

117TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 9346

To amend the Federal Ocean Acidification Research And Monitoring Act of 2009 to require the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to collaborate with State and local governments and Indian Tribes on vulnerability assessments related to ocean acidification, research planning, and similar activities, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 17, 2022

Ms. PINGREE (for herself, Mr. WALTZ, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

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## A BILL

To amend the Federal Ocean Acidification Research And Monitoring Act of 2009 to require the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to collaborate with State and local governments and Indian Tribes on vulnerability assessments related to ocean acidification, research planning, and similar activities, 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 “Coastal Communities  
3 Ocean Acidification Act of 2022”.

4 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

5 Section 12403 of the Federal Ocean Acidification Re-  
6 search And Monitoring Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3702) is  
7 amended by adding at the end the following:

8 “(6) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term ‘Indian Tribe’  
9 has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the  
10 Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance  
11 Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

12 “(7) UNITED STATES.—The term ‘United  
13 States’ means the States, collectively.”.

14 **SEC. 3. OCEAN ACIDIFICATION COLLABORATION IMPROVE-**  
15 **MENT.**

16 (a) ONGOING INPUT MECHANISM.—Section  
17 12404(c)(2) of the Federal Ocean Acidification Research  
18 And Monitoring Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3703(c)(2)) is  
19 amended—

20 (1) in subparagraph (B), by striking “; and”  
21 and inserting a semicolon;

22 (2) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period  
23 at the end and inserting “; and”; and

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

25 “(D) establish and maintain an ongoing  
26 mechanism to engage affected industry mem-

bers, stakeholders, non-Federal resource managers, community acidification networks, indigenous knowledge groups, and scientific experts not employed by the Federal Government to provide input on research, data, and monitoring that is necessary to support on-the-ground management, decision making, and adaptation related to ocean acidification and its impacts.”.

(b) COLLABORATION ON VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENTS, RESEARCH PLANNING, AND SIMILAR ACTIVITIES.—

(1) REPORT.—Section 12404(e)(4)(A) of the Federal Ocean Acidification Research And Monitoring Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3703(e)(4)(A)) is amended—

(A) by redesignating clauses (ix) and (x) as clauses (x) and (xi), respectively; and

(B) by inserting after clause (viii) the following:

“(ix) identifies the efforts of the Secretary to collaborate with State and local governments and Indian Tribes on community vulnerability assessments, research planning, and similar activities, pursuant to section 12406(c);”.

1           (2) IMPROVING COLLABORATION.—Section  
2       12406 of the Federal Ocean Acidification Research  
3       And Monitoring Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3705) is  
4       amended—

5           (A) in subsection (c)(2)—

6               (i) by redesignating subparagraph (B)  
7       as subparagraph (C);

8               (ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking  
9       “or” at the end; and

10           (iii) by inserting after subparagraph  
11       (A) the following:

12               “(B) on ocean acidification research, data,  
13       and monitoring from affected industry mem-  
14       bers, coastal stakeholders, non-Federal resource  
15       managers, coastal acidification networks, indig-  
16       enous knowledge groups, and scientists not em-  
17       ployed by the Federal government; or”; and

18           (B) by adding at the end the following:

19       “(e) BETTER COLLABORATION ON VULNERABILITY  
20       ASSESSMENTS, RESEARCH PLANNING, AND SIMILAR AC-  
21       TIVITIES.—

22           “(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the Pro-  
23       gram, and in support of vulnerability assessments  
24       transmitted under section 12404(e)(4) and rec-  
25       ommendations included in the strategic research

1 plan described in section 12405(b)(10), the Sec-  
2 retary shall build upon existing activities and col-  
3 laborate with State and local governments and In-  
4 dian Tribes that are conducting or have completed  
5 vulnerability assessments, research planning, climate  
6 action plans, or other similar activities related to  
7 ocean acidification and coastal acidification and  
8 their impacts of ocean acidification on coastal com-  
9 munities, for the purpose of—

10 “(A) supporting collaborative interagency  
11 relationships and information sharing at the  
12 State, local, and Tribal levels; and

13 “(B) assisting State and local governments  
14 and Indian Tribes in—

15 “(i) improving existing systems and  
16 programs to better address ocean acidifica-  
17 tion and coastal acidification; and

18 “(ii) identifying whether such activi-  
19 ties can be used as a model for other com-  
20 munities.

21 “(2) PRIORITY.—In carrying out paragraph (1),  
22 the Secretary shall prioritize underserved popu-  
23 lations and entities in the use of resources of the  
24 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.”.

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