

**AMENDMENT TO THE RULES COMMITTEE PRINT
FOR H.R. 1335
OFFERED BY MR. GUINTA OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

At the end of the bill, add the following:

1 **SEC. 29. DEFINITIONS.**

2 Section 2(a) of the Act of August 11, 1939 (com-
3 monly known as the “Saltonstall-Kennedy Act”) (15
4 U.S.C. 713c-3(a)), is amended—

5 (1) by redesignating paragraph (1) as para-
6 graph (2);

7 (2) by inserting before paragraph (2), as redес-
8 igned, the following:

9 “(1) The term ‘fishery investment committee’
10 means a committee of a regional fishery manage-
11 ment council established under subsection (c)(1).”;

12 (3) by redesignating paragraphs (2), (3), (4),
13 and (5) as paragraphs (4), (5), (6), and (7), respec-
14 tively;

15 (4) by inserting before paragraph (4), as redес-
16 igned, the following:

17 “(3) The term ‘regional fishery investment
18 plan’ means a plan developed by a fishery invest-
19 ment committee under subsection (c)(2).”; and

1 (5) by adding at the end the following:

2 “(8) The applicable definition under section 3
3 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and
4 Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1802), shall apply to
5 any term used in this Act that is not defined under
6 this subsection.”.

7 **SEC. 30. REGIONAL FISHERIES INVESTMENT GRANT PRO-**
8 **GRAM.**

9 (a) REGIONAL FISHERIES INVESTMENT GRANT PRO-
10 GRAM AND FISHERY INVESTMENT PLANS.—Section 2 of
11 the Act of August 11, 1939 (commonly known as the
12 “Saltonstall-Kennedy Act”) (15 U.S.C. 713e-3), is
13 amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

14 “(c) STRENGTHENING REGIONAL FISHERIES MAN-
15 AGEMENT.—

16 “(1) FISHERY INVESTMENT COMMITTEES.—

17 “(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—Each Council
18 shall establish and maintain, under the author-
19 ity of section 302(g) of the Magnuson-Stevens
20 Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16
21 U.S.C. 1852(g)), a fishery investment com-
22 mittee. Each fishery investment committee shall
23 be comprised of not more than 13 individuals.

24 “(B) AUTHORITY.—Each fishery invest-
25 ment committee shall—

1 “(i) develop a regional fishery invest-
2 ment plan under subsection (c)(2);

3 “(ii) review grant applications and
4 projects to implement its regional fishery
5 investment plan; and

6 “(iii) make recommendations, based
7 on its findings, to the Council on grant ap-
8 plications and projects to implement its re-
9 gional fishery investment plan.

10 “(C) MEMBERSHIP.—

11 “(i) QUALIFICATIONS.—Each member
12 of a fishery investment committee shall be
13 an individual who, by reason of the individ-
14 ual’s occupational experience or other expe-
15 rience, scientific expertise, or training, is
16 knowledgeable of the conservation and
17 management of, or the commercial or rec-
18 reational catch of, the fishery resources of
19 the geographical area concerned.

20 “(ii) NOMINATIONS.—Each member
21 of a fishery investment committee—

22 “(I) shall be nominated and
23 elected by the applicable Council dur-
24 ing a public meeting of the Council;

1 “(II) shall serve for a 3-year
2 term; and

3 “(III) may be re-elected for an
4 additional 3-year consecutive term.

5 “(iii) CONFLICTS OF INTEREST.—A
6 member of a fishery investment committee
7 shall recuse himself or herself from consid-
8 ering any grant application that the mem-
9 ber has a financial interest that would re-
10 quire disclosure under section 302(j)(2) of
11 the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conserva-
12 tion and Management Act (16 U.S.C.
13 1852(j)(2)).

14 “(D) COMPOSITION.—Each fishery invest-
15 ment committee shall be multi-disciplinary, re-
16 flect the geographic balance of the Council, and
17 include at least 1 representative of—

18 “(i) the commercial fishing commu-
19 nity;

20 “(ii) the private recreational angling
21 community;

22 “(iii) the for-profit charter fishing
23 community;

24 “(iv) the public interest in marine
25 conservation who—

1 “(I) does not derive an annual
2 income from commercial or rec-
3 reational fishing; and

4 “(II) is not employed by any per-
5 son who derives an annual income
6 from commercial or recreational fish-
7 ing;

8 “(v) each State government in the re-
9 gion;

10 “(vi) relevant interstate commissions;

11 “(vii) federally recognized tribes,
12 where applicable; and

13 “(viii) research institutions.

14 “(2) REGIONAL FISHERY INVESTMENT
15 PLANS.—Each fishery investment committee shall
16 develop a regional fishery investment plan that iden-
17 tifies critical research, conservation, and manage-
18 ment needs and corresponding actions to facilitate
19 rebuilding and maintaining healthy fish populations
20 and sustainable fisheries over a 5-year period. Each
21 plan shall—

22 “(A) be consistent with the current 5-year
23 research priority plans developed under section
24 302(h)(7) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery

1 Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C.
2 1852(h)(7));

3 “(B) include areas of investment that are
4 critical for rebuilding and maintaining healthy
5 United States fish populations and promoting
6 sustainable fisheries, including—

7 “(i) stock surveys, stock assessments
8 and analysis, and cooperative fishery re-
9 search, in conjunction with the National
10 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration,
11 involving fishery participants, academic in-
12 stitutions, and other interested parties;

13 “(ii) efforts to improve the collection
14 and accuracy of fishery catch data, includ-
15 ing—

16 “(I) expanding the use of, and
17 research and development on, catch
18 monitoring and reporting programs
19 and technology, both at-sea and shore-
20 side, including the use of electronic
21 monitoring devices and satellite track-
22 ing systems; and

23 “(II) improving data collection
24 for recreational fisheries, including
25 improvements to the Marine Rec-

1 reational Fishery Statistics Survey in
2 accordance with section 401(g)(3) of
3 the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Con-
4 servation and Management Act (16
5 U.S.C. 1881(g)(3));

6 “(iii) analyzing the social and eco-
7 nomic impacts of fishery management deci-
8 sions;

9 “(iv) providing financial assistance to,
10 and investment in, fishermen and fishing
11 communities through—

12 “(I) fishing capacity reduction,
13 including vessel, permit, and gear
14 buybacks; and

15 “(II) investment in permit banks
16 or trusts and other entities, including
17 community fishing associations and
18 projects designed to help sustain fish-
19 ery dependent communities and small-
20 scale fisheries;

21 “(v) development of methods or tech-
22 nologies to improve the quality and value
23 of fish landed;

24 “(vi) research and development of
25 conservation engineering technologies and

1 methods in both commercial and rec-
2 reational fisheries; and

3 “(vii) habitat restoration and protec-
4 tion;

5 “(C) be revised by the regional fishery in-
6 vestment committee and approved by the Coun-
7 cil at least once every 5 years;

8 “(D) be submitted to the Secretary for re-
9 view to ensure the plan is consistent with the
10 requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery
11 Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C.
12 1801 et seq.), and this section;

13 “(E) be published in the Federal Register
14 and made available for public comment; and

15 “(F) become effective not later than 60
16 days after the date of receipt unless the Sec-
17 retary makes a negative consistency finding.

18 “(3) NEGATIVE CONSISTENCY FINDING.—If the
19 Secretary makes a negative consistency finding
20 under paragraph (2)(F), each portion of the plan
21 that is the subject of the negative consistency find-
22 ing shall not be effective until it is made consistent
23 by the regional fishery investment committee and
24 the Council.

1 “(4) REGIONAL FISHERY INVESTMENT GRANT
2 PROGRAM.—Not later than 30 days after the date of
3 enactment of the Fisheries Investment and Regu-
4 latory Relief Act of 2015, the Secretary shall estab-
5 lish an annual competitive grant program to provide
6 funds for projects, activities, and research that ad-
7 vance the regional priorities that are included in the
8 regional fishery investment plans.

9 “(A) ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS.—State, Fed-
10 eral, regional, or private entities or persons
11 shall be eligible for funding with preference
12 given to public-private partnerships.

13 “(B) AWARDS.—The Secretary may only
14 award a grant for a project, activity, or re-
15 search that—

16 “(i) implements regional fishery in-
17 vestment plans; and

18 “(ii) has been recommended for fund-
19 ing by the respective regional fishery in-
20 vestment committee and approved by the
21 Council.”.

22 (b) NATIONAL FISHERIES INVESTMENT PROGRAM.—
23 Section 2(d) of the Act of August 11, 1939 (commonly
24 known as the “Saltonstall-Kennedy Act”) (15 U.S.C.
25 713c–3(d)), is amended—

1 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “research and
2 development addressed to such aspects of United
3 States fisheries (including, but not limited to, har-
4 vesting, processing, marketing, and associated infra-
5 structures) if not adequately covered by projects as-
6 sisted under subsection (c), as the Secretary deems
7 appropriate” and inserting “fisheries research and
8 investment that supports rebuilding and maintaining
9 healthy United States fish populations and promotes
10 sustainable fisheries. The program shall address
11 fisheries needs and problems described under sub-
12 section (e)(1)(B).”; and

13 (2) in paragraph (2)—

14 (A) by striking “, after consultation with
15 appropriate representatives of the fishing indus-
16 try,”;

17 (B) by striking “Merchant Marine and
18 Fisheries” and inserting “Natural Resources”;

19 (C) in subparagraph (A), by striking “de-
20 velopment goals and funding priorities under
21 paragraph (1)” and inserting “investment pri-
22 orities”;

23 (D) in subparagraph (B), by striking “all
24 pending projects assisted under subsection (c)”
25 and all that follows and inserting “the projects

1 funded by the Secretary under this subsection;
2 and”; and

3 (E) in subparagraph (C), by striking “each
4 project assisted” and all that follows and insert-
5 ing “how well the project met the fisheries
6 needs described in subsection (e)(1).”.

7 (c) DIVISION OF RESOURCES.—Section 2(e) of the
8 Act of August 11, 1939 (commonly known as the
9 “Saltonstall-Kennedy Act”) (15 U.S.C. 713e–3(e)), is
10 amended—

11 (1) by striking “moneys” each place it appears
12 and inserting “monies”;

13 (2) by striking “purpose of promoting” and in-
14 serting “purposes of investing in”;

15 (3) by inserting “or diverted” following “shall
16 be transferred”; and

17 (4) by striking subparagraph (A) and all the
18 follows, and inserting the following:

19 “(A) The Secretary shall allocate 70 per-
20 cent of these funds available at the beginning of
21 each fiscal year to the 8 Council regions and
22 the Secretary in accordance with the following
23 formula pursuant to subsection (c):

24 “(i) One-half allocated equally among
25 the Council regions.

1 “(ii) One-half allocated proportionally
2 among the Council regions based on the
3 combined economic impact of commercial
4 landings and recreational fishing in each
5 region.

6 “(B) Twenty percent of these funds shall
7 be available to the Secretary under subsection
8 (d) for projects addressing fisheries needs and
9 problems, as identified by the Secretary, as fol-
10 lows:

11 “(i) Up to one-fifth shall be allocated
12 to, and apportioned as the Secretary deems
13 appropriate among, the Atlantic States
14 Marine Fisheries Commission, the Gulf
15 States Marine Fisheries Commission, and
16 the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Com-
17 mission.

18 “(ii) Up to one-fifth shall be allocated
19 to seafood promotion and sustainable cer-
20 tification efforts.

21 “(iii) Up to one-fifth shall be allocated
22 to improve fisheries’ management through
23 research, monitoring or evaluation, and
24 modification of regulations and procedures.

1 “(iv) Up to one-fifth shall be allocated
2 to fisheries’ disasters, and shoreside infra-
3 structure and access needs.

4 “(v) Up to one-fifth shall be allocated
5 to other special needs, including manage-
6 ment of highly migratory species and inter-
7 national fisheries.

8 “(C) Any amounts remaining after the an-
9 nual fiscal year allocations made pursuant to
10 subparagraph (B) shall remain available to the
11 Secretary without fiscal year limitation for fu-
12 ture such allocations.

13 “(2) LIMITATION.—Not more than 10 percent
14 of these funds may be used to offset receipts for the
15 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s
16 Operations, Research, and Facilities account.

17 “(3) ANNUAL NOTIFICATION.—The Secretary
18 shall notify annually each Council of funds available
19 for grants in its region.

20 “(4) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Prior to the al-
21 location of funds under paragraph (1), the Sec-
22 retary—

23 “(A) may reserve up to 3 percent of the
24 funds available in a fiscal year for the adminis-
25 tration of the grant program; and

1 “(B) shall distribute 3 percent of the funds
2 available in a fiscal year equally among each of
3 the 8 Councils for the development and imple-
4 mentation of fishery investment plans and
5 grant review.

6 “(5) MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT.—Except as
7 provided in paragraph (2), the Secretary may not re-
8 duce or eliminate funding for any research, survey,
9 monitoring, or assessment activities necessary to
10 meet the conservation and management require-
11 ments of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conserva-
12 tion and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.)
13 as a result of funding provided under this section.”.

14 **SEC. 31. FOCUSING ASSETS FOR IMPROVED FISHERIES**
15 **OUTCOMES.**

16 Section 2(b) of the Act of August 11, 1939 (com-
17 monly known as the “Saltonstall-Kennedy Act”) (15
18 U.S.C. 713c-3(b)), is amended—

19 (1) by striking “(1)”;

20 (2) by striking “and ending on June 30,
21 1957,”;

22 (3) by striking “moneys” the first place it ap-
23 pears and inserting “monies”; and

24 (4) by striking “shall be maintained in a sepa-
25 rate fund only for” and all that follows and inserting

1 “and shall only be used for the purposes described
2 under subsection (c).”.

3 **SEC. 32. REGULATION AND PROCEDURE STREAMLINING.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—For the 2 fiscal years following
5 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Com-
6 merce shall use funds available under section 2(e)(2) of
7 the Act of August 11, 1939 (commonly known as the
8 “Saltonstall-Kennedy Act”) (15 U.S.C. 713e–3), to con-
9 duct a review of the regulations and procedures used to
10 implement title III of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Con-
11 servation and Management Act (90 Stat. 346).

12 (b) REVIEW REQUIREMENTS.—The review under
13 subsection (a) shall—

14 (1) identify redundant and inefficient regula-
15 tions and procedures;

16 (2) make recommendations for streamlining
17 such regulations and procedures, including rec-
18 ommendations to eliminate unnecessary paperwork,
19 reduce bureaucratic restrictions, and speed the inclu-
20 sion of new information into management decisions;
21 and

22 (3) ensure that any recommended modifications
23 to regulations or procedures are consistent with the
24 Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Man-

1 agement Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.), and any
2 other applicable law.

3 **SEC. 33. PROMULGATION OF REGULATIONS.**

4 Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment
5 of this Act, the Secretary shall promulgate regulations to
6 implement the sections 29 through 32 and the amend-
7 ments made by those sections.

