

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1342

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.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 7, 2019

Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. YOUNG) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

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 2019”.

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 FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SEN-
6 SITIVITY INDEX PRODUCTS FOR GREAT LAKES.—Not
7 later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of
8 this Act, the Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere
9 shall commence updating the environmental sensitivity
10 index products of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
11 Administration 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 section, the term “environmental sen-
10 sitivity index product” means a map or similar tool that
11 is utilized to identify sensitive shoreline, coastal or off-
12 shore, resources prior to an oil spill event in order to set
13 baseline priorities for protection and plan cleanup strate-
14 gies, typically including information relating to shoreline
15 type, biological resources, and human use resources.

16 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

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

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

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