

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 876

Commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, commonly known as the “Coastal Zone Management Act”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 21, 2022

Mr. MARKEY submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, commonly known as the “Coastal Zone Management Act”.

Whereas the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1451 et seq.) (commonly known, and referred to in this preamble, as the “Coastal Zone Management Act”) has empowered the coastal States and territories of the United States to effectively manage the coasts of those States and territories by balancing often competing demands, including population growth, development, industry, energy siting, public access, recreation, tourism, protection, and conservation;

Whereas the Coastal Zone Management Act establishes an effective State-Federal cooperative structure through which States and territories lead implementation and the Na-

tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration provides funding and technical support;

Whereas 34 States and territories have established coastal zone management programs to implement the Coastal Zone Management Act;

Whereas 30 National Estuarine Research Reserves have been established for the purpose of protecting and studying estuarine systems and educating the public about the important and unique role of those systems;

Whereas the State and territory coastal zone management programs and the Estuarine Research Reserves have successfully managed the coasts of the United States by—

(1) providing critical research on coastal and estuarine environments to inform decision making;

(2) monitoring changes in water quality and weather processes;

(3) ensuring that development in coastal areas is wise;

(4) serving as living laboratories that provide solution-oriented collaborative science;

(5) protecting and enhancing public access to coastal areas;

(6) protecting, restoring, and enhancing critical coastal habitats;

(7) educating the public about the importance of coastal and estuarine areas;

(8) collaborating with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to educate and train the next generation of coastal and estuarine managers through programs including—

(A) the Margaret A. Davidson Graduate Research Fellowship;

- (B) the Coastal Management Fellowship; and
- (C) the Digital Coast Fellowship;
- (9) training and educating local decision makers;
- and
- (10) leading planning and projects to ensure the resiliency of coastal communities; and

Whereas the Coastal Zone Management Act has proven to be a robust framework that empowers States and territories to meaningfully shape the future of the coasts of those States and territories while providing flexibility to adapt to emerging challenges: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) commemorates the 50th anniversary of the
3 enactment of the Coastal Zone Management Act of
4 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1451 et seq.);

5 (2) applauds the significant achievements in
6 balancing competing demands for development, ben-
7 eficial use, and protection and conservation of the
8 coastal zone of the United States through implemen-
9 tation of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972;

10 (3) commends the National Oceanic and Atmos-
11 pheric Administration and the coastal States, terri-
12 tories, and Estuarine Research Reserves of the
13 United States for their collaborative efforts and
14 commitment to the effective management of the
15 coasts of the United States for present and future
16 generations;

1 (4) recognizes the critical role of the Coastal
2 Zone Management Act of 1972 in addressing cur-
3 rent and emerging coastal issues; and

4 (5) recognizes that, while the Coastal Zone
5 Management Act of 1972 affords flexibility in imple-
6 mentation, modernization could provide increased
7 authority to—

8 (A) ensure equitable benefits from coastal
9 management;

10 (B) expand access to coastal management
11 tools for Tribal communities in a manner that
12 values Indigenous knowledge; and

13 (C) use land acquisition and stewardship,
14 along with new tools and strategies, to address
15 coastal community resilience.

○