

“(ix) is written in collaboration with the agencies responsible for carrying out this Act.

“(B) FORM OF REPORT.—

“(i) INITIAL REPORT.—The initial report required under subparagraph (A) shall include the information described in clauses (i) through (ix) on a national level.

“(ii) SUBSEQUENT REPORTS.—Each report required under subparagraph (A) after the initial report—

“(I) may describe the information described in clauses (i) through (ix) on a national level; or

“(II) may consist of separate reports for each region of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

“(iii) REGIONAL REPORTS.—If the Subcommittee opts to prepare a report required under subparagraph (A) as separate regional reports under clause (ii)(II), the Subcommittee shall submit a report for each region of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration not less frequently than once during each 5-year reporting period.

“(C) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DEFINED.—In this paragraph and in paragraph (5), the term ‘appropriate committees of Congress’ means the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives.

“(5) MONITORING PRIORITIZATION PLAN.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the submission of the initial report under paragraph (4)(A), the Subcommittee shall transmit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that develops a plan to deploy new sensors or other applicable observing technologies—

“(A) based on such initial report;

“(B) prioritized by—

“(i) the threat to coastal economies and ecosystems;

“(ii) gaps in data; and

“(iii) research needs; and

“(C) that leverage existing platforms, where possible.”.

#### SEC. 11. STRATEGIC RESEARCH PLAN.

(a) CONTENTS.—Section 12405(b) of the Federal Ocean Acidification Research And Monitoring Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3704(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (8), by striking “and” at the end;

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

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(10) make recommendations for research to be conducted, including in the social sciences and economics, to address the key knowledge gaps identified in the economic vulnerability report conducted under section 12404(c)(4).”.

(b) PROGRAM ELEMENTS.—Section 12405(c) of the Federal Ocean Acidification Research And Monitoring Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3704(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(6) Research to understand combined effects of changes in ocean chemistry, sediment delivery, hypoxia, and harmful algal blooms and the impact these processes have on each other, and how these multiple stressors impact living marine resources and coastal ecosystems.

“(7) Applied research to identify adaptation strategies for species impacted by changes in ocean chemistry including vegetation-based systems, shell recycling, species and genetic diversity, applied technologies, aquaculture methodologies, and management recommendations.”.

#### SEC. 12. STAKEHOLDER INPUT ON MONITORING.

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

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon and “and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(4) includes an ongoing mechanism that allows potentially affected industry members, coastal stakeholders, fishery management councils and commissions, non-Federal resource managers, and scientific experts to provide input on monitoring needs that are necessary to support on the ground management, decision making, and adaptation related to ocean acidification.”.

#### SEC. 13. RESEARCH ACTIVITIES.

Section 12407(a) of the Federal Ocean Acidification Research And Monitoring Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3706(a)) is amended to read as follows:

“(a) RESEARCH ACTIVITIES.—The Director of the National Science Foundation shall continue to carry out research activities on ocean acidification which shall support competitive, merit-based, peer-reviewed proposals for research, observatories and monitoring of ocean acidification and its impacts, including—

“(1) impacts on marine organisms and marine ecosystems;

“(2) impacts on ocean, coastal, and estuarine biogeochemistry;

“(3) the development of methodologies and technologies to evaluate ocean acidification and its impacts; and

“(4) impacts of multiple stressors on ecosystems exhibiting hypoxia, harmful algal blooms, or sediment delivery, combined with changes in ocean chemistry.”.

#### ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2018

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, January 9; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; further, that following leader remarks, the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Campbell nomination; further, that all time during adjournment, recess, morning business, and leader remarks count postcloture on the Campbell nomination; finally, that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly conference meetings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order, following the remarks of Senator MERKLEY.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, 100 days is a significant period of time—significant, particularly, because it involves the health of our children, which has been neglected over the last 3 months plus. How is it that this Chamber managed to go more than 3 months and not get in place a permanent expansion or a 5-year expansion of healthcare for our Nation's children?

Well, I can tell you why. It is because my colleagues on the majority side of the aisle here in this Chamber had a different bill that they were immersed in and that was a healthcare bill that would be better termed a health destruction bill because it would have wiped out healthcare for somewhere between 20 and 30 million Americans, and eventually version No. 5 of that bill died here in the Senate.

Then my colleagues across the aisle said: Well, we have another beautiful idea. We are going to do a tax bill that will deliver trillions of dollars to the richest Americans. Well, our Constitution was crafted around the vision of government of, by, and for the people, but my colleagues across the aisle like a different version of governance. They like governance by and for the powerful and the privileged.

So here they have this tax bill, and this tax bill has provisions like eliminating the dynasty loophole so wealthy families can pass their dynasty inheritances from one generation to the next without ever paying capital gains. They had a provision that they wanted to change the tax brackets for the wealthiest Americans. They wanted to have corporations, which have paid a smaller and smaller and smaller share of the costs of the infrastructure and the healthcare and the education of America, to pay even less. They had a provision where passthrough corporations would get a sweetheart rate. If you add up these provisions, they total over \$3 trillion. Now, not all of it goes to the wealthiest 1 percent, but most of it does, and most of it goes to the wealthiest 10 percent.

Let's just take and only count two-thirds of that \$2 trillion. Now, let's think about that number. That is a number that we really can't imagine. How many grains of sand are on this beach? You just can't get your hands around that kind of money—\$2 trillion to the richest Americans. So let's divide it by the number of American men, women, and children in our country, and what do you end up with? You end up with the fact that that bill that