

**AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 116-**

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**OFFERED BY MR. MOULTON OF MASSACHUSETTS**

Add at the end the following:

1 **TITLE V—CREATING OPPOR-**  
2 **TUNITY AND SUSTAINABILITY**  
3 **THROUGH SCIENCE**

4 **SEC. 1. NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINIS-**  
5 **TRATION RESEARCH PROGRAMS.**

6 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

7 (1) coastal cities and communities are particu-  
8 larly vulnerable to hazards and extreme weather  
9 events, accelerating the degradation of natural and  
10 built infrastructure that coastal economies and pop-  
11 ulations depend upon; and

12 (2) such degradation harms community resil-  
13 iency and exposes coastal cities and their inhabitants  
14 to more frequent and more severe hazards, impact-  
15 ing the ecosystems that provide livelihoods, food, and  
16 energy, and other essential benefits.

17 (b) IN GENERAL.—

18 (1) COASTAL SCIENCE AND ASSESSMENT: COM-  
19 PETITIVE EXTERNAL RESEARCH.—

1 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Com-  
2 merce, acting through applicable National Oce-  
3 anic and Atmospheric Administration programs  
4 within the National Ocean Service, the Office of  
5 Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, and the  
6 National Marine Fisheries Service, shall carry  
7 out an extramural competitively awarded grants  
8 program focused on interdisciplinary coastal re-  
9 siliance and sustainability.

10 (B) OBJECTIVE.—The objective of the pro-  
11 gram shall be to develop scalable best prac-  
12 tices—

13 (i) to prepare more resilient, sustain-  
14 able cities and resilient communities; and

15 (ii) to reduce disaster recovery costs.

16 (C) COLLABORATION.—The Secretary shall  
17 conduct the program in collaboration with busi-  
18 ness and industry, government agencies, aca-  
19 demic institutions, and coastal community  
20 stakeholders.

21 (D) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible for a  
22 grant under this paragraph, an applicant must  
23 be an institution of higher education, nonprofit  
24 organization, State, local, or Tribal Govern-  
25 ment, for-profit organization, United States

1           Territory, or Federal agency that has statutory  
2           authority to receive transfers of funds.

3           (2) COASTAL RESILIENCE RESEARCH COMPETITIVE  
4           GRANTS.—

5           (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Commerce,  
6           acting through the National Oceanic and  
7           Atmospheric Administration, shall annually  
8           award competitive grants for—

9                   (i) activities that strengthen coastal  
10                   communities; and

11                   (ii) restoration of coastal habitats to  
12                   provide vital habitat for fish and strengthen  
13                   the resilience of coastal ecosystems.

14           (B) PRIORITIES.—In awarding grants  
15           under this paragraph, the Secretary shall give  
16           priority to funding projects for—

17                   (i) protecting life and critical infrastructure  
18                   that, if destroyed or damaged, would have a  
19                   debilitating impact on economic security, undermine  
20                   community resiliency and adaptation, and threaten  
21                   public health or safety;

22                   (ii) assessing the effects of local land-use  
23                   considerations on coastal and marine  
24                   resources;  
25

1 (iii) developing decision-support tools  
2 useful to coastal communities;

3 (iv) determining societal, ecological,  
4 and resiliency benefits of coastal restora-  
5 tion and natural, nature-based, and man-  
6 made infrastructure, and how these bene-  
7 fits affect the sustainability of coastal eco-  
8 systems;

9 (v) citizen-science monitoring of coast-  
10 al and marine resources as part of efforts  
11 to protect coastal communities;

12 (vi) evaluating potential outcomes as-  
13 sociated with developing new commercial  
14 and recreational fishery resources, includ-  
15 ing aquaculture and targeting invasive and  
16 range-expanding species;

17 (vii) monitoring and developing eco-  
18 system-based approaches to managing  
19 coastal ecosystems to promote sustain-  
20 ability;

21 (viii) assessing the capacity of human  
22 communities to adapt to coastal hazards;

23 (ix) assessing coastal vulnerability and  
24 risk;

1 (x) evaluating adaptation and restora-  
2 tion approaches to reduce risk, including  
3 through the use of natural, nature-based,  
4 and man-made features; and

5 (xi) minimizing costs associated with  
6 damages incurred from natural disasters,  
7 flooding, and sea level rise.

8 (c) DONATIONS.—The Secretary of Commerce, acting  
9 through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Adminis-  
10 tration, may accept and use donations of funds to imple-  
11 ment this section.

