

AMENDMENT TO RULES
COMMITTEE PRINT 117-31
OFFERED BY MS. PLASKETT OF VIRGIN ISLANDS

Page 1668, after line 13, insert the following:

1 **SEC. 71104. SHOVEL-READY RESTORATION GRANTS FOR**
2 **COASTLINES AND FISHERIES.**

3 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Administrator shall es-
4 tablish a grant program to provide funding and technical
5 assistance to eligible entities for purposes of carrying out
6 a project described in subsection (d).

7 (b) **PROJECT PROPOSAL.**—To be considered for a
8 grant under this section, an eligible entity shall submit
9 a grant proposal to the Administrator in a time, place,
10 and manner determined by the Administrator. Such pro-
11 posal shall include monitoring, data collection, and meas-
12 urable performance criteria with respect to the project.

13 (c) **DEVELOPMENT OF CRITERIA.**—The Adminis-
14 trator shall select eligible entities to receive grants under
15 this section based on criteria developed by the Adminis-
16 trator, in consultation with relevant offices of the National
17 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, such as the Of-
18 fice of Habitat Conservation and the Office for Coastal
19 Management.

1 (d) ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.—A proposal is eligible for
2 a grant under this section if—

3 (1) the purpose of the project is to restore a
4 marine, estuarine, coastal, or Great Lake habitat,
5 including—

6 (A) restoration of habitat to protect or re-
7 cover a species that is threatened, endangered,
8 or a species of concern under the Endangered
9 Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.);

10 (B) through the removal or remediation of
11 marine debris, including derelict vessels and
12 abandoned, lost, and discarded fishing gear, in
13 coastal and marine habitats; or

14 (C) for the benefit of—

15 (i) shellfish;

16 (ii) fish, including diadromous fish;

17 (iii) coral reef systems;

18 (iv) marine wildlife; or

19 (v) blue carbon ecosystems such as
20 coastal wetlands, beaches, dunes, marshes,
21 coastal forests, oyster beds, kelp forests,
22 and submerged aquatic vegetation; or

23 (2) provides adaptation to climate change, in-
24 cluding sequestering and storing carbon or by con-
25 structing, restoring, or protecting ecological features

1 or nature-based infrastructure that protects coastal
2 communities from sea level rise, coastal storms, or
3 flooding.

4 (e) PRIORITY.—In determining which projects to
5 fund under this section, the Administrator shall give pri-
6 ority to a proposed project—

7 (1) that would stimulate the economy;

8 (2) for which the applicant can demonstrate
9 that the grant will fund work that will begin not
10 more than 90 days after the date of award;

11 (3) for which the applicant can demonstrate
12 that the grant will fund work that will employ fish-
13 ermen who have been negatively impacted by the
14 COVID–19 pandemic or pay a fisherman for the use
15 of a fishing vessel;

16 (4) for which the applicant can demonstrate
17 that any preliminary study or permit required before
18 the project can begin has been completed or can be
19 completed shortly after an award is made; or

20 (5) that includes communities that may not
21 have adequate resources including low income com-
22 munities, communities of color, Tribal communities,
23 Indigenous communities, and rural communities.

24 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
25 authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator

1 \$10,000,000,000 for fiscal year 2022 to carry out this sec-
2 tion, to remain available until expended.

3 (g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following defi-
4 nitions apply:

5 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
6 trator” means the Administrator of the National
7 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

8 (2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible enti-
9 ty” means a nonprofit, a for-profit business, an in-
10 stitution of higher education, or a State, local, Trib-
11 al, or Territorial government.

12 (3) FISHERMEN.—The term “fishermen”
13 means commercial or for-hire fishermen or oyster
14 farmers.

