

113<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 4692

To direct the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to conduct coastal community vulnerability assessments related to ocean acidification, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 20, 2014

Ms. PINGREE of Maine introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to conduct coastal community vulnerability assessments related to ocean acidification, 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 “Coastal Communities  
5 Ocean Acidification Act of 2014”.

1 **SEC. 2. COASTAL COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY ASSESS-**  
2 **MENT.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 12406 of the Federal  
4 Ocean Acidification Research And Monitoring Act of 2009  
5 (33 U.S.C. 3705) is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (a)—

7 (A) in paragraph (2), by striking “and”  
8 after the semicolon;

9 (B) in paragraph (3), by striking the pe-  
10 riod at the end and inserting “; and”; and

11 (C) by adding at the end the following:

12 “(4) includes an ongoing mechanism that allows  
13 affected industry members, coastal stakeholders,  
14 non-federal resource managers, and outside scientific  
15 experts to provide input on research, data, and mon-  
16 itoring needs that are necessary to support on-the-  
17 ground management, decisionmaking, and adapta-  
18 tion related to ocean acidification and its impacts.”;

19 (2) by redesignating subsection (b) as sub-  
20 section (c); and

21 (3) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-  
22 lowing:

23 “(b) COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT.—

24 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, through the  
25 program established under subsection (a), shall con-  
26 duct an ocean acidification coastal community vul-

1 nerability assessment, and issue a corresponding  
2 public report, that shall be updated at least once  
3 every 5 years.

4 “(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The assessment con-  
5 ducted under paragraph (1) shall—

6 “(A) identify the United States coastal  
7 communities, including island communities, low-  
8 population rural communities, and subsistence  
9 communities, that are most dependent on coast-  
10 al and ocean resources that may be impacted by  
11 ocean acidification;

12 “(B) assess the nature of those commu-  
13 nities’ social and economic vulnerabilities;

14 “(C) identify the ocean acidification im-  
15 pacts that might harm those communities, in-  
16 cluding impacts from changes in ocean and  
17 coastal marine resources that are not managed  
18 by the Federal Government;

19 “(D) identify key knowledge gaps where  
20 research could be devoted to better understand  
21 the possible impacts of ocean acidification on  
22 these vulnerable communities, the risks and  
23 threats facing these communities, and possible  
24 adaptation strategies for these communities;  
25 and

1           “(E) be conducted in collaboration with ex-  
2           perts who are familiar with the unique eco-  
3           nomic, social, ecological, geographic, and re-  
4           source concerns of the Nation’s coastal commu-  
5           nities, including representatives from the Na-  
6           tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administra-  
7           tion’s National Marine Fisheries Service, and  
8           Coastal Services Center.”.

9           (b) STRATEGIC RESEARCH PLAN.—Section 12405(b)  
10 of the Federal Ocean Acidification Research And Moni-  
11 toring Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3704(b)) is amended—

12           (1) in paragraph (8), by striking “and” after  
13           the semicolon;

14           (2) in paragraph (9), by striking the period at  
15           the end and inserting “; and”; and

16           (3) by adding at the end the following:

17           “(10) make recommendations for research that  
18           should be conducted, including in the social sciences  
19           and economics, to address the key knowledge gaps  
20           identified in the community vulnerability assessment  
21           report conducted under subsection (b) of section  
22           12406.”.

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