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MDM17584

S.L.C.

AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: To establish a Center of Expertise for Great Lakes Oil Spill Preparedness and Response.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—115th Cong., 1st Sess.

S. _____

To authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by Mr. PETERS

Viz:

- 1 At the end of title V, add the following:
- 2 **SEC. 512. CENTER OF EXPERTISE FOR GREAT LAKES OIL**
- 3 **SPILL RESEARCH AND RESPONSE.**
- 4 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 1 year after the
- 5 date of the enactment of this Act, the Commandant of
- 6 the Coast Guard shall establish a Center of Expertise for
- 7 Great Lakes Oil Spill Preparedness and Response (re-
- 8 ferred to in this section as the “Center of Expertise”) in
- 9 accordance with section 58 of title 14, United States Code.
- 10 (b) **LOCATION.**—The Center of Expertise shall be lo-
- 11 cated in close proximity to—

1 (1) critical crude oil transportation infrastruc-
2 ture on and connecting the Great Lakes, such as
3 submerged pipelines and high-traffic navigation
4 locks; and

5 (2) an institution of higher education with ade-
6 quate aquatic research laboratory facilities and capa-
7 bilities and expertise in Great Lakes aquatic ecology,
8 environmental chemistry, fish and wildlife, and water
9 resources.

10 (c) FUNCTIONS.—The Center of Expertise shall—

11 (1) monitor and assess, on an ongoing basis,
12 the current state of knowledge regarding freshwater
13 oil spill response technologies and the behavior and
14 effects of oil spills in the Great Lakes;

15 (2) identify any significant gaps in Great Lakes
16 oil spill research, including an assessment of major
17 scientific or technological deficiencies in responses to
18 past spills in the Great Lakes and other freshwater
19 bodies, and seek to fill those gaps;

20 (3) conduct research, development, testing, and
21 evaluation for freshwater oil spill response equip-
22 ment, technologies, and techniques to mitigate and
23 respond to oil spills in the Great Lakes;

1 (4) educate and train Federal, State, and local
2 first responders located in United States Coast
3 Guard District 9 in—

4 (A) the incident command system struc-
5 ture;

6 (B) Great Lakes oil spill response tech-
7 niques and strategies; and

8 (C) public affairs;

9 (5) work with academic and private sector re-
10 sponse training centers to develop and standardize
11 maritime oil spill response training and techniques
12 for use on the Great Lakes.

13 (d) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “Great
14 Lakes” means Lake Superior, Lake Michigan, Lake
15 Huron, Lake Erie, and Lake Ontario.