

S 2958

Strengthening Coastal Communities Act of 2023

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources

Introduced: Sep 27, 2023

Current Status: Held at the desk.

Latest Action: Held at the desk. (Apr 20, 2024)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/2958>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]

Party: Democratic • State: DE • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Environment and Public Works Committee	Senate	Reported Original Measure	Sep 27, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 5490	Related bill	Nov 25, 2024: Became Public Law No: 118-117.

## Strengthening Coastal Communities Act of 2023

This bill modifies the coastal areas belonging to the John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS) and which are, therefore, ineligible to receive federal financial assistance for land development. It also expands exceptions to this restriction and establishes a coastal hazard pilot project.

Specifically, the bill updates and replaces existing CBRS maps with maps recommended by the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) in a 2022 report to Congress titled *John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Hurricane Sandy Remapping Project*. Affected coastal areas are located in 13 states: Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Carolina, and Virginia.

In addition, the bill creates new exceptions to the limitation on federal financial assistance for certain (1) aquaculture operations (e.g., shellfish production), and (2) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers coastal storm risk management projects. The bill also provides that insurable structures (i.e., walled and roofed buildings) that are on the ground in areas added to the CBRS within one year of enactment remain eligible for federal financial assistance.

The bill directs FWS to issue regulations requiring owners or lessors of real property in communities affected by the CBRS to disclose this information to prospective buyers or lessees.

The bill establishes a coastal hazard pilot project to propose definitions and criteria and produce maps of areas vulnerable to coastal hazards, such as flooding, storm surge, and erosion.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Apr 20, 2024:** Received in the House.
- **Apr 20, 2024:** Held at the desk.
- **Apr 19, 2024:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Apr 18, 2024:** Measure laid before Senate by unanimous consent. (consideration: CR S2866)
- **Apr 18, 2024:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with an amendment by Voice Vote. (text of amendment in the nature of a substitute: CR S2899-2901)
- **Apr 18, 2024:** Passed Senate with an amendment by Voice Vote. (text of amendment in the nature of a substitute: CR S2899-2901)
- **Sep 27, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **Sep 27, 2023:** Committee on Environment and Public Works. Original measure reported to Senate by Senator Carper. Without written report.
- **Sep 27, 2023:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 213.