

Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, H.R. 1171, With an Amendment

(The amendment strikes all after the enacting clause and inserts a new text)

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1171

To reauthorize and amend the Marine Debris Research, Prevention, and Reduction Act.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 17, 2011

Mr. FARR (for himself, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. ROHRBACHER, Ms. BORDALLO, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, and Mr. PIERLUISI) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To reauthorize and amend the Marine Debris Research, Prevention, and Reduction Act.

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 “Marine Debris Act
5 Amendments of 2012”.

1 **SEC. 2. REFERENCES.**

2 Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in
3 this Act an amendment is expressed as an amendment to
4 a section or other provision, the reference shall be consid-
5 ered to be made to a section or other provision of the Ma-
6 rine Debris Research, Prevention, and Reduction Act (33
7 U.S.C. 1951 et seq.), as in effect immediately before the
8 enactment of this Act.

9 **SEC. 3. SHORT TITLE AMENDMENT.**

10 Section 1 (33 U.S.C. 1951 note) is amended by strik-
11 ing “Research, Prevention, and Reduction”.

12 **SEC. 4. PURPOSE.**

13 Section 2 (33 U.S.C. 1951) is amended to read as
14 follows:

15 **“SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

16 “The purpose of this Act is to address the adverse
17 impacts of marine debris on the United States economy,
18 the marine environment, and navigation safety through
19 identification, determination of sources, assessment, pre-
20 vention, reduction, and removal of marine debris.”.

21 **SEC. 5. NOAA MARINE DEBRIS PROGRAM.**

22 (a) NAME OF PROGRAM.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 3 (33 U.S.C. 1952)
24 is amended—

25 (A) in the section heading by striking
26 **“PREVENTION AND REMOVAL”**; and

1 (B) in subsection (a)—

2 (i) by striking “Prevention and Re-
3 moval Program to reduce and prevent”
4 and inserting “Program to identify, deter-
5 mine sources of, assess, prevent, reduce,
6 and remove”; and

7 (ii) by inserting “the economy of the
8 United States,” after “marine debris on”;
9 and

10 (iii) by inserting a comma after “envi-
11 ronment”.

12 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Paragraph (7)
13 of section 7 (33 U.S.C. 1956) is amended by strik-
14 ing “Prevention and Removal”.

15 (b) PROGRAM COMPONENTS.—Section 3(b) (33
16 U.S.C. 1952(b)) is amended to read as follows:

17 “(b) PROGRAM COMPONENTS.—The Administrator,
18 acting through the Program and subject to the availability
19 of appropriations, shall—

20 “(1) identify, determine sources of, assess, pre-
21 vent, reduce, and remove marine debris, with a focus
22 on marine debris posing a threat to living marine re-
23 sources and navigation safety;

24 “(2) provide national and regional coordination
25 to assist States, Indian tribes, and regional organi-

1 zations in identification, determination of sources,
2 assessment, prevention, reduction, and removal of
3 marine debris;

4 “(3) undertake efforts to reduce adverse im-
5 pacts of lost and discarded fishing gear on living
6 marine resources and navigation safety, including—

7 “(A) research and development of alter-
8 natives to gear posing threats to the marine en-
9 vironment, and methods for marking gear used
10 in specific fisheries to enhance the tracking, re-
11 covery, and identification of lost and discarded
12 gear; and

13 “(B) development of effective nonregula-
14 tory measures and incentives to cooperatively
15 reduce the volume of lost and discarded fishing
16 gear and to aid in its recovery; and

17 “(4) undertake outreach and education of the
18 public and other stakeholders on sources of marine
19 debris, threats associated with marine debris, and
20 approaches to identify, determine sources of, assess,
21 prevent, reduce, and remove marine debris and its
22 adverse impacts on the United States economy, the
23 marine environment, and navigational safety, includ-
24 ing outreach and education activities through public-
25 private initiatives.”.

1 (c) REPEAL.—Section 2204 of the Marine Plastic
2 Pollution Research and Control Act of 1987 and the item
3 relating to that section in the table of contents contained
4 in section 2 of the United States-Japan Fishery Agree-
5 ment Approval Act of 1987 (33 U.S.C. 1915) are repealed.

6 (d) GRANT CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES.—Section
7 3(c) (33 U.S.C. 1952(c)) is amended—

8 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “section 2(1)”
9 and inserting “section 2”;

10 (2) by repealing paragraph (5); and

11 (3) by redesignating paragraphs (6) and (7) as
12 paragraphs (5) and (6).

13 **SEC. 6. REPEAL OF OBSOLETE PROVISIONS.**

14 Section 4 (33 U.S.C. 1953) is amended—

15 (1) by striking “(a) STRATEGY.—”; and

16 (2) by repealing subsections (b) and (c).

17 **SEC. 7. AMENDMENTS TO DEFINITIONS.**

18 (a) INTERAGENCY MARINE DEBRIS COORDINATING
19 COMMITTEE.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in sub-
21 section (b), section 2203 of the Marine Plastic Pol-
22 lution Research and Control Act of 1987 (33 U.S.C.
23 1914) is redesignated and moved to replace and ap-
24 pear as section 5 of the Marine Debris Research,
25 Prevention, and Reduction Act (33 U.S.C. 1954).

1 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The item relating
2 to section 2203 in the table of contents contained in
3 section 2 of the United States-Japan Fishery Agree-
4 ment Approval Act of 1987 is repealed.

5 (b) BIENNIAL PROGRESS REPORTS.—Section 5(c)(2)
6 (33 U.S.C. 1954(c)(2)), as in effect immediately before
7 the enactment of this Act—

8 (1) is redesignated as subsection (e) of section
9 5, as redesignated and moved by the amendment
10 made by subsection (a) of this section; and

11 (2) is amended—

12 (A) by striking “ANNUAL PROGRESS RE-
13 PORTS.—” and all that follows through “there-
14 after” and inserting “BIENNIAL PROGRESS RE-
15 PORTS.—Biennially”;

16 (B) by inserting “Natural” before “Re-
17 sources”;

18 (C) by redesignating subparagraphs (A)
19 through (E) as paragraphs (1) through (5) of
20 such subsection; and

21 (D) by moving such subsection 2 ems to
22 the left.

23 **SEC. 8. CONFIDENTIALITY OF SUBMITTED INFORMATION.**

24 Section 6(2) (33 U.S.C. 1955(2)) is amended by
25 striking “by the fishing industry”.

1 **SEC. 9. MARINE DEBRIS DEFINITION.**

2 Section 7 (33 U.S.C. 1956) is amended—

3 (1) by redesignating paragraph (3) as para-
4 graph (9), and moving such paragraph to appear
5 after paragraph (8); and

6 (2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-
7 lowing:

8 “(3) MARINE DEBRIS.—The term ‘marine de-
9 bris’ means any persistent solid material that is
10 manufactured or processed and directly or indirectly,
11 and intentionally or unintentionally, disposed of or
12 abandoned into the marine environment or the Great
13 Lakes.”.

14 **SEC. 10. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

15 Section 9 (33 U.S.C. 1958) is amended—

16 (1) by striking “are” and inserting “is”;

17 (2) by striking “2006 through 2010” and all
18 that follows through “(1)” and inserting “through
19 fiscal year 2015”;

20 (3) in paragraph (1), by striking
21 “\$10,000,000” and inserting “\$4,900,000”; and

22 (4) by striking “; and” and all that follows
23 through the end of paragraph (2) and inserting a
24 period.