

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2448

To provide for ocean acidification collaborative research grant opportunities.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 1, 2019

Mr. CARBAJAL (for himself and Mr. YOUNG) introduced the following bill;  
which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

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## A BILL

To provide for ocean acidification collaborative research grant  
opportunities.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Ocean Acidification  
5 Research Partnerships Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. OCEAN ACIDIFICATION COLLABORATIVE RE-**  
7 **SEARCH GRANTS.**

8 The Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Moni-  
9 toring Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3701 et seq.) is amended  
10 by inserting after section 12406 the following:

1 **“SEC. 12406A. OCEAN ACIDIFICATION COLLABORATIVE RE-**  
2 **SEARCH GRANTS.**

3 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 “(1) ACADEMIC COMMUNITY.—The term ‘aca-  
5 demic community’ includes faculty and other rep-  
6 resentatives of institutions of higher education and  
7 other schools, researchers, scientists, and natural re-  
8 source managers.

9 “(2) SEAFOOD INDUSTRY.—The term ‘seafood  
10 industry’ includes shellfish growers, shellfish har-  
11 vesters, commercial fishermen, recreational fisher-  
12 men, other members of the seafood harvesting or  
13 supply chain, and organizations representing any of  
14 such groups.

15 “(b) GRANTS.—The Secretary shall provide grants  
16 for collaborative research projects on ocean acidification  
17 developed and conducted through partnerships between  
18 the seafood industry and the academic community.

19 “(c) CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL.—The Secretary may  
20 not provide a grant for a project under this section unless  
21 the project is—

22 “(1) consistent with the themes identified under  
23 the strategic research plan developed by the Sub-  
24 committee under section 12405; and

25 “(2) designed to—

1           “(A) develop and support partnerships,  
2           communications, and shared understanding be-  
3           tween the seafood industry and the academic  
4           community;

5           “(B) include the seafood industry in re-  
6           search on ocean acidification;

7           “(C) deliver research, monitoring, or adap-  
8           tation results which will benefit both the sea-  
9           food industry and the academic community;

10          “(D) incorporate into the research agenda  
11          the expertise of both the seafood industry, in-  
12          cluding their unique understanding of the nat-  
13          ural environment, and the academic community;

14          “(E) promote better understanding of sea-  
15          food industry research questions and priorities  
16          within the academic community;

17          “(F) promote wider understanding of  
18          ocean acidification among the academic commu-  
19          nity, the seafood industry, and other stake-  
20          holders as appropriate; and

21          “(G) include appropriately balanced sup-  
22          port from both the seafood industry and the  
23          academic community.

24          “(d) PRIORITY.—The Secretary shall prioritize fund-  
25          ing under this section to projects which—

1           “(1) address ecosystems and communities vul-  
2           nerable to the impacts of ocean acidification;

3           “(2) demonstrate support from local stake-  
4           holders, such as representatives of States or other  
5           governmental jurisdictions, community organiza-  
6           tions, tribes, or educational institutions, as appro-  
7           priate, located within the region in which the project  
8           will be undertaken; or

9           “(3) utilize seafood industry assets as research  
10          and monitoring platforms.

11       “(e) IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINES.—Not later  
12       than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section,  
13       the Secretary, in collaboration with the Subcommittee,  
14       shall issue implementation guidelines under this section,  
15       including criteria and priorities for grants. Those guide-  
16       lines shall be developed in consultation, as appropriate,  
17       with—

18           “(1) State, regional, and local decisionmakers  
19           with ocean acidification experience;

20           “(2) the seafood industry and other marine-de-  
21           pendent industries;

22           “(3) formal and informal educators, including  
23           both those within academia and those who are not;

24           “(4) tribes;

1 “(5) nongovernmental organizations involved in  
2 ocean acidification research, prevention, or adapta-  
3 tion; and

4 “(6) any other appropriate community stake-  
5 holders.

6 “(f) CONTENTS OF PROPOSALS.—Each proposal for  
7 a grant under this section shall include—

8 “(1) a description of the qualifications of the  
9 individuals or entities who will conduct the project;

10 “(2) a plan for ensuring full participation and  
11 engagement of both industry and academic commu-  
12 nity participants, including a description of how each  
13 partner will contribute expertise to the project in  
14 terms of design, execution, and interpretation of re-  
15 sults;

16 “(3) a plan for the dissemination of the results  
17 of the research project, which may include—

18 “(A) educational programs;

19 “(B) presentations to members of the sea-  
20 food industry, the academic community, and  
21 community stakeholders;

22 “(C) scientific publication; and

23 “(D) delivery to appropriate representa-  
24 tives of States or other government jurisdictions  
25 who would use the information;

1           “(4) a description of how the project is con-  
2           sistent with the program elements described in sec-  
3           tion 12405(c); and

4           “(5) any other information the Secretary con-  
5           siders necessary for evaluating the eligibility of the  
6           project for funding under this section.

7           “(g) ALTERNATIVE PARTICIPANTS.—The Secretary  
8           may make a grant under this section to a partnership in  
9           which a marine-dependent industry is substituted for the  
10          seafood industry if the proposed project serves the pur-  
11          poses of this section. In such a case, the participation and  
12          interests of that marine-dependent industry shall be sub-  
13          stituted for those of the seafood industry in applying the  
14          requirements of this section.

15          “(h) PROJECT REPORTING.—Each grantee under  
16          this section shall provide periodic reports as required by  
17          the Secretary. Each such report shall include all informa-  
18          tion required by the Secretary for evaluating the progress  
19          and success of the project.

20          “(i) MATCHING REQUIREMENTS.—

21                 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-  
22                 graph (2), the total amount of Federal funding for  
23                 a collaborative research project supported under this  
24                 section may not exceed 85 percent of the total cost  
25                 of such project. For purposes of this paragraph, the

1 non-Federal share of project costs may be provided  
2 by in-kind contributions and other noncash support.

3 “(2) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive all or  
4 part of the matching requirement under paragraph  
5 (1) if the Secretary determines that no reasonable  
6 means are available through which applicants can  
7 meet the matching requirement and the probable  
8 benefit of such project outweighs the public interest  
9 in such matching requirement.

10 “(j) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
11 are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary for car-  
12 rying out this section \$5,000,000 for each of the fiscal  
13 years 2020 through 2024.”.

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