

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 1716
OFFERED BY MS. JOHNSON**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the “Coastal Communities
3 Ocean Acidification Act of 2019”.

**4 SEC. 2. COASTAL COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY ASSESS-
5 MENT.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 12406 of the Federal
7 Ocean Acidification Research And Monitoring Act of 2009
8 (33 U.S.C. 3705) is amended—

9 (1) by redesignating subsection (b) as sub-
10 section (d); and

11 (2) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-
12 lowing:

13 “(b) COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, through the
15 program established under subsection (a), shall con-
16 duct an ocean acidification coastal community vul-
17 nerability assessment, and issue a corresponding

1 public report, which shall be updated at least once
2 every 7 years.

3 “(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The assessment con-
4 ducted under paragraph (1) shall—

5 “(A) identify the United States coastal
6 communities, including island communities, low-
7 population rural communities, and subsistence
8 communities, that are most dependent on coast-
9 al and ocean resources that may be impacted by
10 ocean acidification;

11 “(B) assess the nature of the social and
12 economic vulnerabilities of those communities;

13 “(C) identify the ocean acidification im-
14 pacts that might harm those communities, in-
15 cluding impacts from changes in ocean and
16 coastal marine resources that are not managed
17 by the Federal Government;

18 “(D) identify key knowledge gaps where
19 research could be devoted to better understand
20 the possible impacts of ocean acidification on
21 those communities, the risks and threats facing
22 those communities, and possible adaptation
23 strategies for those communities; and

24 “(E) be conducted in collaboration with ex-
25 perts, indigenous knowledge groups, and stake-

1 holders who are familiar with the unique eco-
2 nomic, social, ecological, geographic, and re-
3 source concerns of coastal communities in the
4 United States, including representatives of—

5 “(i) the National Marine Fisheries
6 Service and the Office for Coastal Manage-
7 ment of the National Oceanic and Atmos-
8 pheric Administration;

9 “(ii) National Integrated Coastal and
10 Ocean Observation System regional infor-
11 mation coordination entities established
12 under section 12304(c)(4) of the Inte-
13 grated Coastal and Ocean Observation
14 System Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C.
15 3603(c)(4));

16 “(iii) regional ocean acidification net-
17 works; and

18 “(iv) State sea grant programs (as de-
19 fined in section 203 of the National Sea
20 Grant College Program Act (33 U.S.C.
21 1122)).

22 “(c) SUPPORT FOR STATE AND LOCAL VULNER-
23 ABILITY ASSESSMENTS AND STRATEGIC RESEARCH
24 PLANNING.—In carrying out the program established
25 under subsection (a), the Secretary shall collaborate with

1 State, local, and tribal government entities that are con-
2 ducting or have completed vulnerability assessments, stra-
3 tegic research planning, or other similar activities related
4 to ocean acidification and its impacts on coastal commu-
5 nities, for the purpose of—

6 “(1) determining whether such activities can be
7 used as a model for other communities; and

8 “(2) identifying opportunities for the National
9 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and other
10 relevant Federal agencies to support such activi-
11 ties.”.

12 (b) ONGOING INPUT MECHANISM.—Section
13 12404(b)(5) of the Federal Ocean Acidification Research
14 And Monitoring Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3703(b)(5)) is
15 amended—

16 (1) by striking “including information” and in-
17 serting the following: “including—

18 “(A) information”;

19 (2) by striking the period at the end and insert-
20 ing “; and”; and

21 (3) by adding at the end the following:

22 “(B) an ongoing mechanism that allows af-
23 fected industry members, coastal stakeholders,
24 non-Federal resource managers, community
25 acidification networks, indigenous knowledge

1 groups, and scientific experts not employed by
2 the Federal Government to provide input on re-
3 search, data, and monitoring that is necessary
4 to support on-the-ground management, deci-
5 sionmaking, and adaptation related to ocean
6 acidification and its impacts.”.

7 (c) STRATEGIC RESEARCH PLAN.—Section 12405 of
8 the Federal Ocean Acidification Research And Monitoring
9 Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3704) is amended—

10 (1) in subsection (b)—

11 (A) in paragraph (8), by striking “and”
12 after the semicolon;

13 (B) in paragraph (9), by striking the pe-
14 riod at the end and inserting “; and”; and

15 (C) by adding at the end the following:

16 “(10) make recommendations for research that
17 should be conducted, including in the social sciences
18 and economics, to address the key knowledge gaps
19 identified in the community vulnerability assessment
20 report conducted under section 12406(b).”; and

21 (2) in subsection (e), by inserting “, tribal gov-
22 ernments, indigenous knowledge groups,” after “in-
23 dustry”.

24 (d) REPORT ON SUPPORT FOR STATE AND LOCAL
25 VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENTS AND STRATEGIC RE-

1 SEARCH PLANNING.—Not later than 180 days after the
2 date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of
3 the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
4 shall submit to Congress a report on the efforts of the
5 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to sup-
6 port State, local, and tribal community vulnerability as-
7 sessments, strategic research and planning, and moni-
8 toring needs, pursuant to section 12406(c) of the Federal
9 Ocean Acidification Research And Monitoring Act of 2009
10 (as added by subsection (a) of this section).

