

HR 936

Marine Disease Emergency Act of 2015

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources

Introduced: Feb 12, 2015

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans. (Mar 16, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/936>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Heck, Denny [D-WA-10]

Party: Democratic • **State:** WA • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (13 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		Feb 12, 2015
Rep. Capps, Lois [D-CA-24]	D · CA		Feb 12, 2015
Rep. DelBene, Suzan K. [D-WA-1]	D · WA		Feb 12, 2015
Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2]	D · CA		Feb 12, 2015
Rep. Jolly, David W. [R-FL-13]	R · FL		Feb 12, 2015
Rep. Kilmer, Derek [D-WA-6]	D · WA		Feb 12, 2015
Rep. Larsen, Rick [D-WA-2]	D · WA		Feb 12, 2015
Rep. McDermott, Jim [D-WA-7]	D · WA		Feb 12, 2015
Rep. Murphy, Patrick [D-FL-18]	D · FL		Feb 12, 2015
Rep. Pallone, Frank, Jr. [D-NJ-6]	D · NJ		Feb 12, 2015
Rep. Smith, Adam [D-WA-9]	D · WA		Feb 12, 2015
Rep. LoBiondo, Frank A. [R-NJ-2]	R · NJ		Feb 13, 2015
Rep. Bonamici, Suzanne [D-OR-1]	D · OR		Jun 15, 2015

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 27, 2015
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 16, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Feb 12, 2015)

Marine Disease Emergency Act of 2015

This bill authorizes the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to declare and respond to a marine disease emergency that: (1) is caused by a marine disease or environmental stressor, (2) is likely to threaten the sustainability of a marine species or the health of a marine ecosystem, and (3) is likely to expand in geographic scope. "Marine species" does not include aquacultured animals, marine mammals, or birds. NOAA may take appropriate actions to respond to the emergency, including making grants, entering into contracts, and investigating the cause, treatment, or prevention of the emergency.

Upon declaring an emergency, NOAA must: (1) designate an individual to coordinate the response to the emergency, (2) develop a response plan within 28 days of the declaration, and (3) publish a summary of the plan within 21 days of the declaration.

The emergency terminates when NOAA declares that the emergency no longer exists or 120 days after the declaration was made, whichever occurs first. NOAA may renew a declaration.

The Marine Disease Emergency Working Group is established in NOAA to provide advice on assessing, declaring, and responding to emergencies.

The Marine Disease Emergency Fund is established to respond to emergencies.

NOAA must establish a National Data Repository for Marine Diseases Research and Services to collect, store, and disseminate information on marine diseases and facilitate the development and rapid dissemination of research.

Sea star wasting syndrome is deemed to be a marine disease emergency.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 16, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans.
- **Feb 27, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Livestock and Foreign Agriculture.
- **Feb 13, 2015:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR H1052)
- **Feb 12, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 12, 2015:** Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, 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.