

HR 5896

Great Lakes Winter Commerce Act of 2020

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Transportation and Public Works

Introduced: Feb 13, 2020

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation. (Feb 14, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/5896>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Gallagher, Mike [R-WI-8]

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

Cosponsors (6 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Dingell, Debbie [D-MI-12]	D · MI		Feb 13, 2020
Rep. Gibbs, Bob [R-OH-7]	R · OH		Feb 13, 2020
Rep. Kaptur, Marcy [D-OH-9]	D · OH		Feb 13, 2020
Rep. Stauber, Pete [R-MN-8]	R · MN		Feb 26, 2020
Rep. Joyce, David P. [R-OH-14]	R · OH		Mar 2, 2020
Rep. Quigley, Mike [D-IL-5]	D · IL		Mar 2, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 14, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Transportation and Public Works

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 S 4570	Related bill	Sep 15, 2020: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Great Lakes Winter Commerce Act of 2020

This bill directs the U.S. Coast Guard to conduct icebreaking operations in the Great Lakes in accordance with specific performance standards.

Specifically, the Coast Guard must

- keep channels and harbors in the Great Lakes open to navigation not less than 90% of the hours that commercial vessels transit ice-covered waterways;
- in a year in which the Great Lakes are not open to navigation because of ice of a thickness that occurs on average only once every 10 years, keep channels and harbors open to navigation at least 70% of the hours that commercial vessels transit ice-covered waterways; and
- coordinate Great Lakes icebreaking operations with operators of commercial vessels.

The bill prohibits the Coast Guard from breaking ice in Canadian harbors or bays unless it meets these performance standards during such activity. Such prohibition may be waived on a case-by-case basis upon approval by the Department of Homeland Security and notification to Congress.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 14, 2020:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation.
- **Feb 13, 2020:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 13, 2020:** Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.