

## S 216

Save Our Seas 2.0 Amendments Act

**Congress:** 119 (2025–2027, Current)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Public Lands and Natural Resources

**Introduced:** Jan 23, 2025

**Current Status:** Became Public Law No: 119-65.

**Latest Action:** Became Public Law No: 119-65. (Dec 26, 2025)

**Law:** 119-65 (Enacted Dec 26, 2025)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/senate-bill/216>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Sullivan, Dan [R-AK]

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

### Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Jan 23, 2025

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Reported By	Apr 8, 2025

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
119 HR 2620	Identical bill	<b>Apr 3, 2025:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation.

## **Save Our Seas 2.0 Amendments Act**

This bill reauthorizes and modifies administration of Marine Debris Program (MDP) activities and the Marine Debris Foundation. (The program and the foundation support efforts to assess, prevent, and otherwise address marine debris and its adverse impacts on the U.S. economy, the marine environment, and navigation safety.)

First, the bill reauthorizes the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA's) Marine Debris Program through FY2029. The bill authorizes NOAA to provide contributions for MDP project costs on an in-kind basis in an amount that NOAA determines represents the value it derives from the project. The bill also authorizes NOAA to enter into agreements other than cooperative agreements, contracts, and grant agreements for projects.

Next, the bill modifies requirements for the Marine Debris Foundation and reauthorizes it for FY2025. Among other changes, the bill designates the current Chief Operating Officer (i.e., the first officer or employee appointed by the board) as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and specifies that the board has the authority to appoint, review the performance of, and remove the CEO. The bill authorizes the CEO to appoint, supervise, and remove foundation employees and officers.

Further, the bill directs the foundation to develop and implement best practices for conducting outreach to Indian tribes and tribal governments. The foundation must locate its principal office in the National Capital Region or a coastal shoreline community.

Finally, the bill authorizes the foundation to match contributions from regional organizations, Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and foreign governments.

## **Actions Timeline**

---

- **Dec 26, 2025:** Signed by President.
- **Dec 26, 2025:** Became Public Law No: 119-65.
- **Dec 18, 2025:** Presented to President.
- **Dec 15, 2025:** Mr. Johnson (SD) moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill.
- **Dec 15, 2025:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H5867-5869)
- **Dec 15, 2025:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on S. 216.
- **Dec 15, 2025:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote.
- **Dec 15, 2025:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote.
- **Dec 15, 2025:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Dec 15, 2025:** Considered under suspension of the rules.
- **May 26, 2025:** Received in the House.
- **May 26, 2025:** Held at the desk.
- **May 23, 2025:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **May 20, 2025:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate without amendment by Voice Vote.
- **May 20, 2025:** Passed Senate without amendment by Voice Vote. (consideration: CR S3001-3002; text: CR S3001-3002)
- **Apr 8, 2025:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Reported by Senator Cruz without amendment. With written report No. 119-12.
- **Apr 8, 2025:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 40.
- **Feb 5, 2025:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.
- **Jan 23, 2025:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jan 23, 2025:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

# LegiList

CONGRESS, MADE CLEAR.

## Search Every Federal Bill, Law, and Vote

LegiList is the fastest way to research Congress. Track any bill from introduction to enactment, see how every legislator voted, follow committee activity, and read the full text of every bill — all in one place, always up to date.

[legilist.com](https://legilist.com)

## Free Course: Learn How Congress Actually Works

LegiList Learn is a free, self-paced course that walks through the entire legislative process — from drafting a bill to a presidential signature. Seven modules, plain language, no politics. Earn a certificate when you finish.

[legilist.com/learn](https://legilist.com/learn)

## Developer API: Build Apps on Legislative Data

The LegiList API gives developers direct access to bills, votes, legislators, committees, and more. Start free with 1,000 requests per day — no credit card required. Upgrade to Pro when you need to scale.

[legilist.com/api](https://legilist.com/api)

Public data belongs to the public. — [legilist.com](https://legilist.com)