

## HR 3096

Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2011

**Congress:** 112 (2011–2013, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Environmental Protection

**Introduced:** Oct 5, 2011

**Current Status:** Committee Hearings Held.

**Latest Action:** Committee Hearings Held. (Dec 7, 2011)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/house-bill/3096>

### Sponsor

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**Name:** Rep. Scalise, Steve [R-LA-1]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** LA • **Chamber:** House

**Cosponsors** (41 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Aderholt, Robert B. [R-AL-4]	R · AL		Oct 5, 2011
Rep. Alexander, Rodney [R-LA-5]	R · LA		Oct 5, 2011
Rep. Bachus, Spencer [R-AL-6]	R · AL		Oct 5, 2011
Rep. Bonner, Jo [R-AL-1]	R · AL		Oct 5, 2011
Rep. Boustany, Charles W., Jr. [R-LA-7]	R · LA		Oct 5, 2011
Rep. Brooks, Mo [R-AL-5]	R · AL		Oct 5, 2011
Rep. Cassidy, Bill [R-LA-6]	R · LA		Oct 5, 2011
Rep. Crenshaw, Ander [R-FL-4]	R · FL		Oct 5, 2011
Rep. Diaz-Balart, Mario [R-FL-21]	R · FL		Oct 5, 2011
Rep. Harper, Gregg [R-MS-3]	R · MS		Oct 5, 2011
Rep. Landry, Jeffrey M. [R-LA-3]	R · LA		Oct 5, 2011
Rep. Miller, Jeff [R-FL-1]	R · FL		Oct 5, 2011
Rep. Nunnelee, Alan [R-MS-1]	R · MS		Oct 5, 2011
Rep. Olson, Pete [R-TX-22]	R · TX		Oct 5, 2011
Rep. Palazzo, Steven M. [R-MS-4]	R · MS		Oct 5, 2011
Rep. Richmond, Cedric L. [D-LA-2]	D · LA		Oct 5, 2011
Rep. Rivera, David [R-FL-25]	R · FL		Oct 5, 2011
Rep. Roby, Martha [R-AL-2]	R · AL		Oct 5, 2011
Rep. Rogers, Mike D. [R-AL-3]	R · AL		Oct 5, 2011
Rep. Ross, Dennis A. [R-FL-12]	R · FL		Oct 5, 2011
Rep. Sewell, Terri A. [D-AL-7]	D · AL		Oct 5, 2011
Rep. Southerland, Steve II [R-FL-2]	R · FL		Oct 5, 2011
Rep. Thompson, Bennie G. [D-MS-2]	D · MS		Oct 5, 2011
Rep. West, Allen B. [R-FL-22]	R · FL		Oct 5, 2011
Rep. Rooney, Thomas J. [R-FL-16]	R · FL		Oct 6, 2011
Rep. Nugent, Richard B. [R-FL-5]	R · FL		Oct 11, 2011
Rep. Young, Don [R-AK-At Large]	R · AK		Nov 16, 2011
Rep. Herrera Beutler, Jaime [R-WA-3]	R · WA		Nov 17, 2011
Rep. Fleischmann, Charles J. "Chuck" [R-TN-3]	R · TN		Dec 8, 2011
Rep. DesJarlais, Scott [R-TN-4]	R · TN		Dec 14, 2011
Rep. Duncan, Jeff [R-SC-3]	R · SC		Dec 14, 2011
Rep. Lummis, Cynthia M. [R-WY-At Large]	R · WY		Dec 14, 2011
Rep. Marchant, Kenny [R-TX-24]	R · TX		Dec 14, 2011
Rep. Roe, David P. [R-TN-1]	R · TN		Dec 14, 2011
Rep. Wilson, Joe [R-SC-2]	R · SC		Dec 14, 2011
Rep. Posey, Bill [R-FL-15]	R · FL		Jan 18, 2012
Rep. Wittman, Robert J. [R-VA-1]	R · VA		Jan 18, 2012
Rep. Poe, Ted [R-TX-2]	R · TX		Jan 24, 2012
Rep. Buchanan, Vern [R-FL-13]	R · FL		Feb 16, 2012
Rep. Platts, Todd Russell [R-PA-19]	R · PA		Apr 24, 2012
Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-32]	D · CA		May 22, 2012

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred To	Oct 5, 2011
Science, Space, and Technology Committee	House	Referred To	Oct 5, 2011
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Referred to	Oct 6, 2011
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Referred to	Oct 6, 2011

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Environmental Protection

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
112 HR 14	Related bill	<b>Mar 21, 2012:</b> Referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Natural Resources, Energy and Commerce, Agriculture, Science, Space, and Technology, the Budget, Oversight and Government Reform, Financial Services, Education and the Workforce, and Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
112 S 1400	Related bill	<b>Dec 8, 2011:</b> Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 254.
112 S 861	Related bill	<b>Jun 28, 2011:</b> Committee on Environment and Public Works Subcommittee on Water and Wildlife. Hearings held. With printed Hearing: S.Hrg. 112-951.

Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2011 - Establishes the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund to be available for expenditures to the Gulf Coast states of Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas solely for: (1) coastal restoration projects and activities; (2) mitigation of damage to, and restoration of, fish, wildlife, or natural resources; (3) implementation of a federally approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan; (4) programs to promote tourism, the consumption of seafood produced from the Gulf Coast region, and education regarding the natural resources of such region; (5) planning assistance and administrative costs; (6) workforce development, job creation, and other economic development projects ; (7) improvements to state parks in coastal areas affected by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill; (8) mitigation of the ecological and economic impact of outer Continental Shelf activities and the impacts of such oil spill or promotion of the long-term ecological or economic recovery of the Gulf Coast region through the funding of infrastructure projects; and (9) coastal flood protection and infrastructure directly affected by coastal wetland losses, beach erosion, or the impacts of such oil spill.

Requires the Secretary to deposit in the Fund 80% of all administrative and civil penalties paid after this Act's enactment, pursuant to a court order, negotiated settlement, or other instrument in accordance with the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (commonly known as the Clean Water Act), in connection with the explosion on, and sinking of, the mobile offshore drilling unit Deepwater Horizon.

Amends the Clean Water Act to require 35% of amounts made available from the Fund in any fiscal year to be available to the Gulf Coast states in equal shares for ecological and economic restoration of the Gulf Coast ecosystem. Authorizes a governor of a Gulf Coast state, in awarding contracts for such a project or program, to give a preference to individuals and companies that reside in, are headquartered in, or are principally engaged in business in, a Gulf Coast state.

Establishes the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council to: (1) publish a Comprehensive Plan for, and to undertake, projects and programs to restore and protect the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, coastal wetlands, and economy of the Gulf Coast region; (2) update such Plan every five years; (3) coordinate the development of consistent policies, strategies, plans, and activities addressing the restoration and protection of the Gulf Coast region and associated research; and (4) prepare an integrated financial plan and recommendations for coordinated budget requests for the amounts proposed to be expended by the federal agencies represented on the Council for projects and programs in the Gulf Coast states. Requires 60% of the total amount made available from the Fund to be disbursed to the Council to carry out the Plan and oil spill restoration projects, programs, and activities that will improve the ecosystems or economy of the Gulf Coast region.

Establishes within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Science, Observation, Monitoring, and Technology Program, under which the NOAA Administrator shall provide grants to establish and operate a center of excellence in each of the Gulf Coast states. Requires each center to focus its curriculum on science, technology, and monitoring in at least one of the following: (1) coastal and deltaic sustainability, restoration and protection; (2) coastal fisheries and wildlife ecosystem research and monitoring; (3) offshore energy development; (4) sustainable and resilient growth and economic and commercial development; and (5) comprehensive observation, monitoring, and mapping of the Gulf. Allocates 5% of Fund amounts to such Program. Establishes the Gulf of Mexico Research Endowment to be administered by the Secretary of Commerce for use in providing long-term funding for such Program.

Prohibits the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund from being used: (1) for any existing or planned research headed by the

NOAA, unless as agreed to in writing by the grant recipient entity; (2) to implement existing regulations or to initiate new regulations promulgated or proposed by NOAA; or (3) to develop or approve a new limited access privilege program (as defined under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act) for any fishery under the jurisdiction of the South Atlantic, Mid-Atlantic, New England, or Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Councils.

Requires: (1) the Council to establish a fishery and ecosystem endowment to ensure the long-term sustainability of the ecosystem, fish stocks, the fish habitat, and the recreational, commercial, and charter fishing industry in the Gulf of Mexico; and (2) NOAA to administer such endowment.

Prohibits funds made available under this Act from being used for federal land acquisition.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Dec 7, 2011:** Committee Hearings Held.
- **Oct 6, 2011:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation.
- **Oct 6, 2011:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment.
- **Oct 5, 2011:** Introduced in House
- **Oct 5, 2011:** Referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Natural Resources, and Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.