

**Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, S. 1523, With an Amendment**

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

114<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# S. 1523

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## AN ACT

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize the National Estuary Program, 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. COMPETITIVE AWARDS.**

4 Section 320(g) of the Federal Water Pollution Con-  
5 trol Act (33 U.S.C. 1330(g)) is amended by adding at the  
6 end the following:

7 “(4) COMPETITIVE AWARDS.—

8 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Using the amounts  
9 made available under subsection (i)(2)(B), the  
10 Administrator shall make competitive awards  
11 under this paragraph.

12 “(B) APPLICATION FOR AWARDS.—The  
13 Administrator shall solicit applications for  
14 awards under this paragraph from State, inter-

1 state, and regional water pollution control agen-  
2 cies and entities, State coastal zone manage-  
3 ment agencies, interstate agencies, other public  
4 or nonprofit private agencies, institutions, orga-  
5 nizations, and individuals.

6 “(C) SELECTION OF RECIPIENTS.—In se-  
7 lecting award recipients under this paragraph,  
8 the Administrator shall select recipients that  
9 are best able to address urgent and challenging  
10 issues that threaten the ecological and economic  
11 well-being of coastal areas. Such issues shall in-  
12 clude—

13 “(i) extensive seagrass habitat losses  
14 resulting in significant impacts on fisheries  
15 and water quality;

16 “(ii) recurring harmful algae blooms;

17 “(iii) unusual marine mammal mor-  
18 talities;

19 “(iv) invasive exotic species that may  
20 threaten wastewater systems and cause  
21 other damage;

22 “(v) jellyfish proliferation limiting  
23 community access to water during peak  
24 tourism seasons;

1                   “(vi) flooding that may be related to  
2                   sea level rise or wetland degradation or  
3                   loss; and

4                   “(vii) low dissolved oxygen conditions  
5                   in estuarine waters and related nutrient  
6                   management.”.

7 **SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

8           Section 320 of the Federal Water Pollution Control  
9 Act (33 U.S.C. 1330) is amended by striking subsection  
10 (i) and inserting the following:

11           “(i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

12                   “(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be  
13                   appropriated to the Administrator \$26,500,000 for  
14                   each of fiscal years 2017 through 2021 for—

15                           “(A) expenses relating to the administra-  
16                           tion of grants or awards by the Administrator  
17                           under this section, including the award and  
18                           oversight of grants and awards, except that  
19                           such expenses may not exceed 5 percent of the  
20                           amount appropriated under this subsection for  
21                           a fiscal year; and

22                           “(B) making grants and awards under  
23                           subsection (g).

24                   “(2) ALLOCATIONS.—

1           “(A) CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT  
2 PLANS.—Not less than 80 percent of the  
3 amount made available under this subsection  
4 for a fiscal year shall be used by the Adminis-  
5 trator to provide grant assistance for the devel-  
6 opment, implementation, and monitoring of  
7 each of the conservation and management plans  
8 eligible for grant assistance under subsection  
9 (g)(2).

10           “(B) COMPETITIVE AWARDS.—Not less  
11 than 15 percent of the amount made available  
12 under this subsection for a fiscal year shall be  
13 used by the Administrator for making competi-  
14 tive awards described in subsection (g)(4).”.