryland Coastal Bays, Maryland; Charlotte Harbor, Florida; Mobile Bay, Alabama; Morro Bay, California; and Lower Columbia River, Oregon and Washington".

SEC. 3. PURPOSES OF CONFERENCE.

Section 320(b)(4) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1330(b)(4)) is amended—

(1) by striking "management plan that recommends" and inserting "management plan that—

"(A) recommends"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(B) addresses the effects of recurring extreme weather events on the estuary, including the identification and assessment of vulnerabilities in the estuary and the development and implementation of adaptation strategies; and

"(C) increases public education and awareness of the ecological health and water quality conditions of the estuary;".

SEC. 4. MEMBERS OF CONFERENCE.

Section 320(c)(5) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1330(c)(5)) is amended by inserting "nonprofit organizations," after "educational institutions,".

SEC. 5. GRANTS.

Section 320(g)(4)(C) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1330(g)(4)(C)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding clause (i)—

(A) by inserting ", emerging," after "urgent"; and

(B) by striking "coastal areas" and inserting "the estuaries selected by the Administrator under subsection (a)(2), or that relate to the coastal resiliency of such estuaries";

(2) by redesignating clauses (vi) and (vii) as clauses (viii) and (ix), respectively, and inserting after clause (v) the following:

"(vi) stormwater runoff;

"(vii) accelerated land loss;"; and

(3) in clause (viii), as so redesignated, by inserting ", extreme weather," after "sea level rise".

SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 320(i)(1) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1330(i)(1)) is amended by inserting ", and $50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026," after "2021".

Approved January 13, 2021.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 4044:

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 116–288 (Comm. on Transportation and Infrastructure).
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 166 (2020):
Feb. 5, considered and passed House.
Dec. 31, considered and passed Senate.

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