

S 371

A bill to remove a limitation on a prohibition relating to permits for discharges incidental to normal operation of vessels.

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Environmental Protection

Introduced: Feb 4, 2015

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works. (Feb 4, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/371>

Sponsor

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

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

Cosponsors (6 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Boxer, Barbara [D-CA]	D · CA		Feb 4, 2015
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Feb 4, 2015
Sen. Sullivan, Dan [R-AK]	R · AK		Feb 4, 2015
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Feb 25, 2015
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Feb 25, 2015
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Feb 26, 2015

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Environment and Public Works Committee	Senate	Referred To	Feb 4, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Environmental Protection

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

This bill makes permanent a temporary exemption from permit requirements of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (commonly known as the Clean Water Act). The exemption applies to a vessel that is less than 79 feet in length or a fishing vessel 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 those vessels. Under current law, the exemption is scheduled to end on December 18, 2017. This exemption does not apply to garbage discharged overboard, other discharges when the vessel is operating in a capacity other than as a means of transportation, discharges of ballast water held in ships to increase stability, or 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

- **Feb 4, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 4, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.