

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 223
OFFERED BY MR. GIBBS OF OHIO

Page 1, line 5, strike “2015” and insert “2016”.

Beginning on page 2, strike line 2 and all that follows through page 6, line 13, and insert the following:

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

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

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

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

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

1 “(iii) the protection and restoration of
2 nearshore health and the prevention and
3 mitigation of nonpoint source pollution;

4 “(iv) habitat and wildlife protection
5 and restoration, including wetlands res-
6 toration and preservation; and

7 “(v) accountability, monitoring, eval-
8 uation, communication, and partnership
9 activities.

10 “(C) PROJECTS.—

11 “(i) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out
12 the Initiative, the Administrator shall col-
13 laborate with other Federal partners, in-
14 cluding the Great Lakes Interagency Task
15 Force established by Executive Order
16 13340 (69 Fed. Reg. 29043), to select the
17 best combination of programs and projects
18 for Great Lakes protection and restoration
19 using appropriate principles and criteria,
20 including whether a program or project
21 provides—

22 “(I) the ability to achieve stra-
23 tegic and measurable environmental
24 outcomes that implement the Initia-

1 tive Action Plan and the Great Lakes
2 Water Quality Agreement;

3 “(II) the feasibility of—

4 “(aa) prompt implementa-
5 tion;

6 “(bb) timely achievement of
7 results; and

8 “(cc) resource leveraging;
9 and

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

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

22 “(iii) HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOM COOR-
23 DINATOR.—The Administrator shall des-
24 ignate a point person from an appropriate
25 Federal partner to coordinate, with Fed-

1 eral partners and Great Lakes States, In-
2 dian tribes, and other non-Federal stake-
3 holders, projects and activities under the
4 Initiative involving harmful algal blooms in
5 the Great Lakes.”;

6 (2) in subparagraph (D)—

7 (A) by striking clause (i) and inserting the
8 following:

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

13 “(I) Federal projects;

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

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

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

1 (C) by inserting after clause (ii) the fol-
2 lowing:

3 “(iii) AGREEMENTS WITH NON-FED-
4 ERAL ENTITIES.—

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

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

1 (3) by striking subparagraphs (E) through (G)
2 and inserting the following:

3 “(E) SCOPE.—

4 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Projects may be
5 carried out under the Initiative on multiple
6 levels, including—

7 “(I) locally;

8 “(II) Great Lakes-wide; or

9 “(III) Great Lakes basin-wide.

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

17 “(I) from a State water pollution
18 control revolving fund established
19 under title VI;

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

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

4 “(F) ACTIVITIES BY OTHER FEDERAL
5 AGENCIES.—Each relevant Federal department
6 or agency shall, to the maximum extent prac-
7 ticable—

8 “(i) maintain the base level of funding
9 for the Great Lakes activities of that de-
10 partment or agency without regard to
11 funding under the Initiative; and

12 “(ii) identify new activities and
13 projects to support the environmental goals
14 of the Initiative.

15 “(G) REVISION OF INITIATIVE ACTION
16 PLAN.—

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

1 “(ii) OUTREACH.—In reviewing and
2 revising the Initiative Action Plan under
3 clause (i), the Administrator shall consult
4 with the Great Lakes States and Indian
5 tribes and solicit input from other non-
6 Federal stakeholders.

7 “(H) MONITORING AND REPORTING.—The
8 Administrator shall—

9 “(i) establish and maintain a process
10 for monitoring and periodically reporting
11 to the public on the progress made in im-
12 plementing the Initiative Action Plan;

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

16 “(iii) provide to the House Committee
17 on Transportation and Infrastructure and
18 the Senate Committee on Environment and
19 Public Works a yearly detailed description
20 of the progress of the Initiative and
21 amounts transferred to participating Fed-
22 eral departments and agencies under sub-
23 paragraph (D)(ii).

24 “(I) INITIATIVE ACTION PLAN DEFINED.—

25 In this paragraph, the term ‘Initiative Action

1 Plan’ means the comprehensive, multi-year ac-
2 tion plan for the restoration of the Great
3 Lakes, first developed pursuant to the Joint
4 Explanatory Statement of the Conference Re-
5 port accompanying the Department of the Inte-
6 rior, Environment, and Related Agencies Ap-
7 propriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111–88).

8 “(J) FUNDING.—

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

13 “(ii) LIMITATION.—Nothing in this
14 paragraph creates, expands, or amends the
15 authority of the Administrator to imple-
16 ment programs or projects under—

17 “(I) this section;

18 “(II) the Initiative Action Plan;

19 or

20 “(III) the Great Lakes Water
21 Quality Agreement.”.

