
S 2667

Gulf States Protection and Restoration Coordination Act

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources

Introduced: Mar 10, 2016

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (Mar 10, 2016)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/2667>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Wicker, Roger F. [R-MS]

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

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 10, 2016

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Gulf States Protection and Restoration Coordination Act

This bill amends the Coastal Zone Management Act to designate the Gulf of Mexico Alliance (GOMA) as a regional coordination entity of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The regional coordination would strengthen collaboration efforts among federal, state, local, and private participants in the five Gulf states (Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas) to restore and protect the Gulf of Mexico ecosystem.

The designation authorizes the GOMA to:

- unify the efforts of participants to efficiently restore and protect the ecosystem,
- provide grants to implement specific action plans that meet coordination goals,
- improve water quality in the ecosystem,
- publish information about living coastal and marine resources in the ecosystem,
- develop public outreach programs that foster stewardship of the ecosystem, and
- serve as the liaison to the Mexican members of the Gulf of Mexico States Accord and Mexican counterparts.

Any grants issued by the GOMA for ecosystem research can be used to:

- monitor and develop strategies that address water quality needs,
- investigate the effects of natural and human-induced changes,
- restore and sustain living coastal and marine resources,
- restore and conserve key habitats, or
- eliminate contamination problems.

In addition, the GOMA is required to submit to NOAA an annual report that describes the goals, objectives, and benefits of any efforts undertaken to strengthen cooperation among participants in restoring and protecting the Gulf of Mexico ecosystem. Furthermore, NOAA is required to submit to Congress an assessment, every three years, on the effectiveness of the GOMA's ability to coordinate regional restoration and protection efforts in the ecosystem.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 10, 2016:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 10, 2016:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.