

Bill Nelson

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To reauthorize the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. NELSON (for himself and Mr. WICKER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To reauthorize the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, 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. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS; REF-**
4 **ERENCES.**

5 (a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the
6 “Coastal Coordination Act of 2016”.

7 (b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents of
8 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents; references.

TITLE I—COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ACT OF 1972
AMENDMENTS

- Sec. 101. Congressional findings.
- Sec. 102. Definitions.
- Sec. 103. Coastal resource improvement program.
- Sec. 104. Coordination and cooperation.
- Sec. 105. Coastal zone enhancement grants.
- Sec. 106. National estuarine research reserve system.
- Sec. 107. Coastal zone management reports.
- Sec. 108. Technical and conforming amendments.
- Sec. 109. Authorization of appropriations.

TITLE II—GULF OF MEXICO REGIONAL COORDINATION

- Sec. 201. Sense of Congress.
- Sec. 202. Purposes.
- Sec. 203. Gulf of Mexico regional coordination.
- Sec. 204. Authorization of appropriations.

TITLE III—COASTAL ZONE IMPACTS

- Sec. 301. Agency consultations regarding coastal zone impacts.

1 (c) REFERENCES TO THE COASTAL ZONE MANAGE-
2 MENT ACT OF 1972.—Except as otherwise expressly pro-
3 vided, wherever in this Act an amendment or repeal is ex-
4 pressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a sec-
5 tion or other provision, the reference shall be considered
6 to be made to a section or other provision of the Coastal
7 Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1451 et seq.).

8 **TITLE I—COASTAL ZONE MAN-**
9 **AGEMENT ACT OF 1972**
10 **AMENDMENTS**

11 **SEC. 101. CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS.**

12 Section 302 (16 U.S.C. 1451) is amended—

13 (1) by redesignating subsections (a) through
14 (m) as paragraphs (1) through (13), respectively;

15 (2) in paragraph (1), as redesignated, by strik-
16 ing “in the effective management, beneficial use,

1 protection, and development of the coastal zone” and
2 inserting “in the effective management, beneficial
3 use, protection, development, and resilience of the
4 coastal zone and coastal natural resources”;

5 (3) in paragraph (3), as redesignated, by strik-
6 ing “industry, commerce, residential development,
7 recreation, extraction of mineral resources and fossil
8 fuels, transportation and navigation, waste disposal,
9 and harvesting of fish, shellfish, and other living ma-
10 rine resources” and inserting “industry, commerce,
11 development, tourism, recreation, extraction of min-
12 eral resources, energy development, transportation
13 and navigation, waste disposal, and harvesting of
14 fish, shellfish, and other living marine resources”;

15 (4) in paragraph (6), as redesignated, by strik-
16 ing the semi-colon at the end and inserting a period;

17 (5) in paragraphs (8) and (10), as redesign-
18 ated, by striking “state” and inserting “State”;

19 (6) in paragraph (9), as redesignated, by strik-
20 ing “states to” and all that follows through “vital-
21 ly affected interests” and inserting “States to exercise
22 their full authority over the lands and waters in the
23 coastal zone by assisting the States, in cooperation
24 with Federal agencies and with the participation of

1 and coordination with local governments and other
2 vitally affected interests”;

3 (7) in paragraph (13), as redesignated—

4 (A) by striking “by the active participation
5 of coastal states in all Federal programs affect-
6 ing such resources” and inserting “by the active
7 participation and coordination in all Federal
8 programs and activities affecting such re-
9 sources”; and

10 (B) by striking “state ocean” and inserting
11 “State ocean”; and

12 (8) by adding at the end the following:

13 “(14) In turn, once a State ocean and coastal
14 zone management plan has been approved by the
15 Secretary of Commerce, Federal agencies should, to
16 the maximum extent practicable, seek to conduct ac-
17 tivities, invest, and authorize licenses or permits re-
18 lated to the coastal zone of that State in a manner
19 consistent with that plan.”.

20 **SEC. 102. DEFINITIONS.**

21 Section 304 (16 U.S.C. 1453) is amended—

22 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (7) through
23 (18) as paragraphs (8) through (19), respectively;

24 (2) by striking “(6a) The” and inserting “(7)
25 The”;

1 (3) in paragraph (2), by striking “if any such
2 area is determined by a coastal state to be of sub-
3 stantial biological or natural storm protective value”
4 and inserting “if any such area is determined by a
5 coastal state, alone or in combination with other
6 such areas, to be of substantial biological, research,
7 geological, hydrological, natural, ecological, storm
8 protective, water quality, or flood risk protective
9 value”;

10 (4) in paragraph (5), by striking “any coastal
11 state” each place it appears and inserting “any
12 State”;

13 (5) by amending paragraph (6) to read as fol-
14 lows:

15 “(6) The term ‘energy facilities’—

16 “(A) means any equipment or facility
17 which is or will be used primarily—

18 “(i) in the exploration for, or the de-
19 velopment, production, conversion, storage,
20 transfer, processing, or transportation of,
21 any energy resource; or

22 “(ii) for the manufacture, production,
23 or assembly of equipment, machinery,
24 products, or devices which are involved in
25 any activity described in clause (i); and

- 1 “(B) includes—
- 2 “(i) electric generating plants;
- 3 “(ii) petroleum refineries and associ-
- 4 ated facilities;
- 5 “(iii) gasification plants;
- 6 “(iv) facilities used for the transpor-
- 7 tation, conversion, treatment, transfer, or
- 8 storage of liquefied natural gas;
- 9 “(v) uranium enrichment or nuclear
- 10 fuel processing facilities;
- 11 “(vi) oil and gas facilities, including
- 12 platforms, assembly plants, storage depots,
- 13 tank farms, crew and supply bases, and re-
- 14 fining complexes;
- 15 “(vii) facilities including deepwater
- 16 ports, for the transfer of petroleum;
- 17 “(viii) pipelines and transmission fa-
- 18 cilities; and
- 19 “(ix) terminals which are associated
- 20 with any of the foregoing.”;
- 21 (6) in paragraph (7), as redesignated, by strik-
- 22 ing “land and water uses” and inserting “land uses
- 23 and water uses”;
- 24 (7) in paragraph (8), as redesignated, by strik-
- 25 ing “from land drainage” and inserting “from land

1 drainage, or where there is tidal influence without
2 regard to salinity”;

3 (8) in paragraph (12), as redesignated, by
4 striking “state’s” and inserting “State’s”;

5 (9) in paragraphs (13), (15), and (16), as re-
6 designated, by striking “state” each place it appears
7 and inserting “State”; and

8 (10) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(20) The term ‘working waterfront’ means wa-
10 terfront lands, waterfront infrastructure, and water-
11 ways that are used for a water-dependent commer-
12 cial activity.”.

13 **SEC. 103. COASTAL RESOURCE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.**

14 Section 306A (16 U.S.C. 1455a) is amended—

15 (1) in subsection (b)—

16 (A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1),
17 by striking “state in” and inserting “State in”;

18 (B) in paragraph (1)—

19 (i) in the matter preceding subpara-
20 graph (A), by striking “the state” and in-
21 serting “the State”; and

22 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking
23 “clutch” and inserting “cultch”;

24 (C) in paragraph (2), by striking “state’s”
25 and inserting “State’s”; and

- 1 (D) by adding at the end the following:
- 2 “(5) The preservation or redevelopment of
3 working waterfronts in the coastal zone.
- 4 “(6) The development of a coordinated process
5 to maximize the efficiency of processing permits re-
6 lated to activities in the coastal zone.”;
- 7 (2) in subsection (d)(1)—
- 8 (A) by striking “the state” and inserting
9 “the State”; and
- 10 (B) by striking “to state” and inserting
11 “to State”; and
- 12 (3) in subsection (e)—
- 13 (A) by striking “that state” and inserting
14 “that State”; and
- 15 (B) by striking “the state’s” and inserting
16 “the State’s”.

17 **SEC. 104. COORDINATION AND COOPERATION.**

18 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 307 (16 U.S.C. 1456) is
19 amended—

- 20 (1) by redesignating subsections (e) through (i)
21 as subsections (f) through (j), respectively;
- 22 (2) in subsections (b) and (d), by striking
23 “state” and inserting “State”;
- 24 (3) in subsection (e)—
- 25 (A) in paragraph (1)—

1 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking
2 “land or water use or natural resource of
3 the coastal zone” and inserting “land use
4 or water use or natural resource of the
5 coastal zone”; and

6 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking
7 “under subsection (h)” and inserting
8 “under subsection (i)”;

9 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “a state”
10 and inserting “a State”; and

11 (C) in paragraph (3)—

12 (i) by striking “state’s” each place it
13 appears and inserting “State’s”;

14 (ii) by striking “the state” each place
15 it appears and inserting “the State”;

16 (iii) by striking “such state” each
17 place it appears and inserting “such
18 State”;

19 (iv) in subparagraph (A), by striking
20 “that state” and inserting “that State”;

21 (v) in subparagraph (B)(ii), by strik-
22 ing “federal” and inserting “Federal”; and

23 (vi) in the matter following subpara-
24 graph (B)(iii), by striking “a state” and
25 inserting “a State”;

1 (4) by inserting after subsection (d), the fol-
2 lowing:

3 “(e) INTERSTATE AND REGIONAL COORDINATION.—

4 “(1) The coastal states are encouraged—

5 “(A) to coordinate State coastal zone plan-
6 ning, policies, and programs with respect to
7 contiguous areas, shared resources, and inter-
8 state waters of such States;

9 “(B) to study, plan, and implement unified
10 coastal zone policies with respect to such areas;
11 and

12 “(C) to establish an effective mechanism,
13 and participate in mediation under subsection
14 (i), to identify, examine, and cooperatively re-
15 solve mutual problems with respect to the ma-
16 rine and coastal areas which affect, directly or
17 indirectly, the coastal zone.

18 “(2) Subject to paragraph (3), the coastal zone
19 activities described in this subsection may be con-
20 ducted pursuant to interstate or regional agreements
21 or compacts.

22 “(3) 2 or more coastal states may negotiate and
23 enter into any interstate or regional agreement or
24 compact to do the following unless the agreement or

1 compact conflicts with any law or treaty of the
2 United States:

3 “(A) To develop and administer coordi-
4 nated coastal zone planning, policies, programs,
5 and dispute resolution.

6 “(B) To establish executive instrumental-
7 ities or agencies that such States consider nec-
8 essary for the effective implementation of an
9 agreement or compact under this subsection.

10 “(4) An agreement or compact under paragraph
11 (3) shall be binding and obligatory upon any State
12 or party thereto without further approval by Con-
13 gress.”;

14 (5) in subsection (f), as redesignated—

15 (A) by striking “or state” and inserting
16 “or State”; and

17 (B) by striking “more states” each place it
18 appears and inserting “more States”;

19 (6) in subsection (g), as redesignated, by strik-
20 ing “any state” and inserting “any State”;

21 (7) in subsection (h), as redesignated, by strik-
22 ing “any state’s” and inserting “any State’s”; and

23 (8) by amending subsection (i), as redesignated,
24 to read as follows:

25 “(i) MEDIATION OF DISAGREEMENTS.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may mediate
2 a serious disagreement between any Federal agency
3 and a coastal state or between 2 or more willing
4 coastal states—

5 “(A) in the development or the initial im-
6 plementation of a management program under
7 section 305;

8 “(B) in the administration of a manage-
9 ment program approved under section 305; or

10 “(C) in coordination and cooperation under
11 this section.

12 “(2) COOPERATION.—The Secretary, with the
13 cooperation of the Executive Office of the President,
14 shall seek to mediate the differences involved in a
15 disagreement described in paragraph (1).

16 “(3) PUBLIC HEARINGS.—Mediation under this
17 subsection shall, with respect to any disagreement
18 described in paragraph (1)(B), include public hear-
19 ings in the local area concerned.”.

20 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

21 “(1) DEFINITIONS.—Section 304(11) (16 U.S.C.
22 1453(11)), as redesignated by section 102 of this
23 Act, is amended by striking “section 307(g)” and in-
24 serting “section 307(h)”.

1 (2) COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT FUND.—Sec-
2 tion 308(b)(1) (16 U.S.C. 1456a(b)(1)) is amended
3 by striking “section 307(i)(3)” and inserting “sec-
4 tion 307(j)(3)”.

5 (c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
6 tion, or the amendments made by this section, may be con-
7 strued to affect any mediation that was commenced before
8 the date of enactment of this Act.

9 **SEC. 105. COASTAL ZONE ENHANCEMENT GRANTS.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 309(a) (16 U.S.C.
11 1456b(a)) is amended—

12 (1) by amending paragraph (1) to read as fol-
13 lows:

14 “(1) Protection, restoration, or enhancement of
15 existing coastal wetlands, seagrass beds, coral reefs,
16 oyster habitat, and marine habitat, or creation of
17 new coastal wetlands.”;

18 (2) by amending paragraph (2) to read as fol-
19 lows:

20 “(2) Increasing coastal resilience and pre-
21 venting or reducing loss of life and property by lim-
22 iting development and redevelopment in high-hazard
23 areas, using natural and restoration approaches to
24 reduce flood risk, or anticipating and managing the

1 effects of potential sea level rise and Great Lakes
2 level change.”;

3 (3) by amending paragraph (7) to read as fol-
4 lows:

5 “(7) Planning for the use of ocean and Great
6 Lakes resources.”; and

7 (4) by adding at the end the following:

8 “(10) Interstate water resource and coastal
9 management planning to facilitate healthy and resil-
10 ient coastal natural resources, land uses, and water
11 uses, and to resolve water management conflict.

12 “(11) Identification and adoption of procedures
13 and enforceable policies to ensure sufficient response
14 capabilities at the State level to address the environ-
15 mental, economic, and social impacts of oil spills or
16 other accidents resulting from Outer Continental
17 Shelf energy activities with the potential to affect
18 land or water use or natural resources of the coastal
19 zone.”.

20 (b) EVALUATION OF STATE PROPOSALS BY SEC-
21 RETARY.—Section 309(c) (16 U.S.C. 1456b(c)) is amend-
22 ed by striking “and the overall merit of each proposal in
23 terms of benefits to the public” and inserting “and are
24 consistent with the rules and regulations promulgated
25 under section 306”.

1 (c) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this sec-
2 tion, or the amendments made by this section, may be con-
3 strued to affect any grant made or funding awarded under
4 section 309 of the Coast Zone Management Act of 1972
5 (16 U.S.C. 1456b) before the date of enactment of this
6 Act.

7 **SEC. 106. NATIONAL ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVE SYS-**
8 **TEM.**

9 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 315 (16 U.S.C. 1461) is
10 amended—

11 (1) in subsection (a)—

12 (A) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and
13 (2) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively,
14 and indenting appropriately;

15 (B) in the matter preceding subparagraph
16 (A), as redesignated, by inserting “(1) **IN GEN-**
17 **ERAL.—**” before “There is” and indenting ap-
18 propriately;

19 (C) in the matter following subparagraph
20 (B), as redesignated, by inserting “(2) **NA-**
21 **TIONAL ESTUARINE RESERVES.—**” before
22 “Each estuarine” and indenting appropriately;

23 (D) in paragraph (1), as redesignated, by
24 striking “consists of—” and inserting “is a net-
25 work of areas designated to promote informed

1 management of the Nation's estuarine and
2 coastal areas through interconnected programs
3 in resource stewardship, education and training,
4 monitoring, research, and scientific under-
5 standing consisting of—"; and

6 (E) in paragraph (2), as redesignated, by
7 striking "paragraph (1)" and inserting "sub-
8 paragraph (A)";

9 (2) in subsection (b)(2)(C)—

10 (A) by striking "public awareness and"
11 and inserting "State coastal management, pub-
12 lic awareness, and"; and

13 (B) by striking "public education and in-
14 terpretation"; and inserting "education, inter-
15 pretation, training, and demonstration
16 projects";

17 (3) by redesignating subsections (e) through (g)
18 as subsections (d) through (h), respectively;

19 (4) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-
20 lowing:

21 "(c) EXPANSION OF NATIONAL ESTUARINE RE-
22 SERVES.—

23 "(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (3),
24 the Secretary shall periodically evaluate whether to

1 expand the estuarine area of each national estuarine
2 reserve.

3 “(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—In evaluating whether
4 to expand the area described in paragraph (1), the
5 Secretary shall consider—

6 “(A) the recommendations of prominent
7 members of the estuarine research community,
8 the Governor of the coastal state in which the
9 area is located, the System, and the heads of
10 relevant Federal agencies;

11 “(B) any changing environmental condi-
12 tions, including increased pressure on the re-
13 sources to be researched and potential adapta-
14 tion benefits of the expansion; and

15 “(C) the impact to that national estuarine
16 reserve and the System.

17 “(3) AUTHORIZATION.—The Secretary is au-
18 thorized to expand the following:

19 “(A) The Guana-Tolomato Matanzas Na-
20 tional Estuarine Research Reserve.

21 “(B) The Rookery Bay National Estuarine
22 Research Reserve.

23 “(C) The Apalachicola National Estuarine
24 Research Reserve.”;

25 (5) in subsection (f), as redesignated—

- 1 (A) in paragraph (1)(A)—
- 2 (i) in clause (i), by striking “reserve,”
- 3 and inserting “reserve; and”;
- 4 (ii) in clause (ii), by striking “and
- 5 constructing appropriate reserve facilities,
- 6 or” and inserting “, including for resource
- 7 stewardship activities and for constructing
- 8 reserve facilities; and”; and
- 9 (iii) by striking clause (iii);
- 10 (B) by amending paragraph (1)(B) to read
- 11 as follows:
- 12 “(B) to any coastal state or public or pri-
- 13 vate person—
- 14 “(i) for purposes of supporting re-
- 15 search and monitoring associated with a
- 16 national estuarine reserve that are con-
- 17 sistent with the research guidelines devel-
- 18 oped under subsection (c); or
- 19 “(ii) for purposes of conducting edu-
- 20 cational, interpretive, or training activities
- 21 for a national estuarine reserve that are
- 22 consistent with the research guidelines de-
- 23 veloped under subsection (c).”; and
- 24 (C) by adding at the end the following:
- 25 “(4)(A) The Secretary may—

1 “(i) enter into cooperative agree-
2 ments, financial agreements, grants, con-
3 tracts, or other agreements with any non-
4 profit organization, authorizing the non-
5 profit organization to solicit donations to
6 carry out the purposes and policies of this
7 section, except for general administration
8 of reserves or the System, and which are
9 consistent with the purposes and policies of
10 this section; and

11 “(ii) accept donations of funds and
12 services for use in carrying out the pur-
13 poses and policies of this section, except
14 for general administration of reserves or
15 the System, and which are consistent with
16 the purposes and policies of this section.

17 “(B) Donations accepted under this para-
18 graph shall be considered as a gift or bequest
19 to or for the use of the United States for the
20 purpose of carrying out this section.”; and

21 (6) by amending subsection (g), as redesignig-
22 nated, to read as follows:

23 “(g) EVALUATION OF SYSTEM PERFORMANCE.—

24 “(1) The Secretary shall periodically evaluate
25 the operation and management of the National Es-

1 tuarine Research Reserve System and each national
2 estuarine reserve, including coordination with other
3 State programs, education and interpretive activities,
4 and the research being conducted within the reserve.

5 “(2) If an evaluation under paragraph (1) re-
6 veals that the operation, management, education, or
7 research conducted by the System as a whole is defi-
8 cient, the Secretary shall provide the System with
9 recommendations to improve the deficiencies.

10 “(3) If an evaluation under paragraph (1) re-
11 veals that the operation and management of a re-
12 serve is deficient, or that the research being con-
13 ducted within the reserve is not consistent with the
14 research guidelines developed under subsection (c),
15 the Secretary may suspend the eligibility of that re-
16 serve for financial assistance under subsection (e)
17 until the deficiency or inconsistency is remedied.

18 “(4) The Secretary may withdraw the designa-
19 tion of an estuarine area as a national estuarine re-
20 serve if an evaluation under paragraph (1) reveals
21 that—

22 “(A) the basis for any 1 or more of the
23 findings made under subsection (b)(2) regard-
24 ing that area no longer exists; or

1 “(B) a substantial portion of the research
2 conducted within the area, over a period of
3 years, has not been consistent with the research
4 guidelines developed under subsection (c).”.

5 (b) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this sec-
6 tion, or the amendments made by this section, may be con-
7 strued to affect any grant made or financial assistance
8 provided under section 315 of the Coast Zone Manage-
9 ment Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1461) before the date of
10 enactment of this Act.

11 **SEC. 107. COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT REPORTS.**

12 Section 316 (16 U.S.C. 1462) is amended—

13 (1) by amending subsection (a) to read as fol-
14 lows:

15 “(a) **REPORTS.**—

16 “(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall—

17 “(A) consult with Congress on a regular
18 basis concerning the administration of this title;
19 and

20 “(B) submit to Congress a report summa-
21 rizing the administration of this title during
22 each period of 5 consecutive fiscal years.

23 “(2) **CONTENTS.**—Each report under para-
24 graph (1) shall include:

1 “(A) an identification of the State pro-
2 grams approved under this title during the pre-
3 ceding Federal fiscal year and a description of
4 those programs;

5 “(B) a list of the States participating in
6 the provisions of this title and the status of
7 each State’s programs and accomplishments
8 during the preceding Federal fiscal year;

9 “(C) an itemization of the allocation of
10 funds to the various coastal states and a break-
11 down of the major projects and areas on which
12 these funds were expended;

13 “(D) an identification of each State pro-
14 gram that was reviewed and disapproved, in-
15 cluding the reasons for the disapproval;

16 “(E) a summary of evaluation findings
17 prepared in accordance with subsection (a) of
18 section 312, and a description of any sanctions
19 imposed under subsections (c) and (d) of that
20 section;

21 “(F) a list of all activities and projects
22 which, under the provisions of subsection (c) or
23 subsection (d) of section 307, are not consistent
24 with an applicable approved State management
25 program;

1 “(G) a summary of the regulations issued
2 by the Secretary or in effect during the pre-
3 ceding Federal fiscal year;

4 “(II) a summary of a coordinated national
5 strategy and program for the Nation’s coastal
6 zone, including identification and discussion of
7 Federal, regional, State, and local responsibil-
8 ities and functions therein;

9 “(I) a summary of outstanding problems
10 arising in the administration of this title in
11 order of priority;

12 “(J) a description of the economic, envi-
13 ronmental, and social consequences of energy
14 activity affecting the coastal zone and an eval-
15 uation of the effectiveness of financial assist-
16 ance under section 308 in dealing with such
17 consequences;

18 “(K) a description and evaluation of appli-
19 cable interstate and regional planning and co-
20 ordination mechanisms developed by the coastal
21 states;

22 “(L) a summary and evaluation of the re-
23 search, studies, and training conducted in sup-
24 port of coastal zone management; and

1 “(M) such other information as may be ap-
2 propriate.”; and

3 (2) in subsection (b), by striking “deems” and
4 inserting “considers”.

5 **SEC. 108. TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

6 (a) CONGRESSIONAL DECLARATION OF POLICY.—

7 Section 303 (16 U.S.C. 1452) is amended—

8 (1) in paragraph (2)—

9 (A) in the matter preceding subparagraph
10 (A), by striking “states” and inserting
11 “States”; and

12 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the
13 period at the end and inserting a semicolon;
14 and

15 (2) in paragraph (4), by striking “state” and
16 inserting “State”.

17 (b) ADMINISTRATIVE GRANTS.—Section
18 306(d)(10)(A) (16 U.S.C. 1455(d)(10)(A)) is amended by
19 inserting a comma after “development”.

20 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF THE COASTAL AND ESTUA-
21 RINE LAND CONSERVATION PROGRAM.—Section 307A
22 (16 U.S.C. 1456-1) is amended—

23 (1) in subsection (f)(4)(A)(i), by striking “sec-
24 tion 2(b)” and inserting “subsection (b)”; and

1 (2) in subsection (f)(4)(C), by striking “in (A)”
2 and inserting “in subparagraph (A)”.

3 (d) REVIEW OF PERFORMANCE.—Section 312 (16
4 U.S.C. 1458) is amended in subsections (a) and (e), by
5 striking “the state” and inserting “the State”.

6 (e) COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT REPORTS.—Sec-
7 tion 316(a) (16 U.S.C. 1462(a)) is amended—

8 (1) by striking “state” each place it appears
9 and inserting “State”;

10 (2) by striking “the states” and inserting “the
11 States”; and

12 (3) by striking “each state’s” and inserting
13 “each State’s”.

14 (f) RULES AND REGULATIONS.—Section 317 (16
15 U.S.C. 1463) is amended by striking “state agencies” and
16 inserting “State agencies”.

17 **SEC. 109. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

18 Section 318(a) (16 U.S.C. 1464(a)) is amended to
19 read as follows:

20 “(a) SUMS APPROPRIATED TO SECRETARY.—There
21 is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary, to re-
22 main available until expended—

23 “(1) for grants under sections 306, 306A, and
24 309, \$80,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2017
25 through 2021; and

1 “(2) for grants under section 315, \$25,000,000
2 for each of fiscal years 2017 through 2021.”.

3 **TITLE II—GULF OF MEXICO**
4 **REGIONAL COORDINATION**

5 **SEC. 201. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

6 It is the sense of Congress that the United States
7 should encourage consistency and coordination of the pro-
8 tection and restoration activities in the Gulf of Mexico eco-
9 system in order to reduce duplication of efforts and maxi-
10 mize efficiencies through a collaborative regional effort.

11 **SEC. 202. PURPOSES.**

12 The purposes of this title are—

13 (1) to expand and strengthen the cooperative
14 voluntary efforts, including international efforts, of
15 public and private stakeholders to protect and re-
16 store the Gulf of Mexico; and

17 (2) to coordinate Federal and State actions, in-
18 cluding education, relating to the management of the
19 Gulf of Mexico ecosystem with the cooperative vol-
20 untary efforts described in paragraph (1).

21 **SEC. 203. GULF OF MEXICO REGIONAL COORDINATION.**

22 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Administrator of the Na-
23 tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, in con-
24 sultation with the Council, may award grants to eligible
25 entities to conduct programs—

- 1 (1) to develop strategies—
- 2 (A) for the protection and restoration of
- 3 the Gulf of Mexico ecosystem, including—
- 4 (i) improving the water quality;
- 5 (ii) protecting nonregulated living re-
- 6 sources;
- 7 (iii) increasing valuable habitats; and
- 8 (iv) enhancing coastal resilience in the
- 9 Gulf of Mexico ecosystem; and
- 10 (B) for the input and participation of ap-
- 11 propriate Federal, State, and local agencies,
- 12 and other public and private stakeholders in the
- 13 protection and restoration of the Gulf of Mexico
- 14 ecosystem;
- 15 (2) to coordinate, in the development of the
- 16 strategies under paragraph (1), relevant Federal,
- 17 State, and local government activities and resources
- 18 to minimize duplication and maximize leveraging op-
- 19 portunities; and
- 20 (3) to develop and implement specific action
- 21 plans to carry out the strategies under paragraph
- 22 (1).
- 23 (b) ACTION PLANS.—An action plan under sub-
- 24 section (a)(3) may include the following activities:

1 (1) Monitoring the water quality and living re-
2 sources of the Gulf of Mexico ecosystem.

3 (2) Researching the effects of natural and
4 human-induced environmental changes on the water
5 quality and living resources of the Gulf of Mexico
6 ecosystem.

7 (3) Developing and implementing locally-based
8 protection and restoration programs or projects
9 within a watershed, including the creation, restora-
10 tion, protection, or enhancement of habitat associ-
11 ated with the Gulf of Mexico ecosystem.

12 (4) Eliminating or reducing nonpoint sources
13 that discharge pollutants that contaminate the Gulf
14 of Mexico ecosystem, including activities to eliminate
15 leaking septic systems and construct connections to
16 local sewage systems.

17 (5) Facilitating and promoting scientific, re-
18 search, modeling, monitoring, data collection, and
19 other activities that support the strategies under
20 subsection (a)(1).

21 (6) Fostering public stewardship of the living
22 resources of the Gulf of Mexico ecosystem through
23 information, education, engagement, and participa-
24 tion.

1 (7) Developing and making available, through
2 publications, technical assistance, and other appro-
3 priate means, information pertaining to the environ-
4 mental quality and living resources of the Gulf of
5 Mexico ecosystem.

6 (8) Such other activities as the Administrator
7 considers appropriate to carry out the strategies
8 under subsection (a)(1).

9 (c) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Administrative costs,
10 such as salaries and overhead, or indirect costs for services
11 provided and charged against programs or activities ear-
12 ried out using funds made available through a grant under
13 this section may not exceed 25 percent of the amount of
14 the grant.

15 (d) REPORTS.—Not later than April 30, 2019, and
16 every 5 years thereafter, the Administrator, in consulta-
17 tion with the Council, shall—

18 (1) assess the effectiveness of the programs
19 under subsection (a) in coordinating regional prior-
20 ities in the Gulf of Mexico ecosystem; and

21 (2) submit to Congress a comprehensive report
22 on the assessment under paragraph (1).

23 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

24 (1) COUNCIL.—The term “Council” means the
25 Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council estab-

1 lished under section 311(t)(2) of the Federal Water
2 Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1321(t)(2)).

3 (2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible enti-
4 ty” means a consortium of 4 or more States that
5 have a shoreline on the Gulf of Mexico.

6 (3) GULF OF MEXICO ECOSYSTEM.—The term
7 “Gulf of Mexico ecosystem” means the ecosystem of
8 the Gulf of Mexico and its watershed.

9 **SEC. 204. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

10 There is authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-
11 retary of Commerce to carry out this title \$5,000,000 for
12 each of fiscal years 2017 through 2021, to remain avail-
13 able until expended.

14 **TITLE III—COASTAL ZONE**
15 **IMPACTS**

16 **SEC. 301. AGENCY CONSULTATIONS REGARDING COASTAL**
17 **ZONE IMPACTS.**

18 The Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C.
19 661 et seq.) is amended—

20 (1) in section 2(a) (16 U.S.C. 662(a))—

21 (A) by striking “Interior, and with the”
22 and inserting “Interior, National Oceanic and
23 Atmospheric Administration, Department of
24 Commerce, the”; and

1 (B) by inserting “and the head of any po-
2 tentially impacted coastal state (as defined in
3 section 304 of the Coastal Zone Management
4 Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1453),”; and
5 (2) in section 8 (16 U.S.C. 666b), by adding
6 “and fisheries (as those terms are defined in section
7 (3) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation
8 and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1802))” after
9 “fishes”.