

**AMENDMENT TO THE RULES COMMITTEE PRINT
FOR H.R. 5303
OFFERED BY MR. JOYCE OF OHIO**

At the end of title I, add the following:

1 **SEC. ____ . GREAT LAKES RESTORATION INITIATIVE.**

2 Section 118(c)(7) of the Federal Water Pollution
3 Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1268(e)(7)) is amended—

4 (1) by striking subparagraphs (B) and (C) and
5 inserting the following:

6 “(B) FOCUS AREAS.—In carrying out the
7 Initiative, the Administrator shall prioritize pro-
8 grams and projects, to be carried out in coordi-
9 nation with non-Federal partners, that address
10 the priority areas described in the Initiative Ac-
11 tion Plan, including—

12 “(i) the remediation of toxic sub-
13 stances and areas of concern;

14 “(ii) the prevention and control of
15 invasive species and the impacts of invasive
16 species;

17 “(iii) the protection and restoration of
18 nearshore health and the prevention and
19 mitigation of nonpoint source pollution;

1 “(iv) habitat and wildlife protection
2 and restoration, including wetlands res-
3 toration and preservation; and

4 “(v) accountability, monitoring, eval-
5 uation, communication, and partnership
6 activities.

7 “(C) PROJECTS.—

8 “(i) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out
9 the Initiative, the Administrator shall col-
10 laborate with other Federal partners, in-
11 cluding the Great Lakes Interagency Task
12 Force established by Executive Order No.
13 13340 (69 Fed. Reg. 29043), to select the
14 best combination of programs and projects
15 for Great Lakes protection and restoration
16 using appropriate principles and criteria,
17 including whether a program or project
18 provides—

19 “(I) the ability to achieve stra-
20 tegic and measurable environmental
21 outcomes that implement the Initia-
22 tive Action Plan and the Great Lakes
23 Water Quality Agreement;

24 “(II) the feasibility of—

1 “(aa) prompt implementa-
2 tion;

3 “(bb) timely achievement of
4 results; and

5 “(cc) resource leveraging;
6 and

7 “(III) the opportunity to improve
8 interagency, intergovernmental, and
9 inter-organizational coordination and
10 collaboration to reduce duplication
11 and streamline efforts.

12 “(ii) OUTREACH.—In selecting the
13 best combination of programs and projects
14 for Great Lakes protection and restoration
15 under clause (i), the Administrator shall
16 consult with the Great Lakes States and
17 Indian tribes and solicit input from other
18 non-Federal stakeholders.

19 “(iii) HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOM COOR-
20 DINATOR.—The Administrator shall des-
21 ignate a point person from an appropriate
22 Federal partner to coordinate, with Fed-
23 eral partners and Great Lakes States, In-
24 dian tribes, and other non-Federal stake-
25 holders, projects and activities under the

1 Initiative involving harmful algal blooms in
2 the Great Lakes.”;

3 (2) in subparagraph (D)—

4 (A) by striking clause (i) and inserting the
5 following:

6 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to sub-
7 paragraph (J)(ii), funds made available to
8 carry out the Initiative shall be used to
9 strategically implement—

10 “(I) Federal projects;

11 “(II) projects carried out in co-
12 ordination with States, Indian tribes,
13 municipalities, institutions of higher
14 education, and other organizations;
15 and

16 “(III) operations and activities of
17 the Program Office, including remedi-
18 ation of sediment contamination in
19 areas of concern.”;

20 (B) in clause (ii)(I), by striking “(G)(i)”
21 and inserting “(J)(i)”; and

22 (C) by inserting after clause (ii) the fol-
23 lowing:

24 “(iii) AGREEMENTS WITH NON-FED-
25 ERAL ENTITIES.—

1 “(I) IN GENERAL.—The Admin-
2 istrator, or the head of any other Fed-
3 eral department or agency receiving
4 funds under clause (ii)(I), may make
5 a grant to, or otherwise enter into an
6 agreement with, a qualified non-Fed-
7 eral entity, as determined by the Ad-
8 ministrator or the applicable head of
9 the other Federal department or agen-
10 cy receiving funds, for planning, re-
11 search, monitoring, outreach, or im-
12 plementation of a project selected
13 under subparagraph (C), to support
14 the Initiative Action Plan or the Great
15 Lakes Water Quality Agreement.

16 “(II) QUALIFIED NON-FEDERAL
17 ENTITY.—For purposes of this clause,
18 a qualified non-Federal entity may in-
19 clude a governmental entity, nonprofit
20 organization, institution, or indi-
21 vidual.”; and

22 (3) by striking subparagraphs (E) through (G)
23 and inserting the following:

24 “(E) SCOPE.—

1 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Projects may be
2 carried out under the Initiative on multiple
3 levels, including—

4 “(I) locally;

5 “(II) Great Lakes-wide; or

6 “(III) Great Lakes basin-wide.

7 “(ii) LIMITATION.—No funds made
8 available to carry out the Initiative may be
9 used for any water infrastructure activity
10 (other than a green infrastructure project
11 that improves habitat and other ecosystem
12 functions in the Great Lakes) for which fi-
13 nancial assistance is received—

14 “(I) from a State water pollution
15 control revolving fund established
16 under title VI;

17 “(II) from a State drinking water
18 revolving loan fund established under
19 section 1452 of the Safe Drinking
20 Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300j–12); or

21 “(III) pursuant to the Water In-
22 frastructure Finance and Innovation
23 Act of 2014 (33 U.S.C. 3901 et seq.).

24 “(F) ACTIVITIES BY OTHER FEDERAL
25 AGENCIES.—Each relevant Federal department

1 or agency shall, to the maximum extent prac-
2 ticable—

3 “(i) maintain the base level of funding
4 for the Great Lakes activities of that de-
5 partment or agency without regard to
6 funding under the Initiative; and

7 “(ii) identify new activities and
8 projects to support the environmental goals
9 of the Initiative.

10 “(G) REVISION OF INITIATIVE ACTION
11 PLAN.—

12 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Not less often
13 than once every 5 years, the Adminis-
14 trator, in conjunction with the Great Lakes
15 Interagency Task Force, shall review, and
16 revise as appropriate, the Initiative Action
17 Plan to guide the activities of the Initiative
18 in addressing the restoration and protec-
19 tion of the Great Lakes system.

20 “(ii) OUTREACH.—In reviewing and
21 revising the Initiative Action Plan under
22 clause (i), the Administrator shall consult
23 with the Great Lakes States and Indian
24 tribes and solicit input from other non-
25 Federal stakeholders.

1 “(H) MONITORING AND REPORTING.—The
2 Administrator shall—

3 “(i) establish and maintain a process
4 for monitoring and periodically reporting
5 to the public on the progress made in im-
6 plementing the Initiative Action Plan;

7 “(ii) make information about each
8 project carried out under the Initiative Ac-
9 tion Plan available on a public website; and

10 “(iii) provide to the House Committee
11 on Transportation and Infrastructure and
12 the Senate Committee on Environment and
13 Public Works a yearly detailed description
14 of the progress of the Initiative and
15 amounts transferred to participating Fed-
16 eral departments and agencies under sub-
17 paragraph (D)(ii).

18 “(I) INITIATIVE ACTION PLAN DEFINED.—
19 In this paragraph, the term ‘Initiative Action
20 Plan’ means the comprehensive, multi-year ac-
21 tion plan for the restoration of the Great
22 Lakes, first developed pursuant to the Joint
23 Explanatory Statement of the Conference Re-
24 port accompanying the Department of the Inte-

1 rior, Environment, and Related Agencies Ap-
2 propriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111–88).

3 “(J) FUNDING.—

4 “(i) IN GENERAL.—There is author-
5 ized to be appropriated to carry out this
6 paragraph \$300,000,000 for each of fiscal
7 years 2017 through 2021.

8 “(ii) LIMITATION.—Nothing in this
9 paragraph creates, expands, or amends the
10 authority of the Administrator to imple-
11 ment programs or projects under—

12 “(I) this section;

13 “(II) the Initiative Action Plan;

14 or

15 “(III) the Great Lakes Water
16 Quality Agreement.”.

