

Interior - Republican en bloc

In the bill:

At the end of the bill, before the Spending Reduction Account, insert the following:

“VEHICLE RESERVATION SYSTEM AT GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

Sec. ___. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for the operation or implementation of the vehicle reservation system at Glacier National Park.”

“PROHIBITION ON FUNDING FOR SECRETARIAL ORDER NO. 3410

Sec. ___. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the Secretary of the Interior to implement or execute Secretarial Order No. 3410 (regarding Restoration of American Bison and the Prairie Grasslands) or any appendix to that Order, dated March 3, 2023.”

“LIMITATION

Sec. ___. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to finalize, implement, or enforce the proposed rule titled “National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Coal- and Oil-Fired Electric Utility Steam Generating Units Review of the Residual Risk and Technology Review” and published April 24, 2023 (88 Fed. Reg. 24854).”

“LEAD AMMUNITION AND TACKLE

Sec. ___. (a) None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to prohibit the use of lead ammunition or tackle on Federal land or water that is made available for hunting or fishing activities or to issue regulations relating to the level of lead in ammunition or tackle to be used on Federal land or water, unless—

(1) the Secretary of the Interior determines that a decline in wildlife population on the specific unit of Federal land or water is primarily caused by the use of lead in ammunition or tackle, based on field data from the specific unit of Federal land or water; and

(2) the prohibition or regulation, as applicable, is—

(A) consistent with—

(i) the law of the State in which the specific unit of Federal land or water is located; or

(ii) an applicable policy of the fish and wildlife department of the State in which the specific unit of Federal land or water is located; or

(B) approved by the fish and wildlife department of the State in which the specific unit of Federal land or water is located.

(b) In any case in which the Secretary of the Interior determines under subsection (a) that there is a wildlife population decline on a specific unit of Federal land or water that warrants a prohibition on or regulation relating to the level of lead in ammunition or tackle, the Secretary shall include in a Federal Register notice an explanation of how the prohibition or regulation, as applicable, meets the requirements of this section.”

“LIMITATION

Sec. __. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to finalize, implement, administer, or enforce the proposed rule titled “New Source Performance Standards for Greenhouse Gas Emissions From New, Modified, and Reconstructed Fossil Fuel-Fired Electric Generating Units; Emission Guidelines for Greenhouse Gas Emissions From Existing Fossil Fuel-Fired Electric Generating Units; and Repeal of the Affordable Clean Energy Rule” published by the Environmental Protection Agency in the Federal Register on May 23, 2023 (88 Fed. Reg. 33240).”

“LIMITATION

Sec. __. (a) In general.—Notwithstanding section 7 of title 1, United States Code, section 1738C of title 28, United States Code, or any other provision of law, none of the funds provided by this Act, or previous appropriations Acts, shall be used in whole or in part to take any discriminatory action against a person, wholly or partially, on the basis that such person speaks, or acts, in accordance with a sincerely held religious belief, or moral conviction, that marriage is, or should be recognized as, a union of one man and one woman.

(b) Discriminatory action defined.—As used in subsection (a), a discriminatory action means any action taken by the Federal Government to—

(1) alter in any way the Federal tax treatment of, or cause any tax, penalty, or payment to be assessed against, or deny, delay, or revoke an exemption from taxation under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 of, any person referred to in subsection (a);

(2) disallow a deduction for Federal tax purposes of any charitable contribution made to or by such person;

(3) withhold, reduce the amount or funding for, exclude, terminate, or otherwise make unavailable or deny, any Federal grant, contract, subcontract, cooperative agreement, guarantee, loan, scholarship, license, certification, accreditation, employment, or other similar position or status from or to such person;

(4) withhold, reduce, exclude, terminate, or otherwise make unavailable or deny, any entitlement or benefit under a Federal benefit program, including admission to, equal treatment in, or eligibility for a degree from an educational program, from or to such person; or

(5) withhold, reduce, exclude, terminate, or otherwise make unavailable or deny access or an entitlement to Federal property, facilities, educational institutions, speech fora (including traditional, limited, and nonpublic fora), or charitable fundraising campaigns from or to such person.

(c) Accreditation; Licensure; Certification.—The Federal Government shall consider accredited, licensed, or certified for purposes of Federal law any person that would be accredited, licensed, or certified, respectively, for such purposes but for a determination against such person wholly or partially on the basis that the person speaks, or acts, in accordance with a sincerely held religious belief or moral conviction described in subsection (a).”

“LIMITATION

Sec. __. None of the amounts appropriated or otherwise made available to the Smithsonian Institution by this Act may be made available for partnerships or activities associated with the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices, including any use of facilities by the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices.

“LIMITATION

Sec. __. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to finalize, implement, administer, or enforce the proposed rule titled “National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Ethylene Oxide Emissions Standards for Sterilization Facilities Residual Risk and Technology Review” published by the Environmental Protection Agency in the Federal Register on April 13, 2023 (88 Fed. Reg. 22790) or the proposed interim registration review decision and draft risk assessment addendum for ethylene oxide described in the notice titled “Pesticide Registration Review; Proposed Interim Decision and Draft Risk Assessment Addendum for Ethylene Oxide; Notice of Availability” published by the Environmental Protection Agency in the Federal Register on April 13, 2023 (88 Fed. Reg. 22447) unless the Commissioner of Food and Drugs certifies that finalization, implementation, administration, or enforcement of such rule, decision, or addendum for ethylene oxide will not adversely impact the availability of sterile medical products in the United States.”

“LIMITATION

Sec. ___. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to implement a final rule listing the Dunes Sagebrush Lizard as endangered or threatened pursuant to “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Species Status for the Dunes Sagebrush Lizard” (88 Fed. Reg. 42661 (July 3, 2023)).”

“LIMITATION

Sec. ___. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to finalize, implement, administer, or enforce the decisions proposed in the notice titled “Pesticide Registration Review; Proposed Interim Decisions for the Rodenticides; Notice of Availability” published by the Environmental Protection Agency in the Federal Register on November 29, 2022 (87 Fed. Reg. 73297).”

“LIMITATION

Sec. ___. None of the funds made available by this Act may be made available to finalize, implement, administer, or enforce the proposed rule titled “Multi-Pollutant Emissions Standards for Model Years 2027 and Later Light-Duty and Medium-Duty Vehicles” and published May 5, 2023 (88 Fed. Reg. 29184), or any substantially similar rule.”

“LIMITATION

Sec. ___. None of the funds made available by this Act may be made available to finalize, implement, administer, or enforce the proposed rule titled “Greenhouse Gas Emissions Standards for Heavy-Duty Vehicles-Phase 3” and published April 27, 2023 (88 Fed. Reg. 25926), or any substantially similar rule.”

In the report:

On page 10 of the report, before the paragraph titled “Onshore and Offshore Leasing and Permitting Transparency”, insert the following new paragraph:

“*Offshore Lease Sales.*—The bill includes language requiring the Secretary of the Interior to issue the 5-year oil and gas leasing program for 2023-2028 and to conduct lease sales in Central Gulf of Mexico Planning Area, Western Gulf of Mexico Planning Area, and in the Alaska region. The Committee is aware of strong support for the terms and conditions in lease sale 257 and concerns with the terms and conditions in lease sale 259, and strongly encourages the Secretary to maximize the acreage offered, and to avoid unnecessary costs, stipulations, or conditions, in future lease sales.”

On page 15 of the report, after the paragraph on “Hulen Meadows Pond”, insert the following new paragraph:

“Land Use Permits.—The Committee expects organizers of largely attended events on Bureau lands to foster collaborative relations with the local government(s) of jurisdiction and provide documentation of such outreach. Additionally, the Committee supports the Bureau in its role as steward of America’s public lands to periodically audit widely attended events requiring a Special Recreation Permit.”

On page 16 of the report, after the paragraph on “Sage Grouse Plan Amendments”, insert the following new paragraph:

“Surface Disturbance.—Within 90 days of enactment of this Act, the Bureau shall issue updated guidance to field offices concerning notices for mineral exploration submitted under 43 C.F.R. 3809.21 clarifying that for purposes of that section, complete reclamation includes all lands regraded, reshaped or recontoured and reseeded in accordance with the applicable reclamation plan.”

On page 19 of the report, strike “programs such as the Wildlife Conservation Initiative will” and insert “partnerships and utilization of conservation assistance tools”.

On page 27 of the report, before the paragraph titled “Automated License Plate Readers”, insert the following new paragraph:

“Assateague Island National Seashore.—The Committee is frustrated by the lack of response from the Service on Congressional inquiries regarding the Service’s authority to regulate certain areas of the Assateague Island National Seashore, specifically as it relates to the jurisdictional authority of the dry land located between the mean high tide line and the water line. The Service is directed to brief the Committee within 60 days of enactment of this Act on this authority as well as any applicable regulations, permits, or limits on uses of various types of vehicles.”

On page 28 of the report, strike the paragraph entitled “Glacier National Park” and insert the following new paragraph:

“Glacier National Park.—The bill includes language prohibiting funding for the vehicle reservation system at Glacier National Park. The Committee directs the Service to consider alternative approaches to visitor management that prioritize increasing public access. The Service should consider the impact on, and opportunities for, local residents and communities when evaluating these approaches. The Committee directs the Service to brief the Committee within 90 days of enactment of this Act on its plan for alternative approaches, along with ongoing updates.”

On page 39 of the report, after the paragraph titled “Soil Sorting”, insert the following new paragraph:

“Timely Review of Amendments.—Mine plans and mine plan modifications for operations on federal coal leases are subject to review under the National Environmental Policy Act. While these reviews should consist of expedient analysis, the Committee is aware of

multiple instances of OSMRE failing to process mine plan amendments in a timely manner, resulting in years of delay in some cases. This has left affected coal mines unable to expand operations on current leases for which they have already paid bonus bid payments and continue to pay royalties. Within 60 days of enactment of this Act, the Committee directs OSMRE to report on the status of each mine plan modification currently pending with the Department, and to subsequently report on the status of such mine plan modifications to the Appropriations Committee and relevant House and Senate Committees of jurisdiction annually until such time as the mine plan modifications are fully processed.

Further, the Committee understands that there over forty amendments from twenty-eight state programs currently pending before OSMRE, some of which have been pending since 2009. Within 60 days on enactment of this Act, the Committee directs OSMRE to provide a report that lists all amendments pending approval before OSMRE, including amendments that have been disapproved and are waiting revisions from States. The report shall include the timeline of receiving each amendment, any agency actions that have been taken on each amendment, and the projected timeline for making a final decision on each amendment.”

On page 60 of the report, before the paragraph titled “Environmental Protection: National Priorities”, insert the following new paragraph:

“However, the Committee is discouraged by the Agency’s May 18, 2023, proposal to sunset the certification of certain products as part of the Energy STAR program and the impact of the proposal on the ability of consumers to access accurate information about the energy use and emissions of appliances and products. The Committee directs the Agency to not eliminate products or appliances from the Energy STAR program solely based on fuel type and to provide a briefing within 60 days of enactment of this Act on its analyses related to emissions reductions and costs to consumers of the proposal.”

On page 63 of the report, after the paragraph titled “Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)”, insert the following new paragraph:

“Additionally, the Committee remains concerned about the Agency’s implementation of the “Hazardous and Solid Waste Management System: Disposal of Coal Combustion Residuals From Electric Utilities; A Holistic Approach to Closure Part A: Deadline To Initiate Closure” published in the Federal Register on August 28, 2020 (85 Fed. Reg. 53516) and the “Hazardous and Solid Waste Management System: Disposal of CCR; A Holistic Approach to Closure Part B: Alternate Demonstration for Unlined Surface Impoundments” published in the Federal Register on November 12, 2020 (85 Fed. Reg. 72506), specifically the Agency’s denials and limited conditional approvals of requests for extensions or alternative. The Committee is particularly concerned about the impact of the Agency’s implementation of these rules on the reliability of the electric grid. The Committee directs the Agency to provide a report within 90 days of enactment of this Act on the process used to evaluate applications, the reasons for failing to grant full approval of applications, and an assessment of the Agency’s actions on the reliability of the electric grid.”

On page 63 of the report, at the end of the third paragraph under the heading “Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)” after “materials”, insert “, and report back to the Committee on these expanded efforts within 90 days of enactment of this Act”.

On page 81 of the report, before the paragraph titled “Pat Harrison Waterway District”, insert the following new paragraph:

Law Enforcement Officers (LEOs) Radio Upgrades.— The Committee is concerned about troubling reports that Forest Service LEOs in the southeast region do not have adequate communication access in remote areas due to outdated radio equipment. The Committee directs the Forest Service to work with region representatives to assess each region’s need for upgraded radio systems for LEOs, including but not limited to 2-way dispatch radio communications. The Committee directs the Forest Service to update the Committee, no later than 120 days after enactment of this Act, on the information received from the regions regarding equipping officers with adequate radio equipment.