

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4104

AN ACT

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to authorize funding to carry out certain water quality and environmental restoration projects for the Mississippi Sound, Mississippi, and for other purposes.

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1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Mississippi Sound Res-
3 toration Act of 2000”.

4 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM.**

5 (a) FINDING.—Congress finds that the Mississippi
6 Sound is an estuary of national significance.

7 (b) ADDITION TO NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM.—
8 Section 320(a)(2)(B) of the Federal Water Pollution Con-
9 trol Act (33 U.S.C. 1330(a)(2)(B)) is amended by insert-
10 ing “Mississippi Sound, Mississippi;” before “and Peconic
11 Bay, New York.”.

12 **SEC. 3. MISSISSIPPI SOUND.**

13 Title I of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act
14 (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end
15 the following:

16 **“SEC. 121. MISSISSIPPI SOUND.**

17 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF RESTORATION PRO-
18 GRAM.—The Administrator shall establish within the En-
19 vironmental Protection Agency the Mississippi Sound Res-
20 toration Program.

21 “(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the program shall
22 be to restore the ecological health of the Sound, including
23 barrier islands, coastal wetlands, keys, and reefs, by devel-
24 oping and funding restoration projects and related sci-
25 entific and public education projects and by coordinating

1 efforts among Federal, State, and local governmental
2 agencies and nonregulatory organizations.

3 “(c) DUTIES.—In carrying out the program, the Ad-
4 ministrator shall—

5 “(1) provide administrative and technical assist-
6 ance to a management conference convened for the
7 Sound under section 320;

8 “(2) assist and support the activities of the
9 management conference, including the implementa-
10 tion of recommendations of the management con-
11 ference;

12 “(3) support environmental monitoring of the
13 Sound and research to provide necessary technical
14 and scientific information;

15 “(4) develop a comprehensive research plan to
16 address the technical needs of the program;

17 “(5) coordinate the grant, research, and plan-
18 ning programs authorized under this section; and

19 “(6) collect and make available to the public
20 publications, and other forms of information the
21 management conference determines to be appro-
22 priate, relating to the environmental quality of the
23 Sound.

24 “(d) GRANTS.—The Administrator may make
25 grants—

1 “(1) for restoration projects and studies rec-
2 ommended by a management conference convened
3 for the Sound under section 320; and

4 “(2) for public education projects recommended
5 by the management conference.

6 “(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following
7 definitions apply:

8 “(1) SOUND.—The term ‘Sound’ means the
9 Mississippi Sound located on the Gulf Coast of the
10 State of Mississippi.

11 “(2) PROGRAM.—The term ‘program’ means
12 the Mississippi Sound Restoration Program estab-
13 lished under subsection (a).

14 “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
15 is authorized to be appropriated \$10,000,000 to carry out
16 this section. Such sums shall remain available until ex-
17 pended.”.

18 **SEC. 4. SENSE OF THE CONGRESS.**

19 It is the sense of the Congress that all recipients of
20 grants under this Act (including amendments made by
21 this Act) shall abide by the Buy American Act. The Ad-
22 ministrators of the Environmental Protection Agency shall

- 1 give notice of the Buy American Act requirements to grant
- 2 applicants under this Act.

Passed the House of Representatives September 12,
2000.

Attest:

Clerk.