

**Calendar No. 320**116<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION**S. 1342****[Report No. 116–170]**

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 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

DECEMBER 10, 2019

Reported by Mr. WICKER, with an amendment

[Omit the part struck through and insert the part printed in *italic*]

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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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Great Lakes Environ-  
3 mental Sensitivity Index Act of 2019”.

4 **SEC. 2. UPDATE TO ENVIRONMENTAL SENSITIVITY INDEX**

5 **PRODUCTS OF NATIONAL OCEANIC AND AT-**  
6 **MOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION FOR GREAT**  
7 **LAKES.**

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

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

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

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

23 (c) PRIORITIES.—When prioritizing geographic areas  
24 to update environmental sensitivity index products, the  
25 Under Secretary shall consider—

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

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

6           (3) the natural variability of shoreline and  
7 coastal environment; and

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

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

18       (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

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

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

1       (e) *FUNDING.*—Amounts for activities under this sec-  
2   tion shall be derived from amounts otherwise authorized to  
3   be appropriated or made available for the Under Secretary.



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