

HR 7450

Prevent Harmful Algal Blooms Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources

Introduced: Jul 1, 2020

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

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife. (Jul 28, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/7450>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Crist, Charlie [D-FL-13]

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

Cosponsors (7 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Posey, Bill [R-FL-8]	R · FL		Jul 1, 2020
Rep. Murphy, Stephanie N. [D-FL-7]	D · FL		Jul 9, 2020
Rep. Luria, Elaine G. [D-VA-2]	D · VA		Jul 16, 2020
Rep. Soto, Darren [D-FL-9]	D · FL		Jul 16, 2020
Rep. Wasserman Schultz, Debbie [D-FL-23]	D · FL		Jul 31, 2020
Rep. Ryan, Tim [D-OH-13]	D · OH		Aug 4, 2020
Rep. Buchanan, Vern [R-FL-16]	R · FL		Sep 4, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred to	Jul 28, 2020
Science, Space, and Technology Committee	House	Referred To	Jul 1, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 S 5056	Related bill	Dec 17, 2020: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
116 HR 8632	Related bill	Nov 17, 2020: Committee Hearings Held.

Prevent Harmful Algal Blooms Act

This bill directs the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to designate organizations as National Centers of Excellence in Harmful Algal Bloom Research, Prevention, Response, and Mitigation. An algal bloom is a rapid growth of algae that may create toxic or hypoxic (severely low-oxygen) conditions that are harmful to humans, animals, aquatic ecosystems, and the economy.

To be eligible for designation, an organization must

- be an institution of higher education, a government research agency, a nonprofit laboratory or other research entity, or a consortium of such institutions;
- have demonstrated expertise and success in harmful algal bloom research, monitoring, forecasting, prevention, or response efforts;
- have demonstrated ability to collaborate with local, state, territorial, and tribal governments and federal agencies on harmful algal blooms; and
- be located in an area that is economically and environmentally impacted by harmful algal blooms.

In designating National Centers of Excellence, NOAA must (1) consult with the Inter-Agency Task Force on Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia; (2) ensure regional balance by designating centers in a variety of locations throughout the United States, including the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, American Samoa, and other territories and possessions of the United States; and (3) avoid duplication of other harmful algal bloom research.

Each designation shall be effective for five years and reviewed by NOAA in the fourth year of such effective period. The designation may be renewed for an additional five-year period.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 28, 2020:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife.
- **Jul 1, 2020:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 1, 2020:** Referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, 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.