

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 10035

To authorize the Director of the National Science Foundation to carry out a grant program regarding ocean science and ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes waters, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 25, 2024

Mr. AMO introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

A BILL

To authorize the Director of the National Science Foundation to carry out a grant program regarding ocean science and ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes waters, 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.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Blue Economy and
5 Innovation Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANT PROGRAM REGARDING OCEAN SCIENCE**
2 **AND OCEAN, COASTAL, AND GREAT LAKES**
3 **WATERS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the National
5 Science Foundation (referred to in this section as the “Di-
6 rector”) may carry out a program, on a competitive, merit-
7 reviewed basis, to award grants for any of the following
8 activities:

9 (1) Supporting transdisciplinary research that
10 would advance the understanding of ocean science
11 and ocean, coastal, or Great Lakes waters.

12 (2) Developing, piloting, and deploying an inno-
13 vative technology, system, or approach that would
14 identify and address the challenges that affect ocean
15 science and ocean, coastal, or Great Lakes waters,
16 including through either of the following:

17 (A) Direct engagement with a community
18 that is affected by ocean science or ocean,
19 coastal, or Great Lakes waters.

20 (B) A partnership with any of the fol-
21 lowing:

22 (i) A for-profit organization.

23 (ii) A nonprofit organization.

24 (iii) A governmental unit of a State, a
25 federally recognized Indian Tribe, the Dis-

1 trict of Columbia, or a territory or posses-
2 sion of the United States.

3 (iv) A regional technology and innova-
4 tion hub under section 28 of the Steven-
5 son-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of
6 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3722a).

7 (3) Expanding the scientific workforce that is
8 capable of studying or managing ocean science or
9 ocean, coastal, or Great Lakes waters through edu-
10 cation, training, or other professional development.

11 (4) Subject to subsection (b), repairing, main-
12 taining, or upgrading research instrumentation or
13 infrastructure, including laboratories or tele-
14 communications, relating to ocean science or ocean,
15 coastal, or Great Lakes waters.

16 (b) RESEARCH INSTRUMENTATION AND INFRA-
17 STRUCTURE.—If the Director awards multiple grants
18 under subsection (a)(4), the Director shall ensure that the
19 grants are awarded to repair, maintain, or upgrade a bal-
20 anced portfolio of research instrumentation and infra-
21 structure.

22 (c) COORDINATION.—If the Director awards a grant
23 under this section for an activity that involves another de-
24 partment or agency of the Federal Government, the Direc-

- 1 tor shall coordinate the activity with the other department
- 2 or agency.

