

## S 3298

A bill to clarify the circumstances during which the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and applicable States may require permits for discharges from certain vessels, and to require the Administrator to conduct a study of discharges incidental to the normal operation of vessels.

**Congress:** 110 (2007–2009, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Environmental Protection

**Introduced:** Jul 22, 2008

**Current Status:** Became Public Law No: 110-299.

**Latest Action:** Became Public Law No: 110-299. (Jul 31, 2008)

**Law:** 110-299 (Enacted Jul 31, 2008)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/110th-congress/senate-bill/3298>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Murkowski, Lisa [R-AK]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** AK • **Chamber:** Senate

### Cosponsors (15 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Jul 22, 2008
Sen. Chambliss, Saxby [R-GA]	R · GA		Jul 22, 2008
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		Jul 22, 2008
Sen. Dole, Elizabeth [R-NC]	R · NC		Jul 22, 2008
Sen. Isakson, Johnny [R-GA]	R · GA		Jul 22, 2008
Sen. Kerry, John F. [D-MA]	D · MA		Jul 22, 2008
Sen. Landrieu, Mary L. [D-LA]	D · LA		Jul 22, 2008
Sen. Martinez, Mel [R-FL]	R · FL		Jul 22, 2008
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Jul 22, 2008
Sen. Nelson, Bill [D-FL]	D · FL		Jul 22, 2008
Sen. Snowe, Olympia J. [R-ME]	R · ME		Jul 22, 2008
Sen. Stevens, Ted [R-AK]	R · AK		Jul 22, 2008
Sen. Vitter, David [R-LA]	R · LA		Jul 22, 2008
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Jul 22, 2008
Sen. Wicker, Roger F. [R-MS]	R · MS		Jul 22, 2008

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Bills of Interest - Exchange of Letters	Aug 15, 2008

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Environmental Protection

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
110 HR 6556	Identical bill	Jul 22, 2008: For Further Action See P.L. 110-229 (S. 3298).

Summary (as of Jul 31, 2008)

(This measure has not been amended since it was introduced. The summary has been expanded because action occurred on the measure.)

Prohibits the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), or a state with an approved National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, from requiring an NPDES permit for a covered vessel for the next two years for any discharge: (1) of effluent from properly functioning marine engines; (2) of laundry, shower, and galley sink wastes; or (3) that is incidental to the normal operation of a covered vessel. Defines "covered vessel" to mean a vessel that is less than 79 feet in length or a fishing vessel.

Requires the Administrator to evaluate the impacts of such discharges, excluding discharges: (1) from a vessel of the Armed Forces; (2) of sewage from a vessel, other than the discharge of graywater from a vessel operating on the Great Lakes; and (3) of ballast water. Requires the Administrator to: (1) provide for public comment on a draft of such evaluation; and (2) submit a final report to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, the Senate Environmental and Public Works Committee, and the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

Provides that such prohibition does not apply with respect to: (1) rubbish, trash, garbage, or other such materials discharged overboard; (2) other discharges when the vessel is operating in a capacity other than as a means of transportation; (3) ballast water discharges; or (4) any discharge that contributes to a violation of a water quality standard or poses an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Jul 31, 2008:** Signed by President.
- **Jul 31, 2008:** Became Public Law No: 110-299.
- **Jul 25, 2008:** Presented to President.
- **Jul 22, 2008:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jul 22, 2008:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Introduced in the Senate, read twice, considered, read the third time, and passed without amendment by Unanimous Consent.(consideration: CR S6981-6983; text as passed Senate: CR S6983)
- **Jul 22, 2008:** Introduced in the Senate, read twice, considered, read the third time, and passed without amendment by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S6981-6983; text as passed Senate: CR S6983)
- **Jul 22, 2008:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Jul 22, 2008:** Received in the House.
- **Jul 22, 2008:** Held at the desk.
- **Jul 22, 2008:** Mr. Oberstar moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill.
- **Jul 22, 2008:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H6752-6756)
- **Jul 22, 2008:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on S. 3298.
- **Jul 22, 2008:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H6752)
- **Jul 22, 2008:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H6752)
- **Jul 22, 2008:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Jul 22, 2008:** Cleared for White House.