

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3786

To require the Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere to update periodically the environmental sensitivity index products of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for each coastal area of the Great Lakes, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 14, 2017

Mr. KILDEE (for himself, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. HUIZENGA, and Mrs. DINGELL) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To require the Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere to update periodically the environmental sensitivity index products of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for each coastal area of the Great Lakes, 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 “Great Lakes Environ-  
5 mental Sensitivity Index Act of 2017”.

1 **SEC. 2. UPDATE TO ENVIRONMENTAL SENSITIVITY INDEX**  
2 **PRODUCTS OF NATIONAL OCEANIC AND AT-**  
3 **MOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION FOR GREAT**  
4 **LAKES.**

5 (a) UPDATE REQUIRED ENVIRONMENTAL SENSI-  
6 TIVITY INDEX PRODUCTS FOR GREAT LAKES.—Not later  
7 than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act,  
8 the Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere shall  
9 commence updating the environmental sensitivity index  
10 products of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin-  
11 istration for each coastal area of the Great Lakes.

12 (b) PERIODIC UPDATES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SEN-  
13 SITIVITY INDEX PRODUCTS GENERALLY.—Subject to the  
14 availability of appropriations and the priorities set forth  
15 in subsection (c), the Under Secretary shall—

16 (1) periodically update the environmental sensi-  
17 tivity index products of the Administration; and

18 (2) endeavor to do so not less frequently than  
19 once every 7 years.

20 (c) PRIORITIES.—When prioritizing geographic areas  
21 to update environmental sensitivity index products, the  
22 Under Secretary shall consider—

23 (1) the age of existing environmental sensitivity  
24 index products for the areas;

1           (2) the occurrence of extreme events, be it nat-  
2           ural or man-made, which have significantly altered  
3           the shoreline or ecosystem since the last update;

4           (3) the natural variability of shoreline and  
5           coastal environment; and

6           (4) the volume of vessel traffic and general vul-  
7           nerability to spilled pollutants.

8           (d) ENVIRONMENTAL SENSITIVITY INDEX PRODUCT  
9           DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term “environmental  
10          sensitivity index product” means a map or similar tool  
11          that is utilized to identify sensitive shoreline, coastal or  
12          offshore, resources prior to an oil spill event in order to  
13          set baseline priorities for protection and plan cleanup  
14          strategies, typically including information relating to  
15          shoreline type, biological resources, and human use re-  
16          sources.

17          (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

18               (1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be  
19               appropriated to the Under Secretary \$7,500,000 to  
20               carry out subsection (a).

21               (2) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts appropriated or  
22               otherwise made available pursuant to paragraph (1)  
23               shall be available to the Under Secretary for the  
24               purposes set forth in such paragraph until expended.

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