

problem intensify, the financial implications will ripple across all of our communities.

I remember hearing about the issue of ocean acidification taking hold in Maine during the summer of 2012. Maine had experienced a big spike in ocean temperatures that summer. Triggerfish, seahorses, and a lot of invasive species started showing up that year.

A little fishery for squid popped up in Penobscot Bay. Black sea bass, which are common south of Cape Cod, migrated north and became a major predator of small crustaceans, such as baby lobsters. In a State renowned for its lobster, you can imagine that the impacts on our economy were significant.

Meanwhile, our clambers and shellfish growers have reported similar impacts.

Bill Mook, an oyster farmer on Maine's Damariscotta River, told me that he has had to adjust operations to mitigate for ocean acidification and worries how future oyster production will be affected.

According to a recent study by the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, the Gulf of Maine is more susceptible to pressures of ocean acidification than any other region on the East Coast.

These are only a few of the reasons why I introduced the bipartisan Coastal Communities Ocean Acidification Act, which is one of the four bills under consideration today. My bill would direct NOAA to study the socioeconomic impacts of ocean acidification on coastal communities nationwide and, better yet, finally provide the agency with the additional authorized funding needed to do this essential research.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support for the four bipartisan bills before the House today, including my own. It is critical that we protect our coastal economies and our oceans so that they are here for the next generation.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. BONAMICI).

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairwoman for yielding time and for her support of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Congresswoman PINGREE's Coastal Communities Ocean Acidification Act.

I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this bill, which would direct NOAA to conduct a vulnerability assessment to identify communities that are dependent on coastal and ocean resources that may be affected by ocean acidification.

The Pacific Coast is more vulnerable to ocean acidification than other coastal regions, and it can be used as a testing ground for different strategies and models to manage and adapt to ocean acidification.

But ocean acidification is fundamentally a global phenomenon. We must strengthen our understanding of the

socioeconomic effects of ocean acidification on a range of geographically diverse coastal communities.

Importantly, this bill directs NOAA to work with States, like my home State of Oregon, that are already developing ocean acidification response plans.

I thank members of the Science, Space, and Technology Committee for including my amendment during the full markup to authorize \$2.7 million annually for fiscal years 2020 through 2024.

I hope that my COAST Research Act will complement this bill and address some of the gaps in our understanding of the socioeconomic effects of ocean acidification. But there must be a separate authorization for vulnerability studies.

Finally, and importantly, I thank all the staff who worked on not only this bill but also the COAST Research Act and the other two ocean acidification bills, especially, in my office, Maxine Sugarman, but all the staff on both sides of the aisle in our offices and the hardworking committee staff.

Finally, I thank Congresswoman PINGREE for her continued leadership on protecting the health of oceans and improving research on ocean acidification.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask for support of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I, too, advocate support of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1716, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

OCEAN ACIDIFICATION INNOVATION ACT OF 2019

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1921) to authorize Federal agencies to establish prize competitions for innovation or adaptation management development relating to ocean acidification, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1921

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Ocean Acidification Innovation Act of 2019".

SEC. 2. PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

Section 12404 of the Federal Ocean Acidification Research And Monitoring Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3703) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(d) PRIZE COMPETITIONS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Any Federal agency with a representative serving on the interagency working group established under this section may, either individually or in cooperation with one or more agencies, carry out a program to award prizes competitively under section 24 of the Stevenson-Wylder Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3719). An agency seeking to carry out such a program shall carry out such program in coordination with the chair of such interagency working group.

“(2) PURPOSES.—Any prize competition carried out under this subsection shall be for the purpose of stimulating innovation to advance our Nation's ability to understand, research, or monitor ocean acidification or its impacts, or to develop management or adaptation options for responding to ocean acidification.

“(3) PRIORITY PROGRAMS.—Priority shall be given to establishing programs under this section that address communities, environments, or industries that are in distress due to the impacts of ocean acidification, including—

“(A) the development of monitoring or management options for communities or industries that are experiencing significant financial hardship;

“(B) the development of adaptation options to alleviate economic harm and job loss caused by ocean acidification;

“(C) the development of measures to help vulnerable communities or industries, with an emphasis on rural communities and businesses; and

“(D) the development of adaptation and management options for impacted shellfish industries.”.

SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON) and the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LUCAS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on H.R. 1921, the bill now under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1921, the Ocean Acidification Innovation Act of 2019, and I thank Mr. KILMER for introducing this important legislation and working with our committee.

Additionally, I thank the Science, Space, and Technology Committee members on both sides of the aisle for their work to advance this bill.

Ms. BONAMICI; Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER; Mr. CRIST; the Environment Subcommittee chair, Mrs. FLETCHER; the Environment Subcommittee ranking member, Mr. MARSHALL; and my friend, Ranking Member LUCAS.

Ocean acidification, as we have discussed today, is a serious problem. This bill would create Federal prize competitions to spur innovation in understanding ocean acidification and developing management strategies for responding to ocean acidification.

Federal prize competitions, while not a replacement for federally funded research, allow the government to transfer risk to prize participants and stimulate private-sector investment. This could enhance and augment our understanding of this important issue.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1921, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1921, the Ocean Acidification Innovation Act of 2019.

This bipartisan legislation is sponsored by Representative DEREK KILMER and Representative JAIME HERRERA BEUTLER, who can speak firsthand to how ocean acidification is harming the shellfish population off Washington State.

H.R. 1921 would allow Federal science agencies to use existing funds to conduct prize competitions to increase our ability to research, monitor, and manage the impacts of ocean acidification.

By creating incentives, the legislation recognizes the need to engage non-profit groups, private citizens, and the academic community in the development of solutions to address this problem. Establishment of this competition will enable us to leverage the ingenuity and resourcefulness of these communities.

Mr. Speaker, this bill represents an innovative approach to tackling this problem, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill. I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. KILMER), the sponsor of the bill.

□ 0945

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chair for yielding, and I thank her for her leadership on these issues and for many others in her committee's domain.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1921, the bipartisan Ocean Acidification Innovation Act. Ocean acidification is a rising threat to coastal communities throughout the Pacific Northwest and threatens entire livelihoods and industries in my home State of Washington.

There are generations of folks along the sound and in our coastal communities who have worked in fishing and in shellfish growing, but that is endangered if we don't maintain a healthy Pacific Ocean.

Growing evidence suggests that acidic ocean conditions harm the ability of many marine organisms to generate shells. These marine organisms, which include oysters, mussels, and pteropods are a key part of the food chain for salmon, herring, and other fish.

Scientists back home at the University of Washington recently discovered that ocean acidification also threatens the more than \$220 million Dungeness crab fishery, raising serious concerns about future implications for species and ecosystems in the region.

In Washington State alone, the commercial fishing and seafood processing industry, which includes shellfish aquaculture, contribute nearly 16,000 jobs and \$9.4 billion in revenue to our economy. According to a report by Washington Sea Grant, Washington State is the Nation's leading producer of farmed clams, oysters, and mussels, and not only are these products delicious, they support jobs.

So really, the Ocean Acidification Innovation Act is really about jobs. This bill would allow Federal agencies to use existing funds to conduct prize competitions to increase the ability to research, monitor, and manage ocean acidification and its impacts. I agree with the chair that this can't and shouldn't replace direct investment in research. But this bill creates a strong incentive for experts to focus on developing innovative solutions to this serious challenge.

This legislation was created in collaboration with key stakeholders, including the XPRIZE Foundation, an innovative nonprofit organization that creates competitions designed to encourage increased investment in solutions to major societal problems. So, for example, the Ansari XPRIZE awarded for personal spaceflight technology helped launch a brand-new \$2 billion private space industry.

Research also suggests that prize competitions often increase exponentially the amount of research focused on solving a problem. For example, the Ansari XPRIZE yielded over \$100 million in private research as 26 teams competed for a \$10 million prize.

So Federal agencies have increasingly viewed these prize competitions as a means of maximizing the return on taxpayer dollars, leveraging prizes to attract more resources to tackle different scientific challenges.

Mr. Speaker, I believe the Ocean Acidification and Innovation Act will encourage collaboration and spur innovative strategies to mitigate and adapt to ocean acidification. It will help communities, environments, and industries that rely on healthy oceans and are facing the hard realities of increasing ocean acidification.

I want to thank my colleague from the Pacific Northwest, Representative JAIME HERRERA BEUTLER, as well as SUZANNE BONAMICI and DON YOUNG for co-sponsoring this important legislation. I also want to thank the chair and the ranking member for their continued leadership and their support of this.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I note to my colleague that I have no additional speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. BONAMICI).

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the chairwoman for yielding and for her support of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Congressman KILMER's bipartisan Ocean Acidification Innovation Act. I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this bill, along with Representative HERRERA BEUTLER from Washington, and my House Oceans Caucus co-chair Representative YOUNG from Alaska.

This bill would establish a prize competition for Federal agencies that serve on the Interagency Working Group on Ocean Acidification to increase efforts to research, monitor, and manage ocean acidification and its effects. Our understanding of ocean acidification and its interactions with other environmental stressors, such as hypoxia, harmful algal blooms, and warming waters is rapidly evolving, but still limited in scope.

A 2009 paper from the Ocean Carbon and Biochemistry's Ocean Acidification Subcommittee estimated that a U.S. national program on ocean acidification would need \$50 million to \$100 million per year to provide timely information for managers and decision-makers.

A 2012 report from the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, based on informal conversations with various Federal agencies, estimated a need for approximately \$95 million for all Federal ocean acidification research and monitoring by next year, 2020.

In fiscal year 2019, the NOAA Ocean Acidification Program received only \$12 million, so there is no doubt that gaps in funding are a result of insufficient resources.

The prize competition established in this bill will encourage collaboration and spur innovative strategies to mitigate and adapt to ocean acidification. This will help the communities, environments, and industries that rely on a healthy ocean and are facing harsh realities of rising carbon emissions.

Again, I thank Congressman KILMER for his leadership, especially given the pervasive effects of ocean acidification on the Pacific Coast. I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time. I would simply urge the support of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1921, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Lasky, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate agreed to the following resolution:

S. RES. 229

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran was born in Pontotoc, Mississippi, in 1937;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran graduated from Byram High School in Hinds County, Mississippi, as valedictorian, an Eagle Scout, a member of 4-H, and a student athlete;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran studied at the University of Mississippi in Oxford, Mississippi;

Whereas, while a student at the University of Mississippi, the Honorable William Thad Cochran was president of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity, vice president of the student body, company commander in the Navy Reserve Officers' Training Corps, and head cheerleader;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran was commissioned an Ensign in the United States Naval Reserve, served aboard the USS MACON from 1959 to 1961, served on staff of the Commandant of the Eighth Naval District in New Orleans, Louisiana, taught military law and naval orientation at the Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island, from 1962 to 1964, and was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in the United States Naval Reserve;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran studied at the University of Mississippi School of Law in Oxford, Mississippi, and at Trinity College, University of Dublin, in Dublin, Ireland, on a Rotary Foundation Graduate Fellowship;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran joined the law firm of Watkins & Eager in Jackson, Mississippi, in 1964, was made a partner at that firm in less than 3 years, and served as chairman of the Mississippi Law Institute, lawyers' chairman for the Heart Fund and United Givers Fund, president of the Young Lawyers Division of the Mississippi Bar Association, a board member of the Jackson Rotary Club, and chairman of the Legal Services program of the Jackson Junior Bar;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran was elected to the House of Representatives to represent the Fourth District of Mississippi in 1972, and was reelected in 1974 and 1976;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran was elected to the Senate in 1978, becoming the first Republican in more than 100 years to win a statewide election in the State of Mississippi, and was reelected in 1984, 1990, 1996, 2002, 2008, and 2014, with a total period of service lasting from December 27, 1978, to April 1, 2018;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran served as Chair of the Senate Republican Conference from 1991 to 1997;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran served as Chairman of the Com-

mittee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate from 2003 to 2005;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran served as Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate from 2005 to 2007 and from 2015 to 2018;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran championed education programs, including programs to increase educational achievement among disadvantaged children, particularly in rural areas, to build the research capabilities of universities, and to support Historically Black Colleges and Universities;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran worked to strengthen the Armed Forces by supporting shipbuilding programs for the Navy, the Marine Corps, the Coast Guard, and other critical Federal organizations and the military bases and installations in the State of Mississippi and across the United States;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran was the chief sponsor of the National Missile Defense Act of 1999 (Public Law 106-38; 113 Stat. 205), which made the United States exponentially safer by creating the missile defense system used by the United States as of June 2019;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran was a leader in agriculture and worked to promote United States agricultural innovation around the world through the development of the Cochran Fellowship Program of the Department of Agriculture, which trains fellows from middle-income countries to strengthen and enhance trade linkages between the countries of the fellows and agricultural interests in the United States;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran led the effort to provide critical Federal assistance to the State of Mississippi and other Gulf Coast States devastated by Hurricane Katrina in 2005, the worst natural disaster in the history of the United States;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran was a devoted father, grandfather, and husband;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran was awarded honorary degrees from Kentucky Wesleyan College, Mississippi College, Blue Mountain College, the University of Richmond, Belhaven University, and Tougaloo College;

Whereas the Honorable William Thad Cochran was recognized as the tenth-longest serving Senator in the history of the United States;

Whereas the service of the Honorable William Thad Cochran on behalf of the people of the State of Mississippi and all people of the United States earned the Honorable William Thad Cochran the respect and devotion of colleagues and the title "the Quiet Persuader"; and

Whereas the death of the Honorable William Thad Cochran has deprived the State of Mississippi and the United States of one of the most distinguished statesmen: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) has heard with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the death of the Honorable William Thad Cochran, former Senator for the State of Mississippi; and

(2) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate—

(A) communicate this resolution to the House of Representatives; and

(B) transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the family of the Honorable William Thad Cochran.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the fol-

lowing title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1235. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of ratification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, giving women in the United States the right to vote.

NATIONAL ESTUARIES AND ACIDIFICATION RESEARCH ACT OF 2019

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 988) to provide for a study by the Ocean Studies Board of the National Academies of Science examining the impact of ocean acidification and other stressors in estuarine environments, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 988

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "National Estuaries and Acidification Research Act of 2019" or the "NEAR Act of 2019".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Ocean acidification impacts human health, natural resources, and the environmental, economic, and recreational uses of the coastline.

(2) The current understanding of ocean acidification impacts on estuarine ecosystems is inadequate to fully prepare and manage for changing environmental conditions in nearshore locations.

(3) While pH can be measured with high precision and accuracy in open ocean environments, more understanding of the carbonate system in estuarine ecosystems is needed for precise and accurate measurements and observations.

(4) The interaction of multiple stressors, including salinity, pH, temperature, sea level rise, and nutrient input, within estuarine ecosystems is inadequately understood for managing the health, economic, recreational, and environmental impacts driven by these interactions.

(5) A better understanding is needed of how anthropogenic influences in coastal environments affect estuarine ecosystems.

(6) More integration and coordination is needed among regional, national, and global environmental observations in estuarine environments, supporting prior investments in related topics such as nutrient loading, hypoxia, ocean acidification, and harmful algae bloom research and observational systems.

SEC. 3. STUDY EXAMINING THE IMPACT OF OCEAN ACIDIFICATION AND OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL STRESSORS ON ESTUARINE ENVIRONMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Commerce shall make appropriate arrangements with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (referred to in this Act as the "National Academies") under which the National Academies shall conduct a study that—

(1) examines the existing science of ocean acidification in estuarine environments;

(2) examines the challenges to studying ocean acidification and ocean acidification's interactions with other environment stressors in estuarine environments;

(3) provides recommendations for improving future research with respect to ocean acidification in estuarine environments; and