

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 6422
OFFERED BY MR. STAUBER OF MINNESOTA

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the “American Water Stew-
3 ards-ship Act”.

4 SEC. 2. GREAT LAKES RESTORATION INITIATIVE.

5 Section 118(c)(7)(J)(i)(VI) of the Federal Water Pol-
6 lution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1268(c)(7)(J)(i)(VI)) is
7 amended by striking “fiscal year 2026” and inserting
8 “each of fiscal years 2026 through 2031”.

9 SEC. 3. LONG ISLAND SOUND.

10 Section 119(h) of the Federal Water Pollution Con-
11 trol Act (33 U.S.C. 1269(h)) is amended by striking
12 “2023” and inserting “2031”.

13 SEC. 4. COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN RESTORATION.

14 Section 123(d)(6) of the Federal Water Pollution
15 Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1275(d)(6)) is amended by strik-
16 ing “and 2021” and inserting “through 2031”.

1 **SEC. 5. SAN FRANCISCO BAY RESTORATION PROGRAM.**

2 Section 125 of the Federal Water Pollution Control
3 Act (33 U.S.C. 1276a) is amended—

4 (1) in the section heading, by striking
5 “**GRANT**”; and

6 (2) in subsection (e)—

7 (A) in the subsection heading, by striking
8 “GRANT PROGRAM” and inserting “PROGRAM
9 IMPLEMENTATION”;

10 (B) in paragraph (1), by striking “or other
11 means to State and local agencies, special dis-
12 tricts, and public or nonprofit agencies” and in-
13 serting “interagency agreements, contracts, or
14 other funding mechanisms to Federal, State,
15 and local agencies, special districts, public or
16 nonprofit agencies, and other public or private
17 entities”; and

18 (C) by striking paragraph (2) and insert-
19 ing the following:

20 “(2) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—Amounts provided
21 for a project, activity, or study under this section
22 shall not exceed an amount that is equal to 75 per-
23 cent of the total cost of such project, activity, or
24 study.

25 “(3) ASSISTANCE TO NON-FEDERAL ENTI-
26 TIES.—Not less than 25 percent of the cost of any

1 project, activity, or study carried out using amounts
2 provided to a non-Federal entity under this section
3 shall be provided from non-Federal sources.”.

4 **SEC. 6. NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 320 of the Federal Water
6 Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1330) is amended—

7 (1) in subsection (a)(2)(B), by striking “and
8 Pensacola and Perdido Bays, Florida” and inserting
9 “Pensacola and Perdido Bays, Florida; and Mis-
10 sissippi Sound, Mississippi”; and

11 (2) in subsection (i)(1), in the matter preceding
12 subparagraph (A), by striking “2026” and inserting
13 “2031”.

14 (b) INELIGIBILITY WITH RESPECT TO FISCAL YEARS
15 2026 AND 2027.—With respect to the amendment made
16 by subsection (a)(1), the Administrator of the Environ-
17 mental Protection Agency may not use for the implemen-
18 tation of that amendment, including, with respect to Mis-
19 sissippi Sound, Mississippi, convening a management con-
20 ference, developing or carrying out a comprehensive con-
21 servation and management plan, or providing grants
22 under section 320 of the Federal Water Pollution Control
23 Act (33 U.S.C. 1330)—

1 (1) any amounts appropriated to carry out the
2 national estuary program under that section for fis-
3 cal year 2026; or

4 (2) unless the total amount appropriated to
5 carry out that program for fiscal year 2027 is at
6 least \$850,000 more than the total amount appro-
7 priated to carry out that program for fiscal year
8 2024, any amounts appropriated to carry out that
9 program for fiscal year 2027.

10 **SEC. 7. COASTAL RECREATION WATER QUALITY MONI-**
11 **TORING AND NOTIFICATION.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—

13 (1) PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMEN-
14 TATION GRANTS.—Section 406 of the Federal Water
15 Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1346) is amend-
16 ed—

17 (A) in subsection (b)—

18 (i) in paragraph (3)(A)—

19 (I) in clause (i), by striking
20 “and” at the end;

21 (II) by redesignating clause (ii)
22 as clause (iii); and

23 (III) by inserting after clause (i)
24 the following:

1 “(ii) in the case of a State that uses
2 such grant to identify specific sources of
3 contamination pursuant to paragraph (5),
4 any data relating to such identified sources
5 of contamination; and”; and

6 (ii) by adding at the end the fol-
7 lowing:

8 “(5) IDENTIFICATION OF SPECIFIC SOURCES OF
9 CONTAMINATION.—A State or local government re-
10 ceiving a grant under this subsection may use such
11 grant to identify specific sources of contamination
12 for coastal recreation waters adjacent to beaches or
13 similar points of access that are used by the pub-
14 lic.”; and

15 (B) in subsection (i), by striking “2001
16 through 2005” and inserting “2026 through
17 2031”.

18 (2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—
19 Section 8 of the Beaches Environmental Assessment
20 and Coastal Health Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–
21 284; 114 Stat. 877) is amended by striking “2001
22 through 2005” and inserting “2026 through 2031”.

23 (b) COASTAL RECREATION WATERS DEFINED.—Sec-
24 tion 502(21)(A)(ii) of the Federal Water Pollution Control
25 Act (33 U.S.C. 1362(21)(A)(ii)) is amended by striking

1 “(including coastal estuaries)” and inserting “(including
2 coastal estuaries, the mouths of rivers and streams, near-
3 by shallow waters, and waters present on beaches)”.

4 (c) GUIDANCE.—In providing guidance to States and
5 local governments receiving grants under section 406 of
6 the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C.
7 1346), the Administrator of the Environmental Protection
8 Agency shall ensure that such guidance reflects innova-
9 tions in testing technologies for water contamination.

10 **SEC. 8. LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.**

11 No Federal funds made available for any of fiscal
12 years 2026 through 2031 to carry out section 118, 119,
13 123, 125, 320, or 406 of the Federal Water Pollution Con-
14 trol Act may be provided to any non-Federal entity—

15 (1) that is domiciled in, headquartered in, or
16 organized under the laws of, or the principal place
17 of business of which is located in, a foreign country
18 of concern (as defined in section 10638 of the Re-
19 search and Development, Competition, and Innova-
20 tion Act (42 U.S.C. 19237)); or

21 (2) for projects conducted with a foreign coun-
22 try of concern.

23 **SEC. 9. GEOGRAPHIC PROGRAM REPORT.**

24 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the
25 date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General

1 of the United States shall submit to the Committee on
2 Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Rep-
3 resentatives and the Committee on Environment and Pub-
4 lic Works of the Senate a report on EPA geographic pro-
5 grams.

6 (b) REQUIRED EVALUATION.—In preparing the re-
7 port required under subsection (a), the Comptroller Gen-
8 eral shall include an evaluation, with respect to each EPA
9 geographic program, of—

10 (1) the management of funds, including the ef-
11 ficiency and effectiveness of program operations and
12 the use of Federal funds;

13 (2) the progress towards achieving program
14 purposes, goals, and objectives, including the status
15 of program goals and objectives and the extent to
16 which the program has demonstrated measurable
17 outcomes; and

18 (3) obstacles to program success or progress;

19 (4) the efficacy of coordination with other Fed-
20 eral, State, Tribal, and local programs and actions,
21 including whether there is any duplication of efforts
22 among such programs and actions; and

23 (5) the ethics policies and practices of the office
24 of the Environmental Protection Agency responsible
25 for implementing the program.

1 (c) RECOMMENDATIONS.—The Comptroller General
2 shall include in the report required under subsection (a)
3 recommendations, as appropriate, to improve EPA geo-
4 graphic program efficiency, accountability, and effective-
5 ness in achieving program purposes, goals, and objectives.

6 (d) EPA GEOGRAPHIC PROGRAM DEFINED.—In this
7 section, the term “EPA geographic program” means—

8 (1) the Chesapeake Bay Program under section
9 117 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33
10 U.S.C. 1267);

11 (2) the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
12 under section 118 of the Federal Water Pollution
13 Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1268);

14 (3) the Long Island Sound program under sec-
15 tion 119 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act
16 (33 U.S.C. 1269);

17 (4) the Patrick Leahy Lake Champlain Basin
18 Program under section 120 of the Federal Water
19 Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1270);

20 (5) the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Restoration
21 Program under section 121 of the Federal Water
22 Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1273);

23 (6) the Columbia River Basin Restoration Pro-
24 gram under section 123 of the Federal Water Pollu-
25 tion Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1275);

1 (7) the San Francisco Bay Restoration Pro-
2 gram under section 125 of the Federal Water Pollu-
3 tion Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1276a);

4 (8) the Puget Sound program under section
5 126 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33
6 U.S.C. 1276b);

7 (9) the Gulf of America Program carried out by
8 the Administrator;

9 (10) the South Florida Program carried out by
10 the Administrator; or

11 (11) the Southeast New England Program car-
12 ried out by the Administrator.

