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(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend the Water Resources Development Act of 2018 to require projects in the Caloosahatchee River watershed, the St. Lucie River and estuary basin, and the Lake Okeechobee watershed that mitigate harmful algal blooms and nutrient pollution by removing algae and converting the algae biomass into biofuel, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. DONALDS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend the Water Resources Development Act of 2018 to require projects in the Caloosahatchee River watershed, the St. Lucie River and estuary basin, and the Lake Okeechobee watershed that mitigate harmful algal blooms and nutrient pollution by removing algae and converting the algae biomass into biofuel, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Convert Harmful Algal
3 Blooms to Fuel Act” or the “Convert HABs to Fuel Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOM TECHNOLOGY DEVELOP-**
5 **MENT.**

6 Section 1109 of the Water Resources Development
7 Act of 2018 (36 U.S.C. 610 note) is amended—

8 (1) in the section heading, by striking “**DEM-**
9 **ONSTRATION**” and inserting “**DEVELOPMENT**”;

10 (2) in subsection (a), by striking “a 5-year
11 harmful algal bloom technology development dem-
12 onstration program” and inserting “a harmful algal
13 bloom technology development program”;

14 (3) in subsection (b), by striking “demonstra-
15 tion”; and

16 (4) by adding at the end the following:

17 “(c) **SPECIFIC PROJECTS REQUIRED.**—

18 “(1) **PROJECTS.**—In carrying out the harmful
19 algal bloom technology development program under
20 this section, the Secretary shall carry out projects in
21 the Caloosahatchee River watershed, the St. Lucie
22 River and estuary basin, and the Lake Okeechobee
23 watershed (as such watershed is described by the
24 South Florida Water Management District for pur-
25 poses of the Lake Okeechobee Watershed Construc-
26 tion Project 2020 update) that utilize previously

1 demonstrated technologies that are capable of miti-
2 gating harmful algal blooms and nutrient pollution
3 by harvesting algae and converting the retrieved
4 algae biomass into renewable biofuel.

5 “(2) TECHNOLOGIES.—In carrying out projects
6 under this subsection, the Secretary shall utilize
7 technologies that have been previously demonstrated
8 as effective through research carried out under this
9 section.

10 “(3) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out projects
11 under this subsection, the Secretary shall consult
12 with relevant Federal, State, and local agencies, in-
13 stitutions of higher education, and private organiza-
14 tions, including nonprofit organizations.

15 “(4) SELECTION OF SPECIFIC LOCATIONS.—Not
16 later than 90 days after the date of enactment of
17 this subsection, the Secretary, in collaboration with
18 the entities described in paragraph (3), shall select
19 specific locations within the Caloosahatchee River
20 watershed, the St. Lucie River and estuary basin,
21 and the Lake Okeechobee watershed at which to
22 carry out projects under this subsection.

23 “(5) COORDINATION.—In carrying out projects
24 under this subsection, the Secretary shall coordinate
25 with the Secretary of Energy and the Administrator

1 of the Environmental Protection Agency on the use
2 of algae biomass derived from the projects that may
3 be combined with other wet waste material, such as
4 municipal biosolids, to support the scaling up of
5 biofuel projects and the renewable energy activities
6 of the Office of Energy, Efficiency, and Renewable
7 Energy of the Department of Energy.

8 “(6) COLLABORATION.—In carrying out
9 projects under this subsection, the Secretary shall
10 collaborate with relevant Federal, State, and local
11 agencies and private organizations to the maximum
12 extent practicable.

13 “(7) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the
14 date of enactment of this subsection, the Secretary
15 shall submit to the Committee on Transportation
16 and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives
17 and the Committee on Environment and Public
18 Works of the Senate a report containing the results
19 of the projects carried out under this subsection, in-
20 cluding—

21 “(A) a determination of whether it is fea-
22 sible to mitigate harmful algal blooms and con-
23 vert retrieved algae biomass and other wet
24 waste material into renewable clean energy

1 sources, such as biofuel and renewable natural
2 gas;

3 “(B) a description of any water quality im-
4 provements that occurred at the locations of the
5 projects over the period during which the
6 projects were carried out; and

7 “(C) any other information determined ap-
8 propriate by the Secretary.

9 “(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
10 is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary
11 \$25,000,000, to remain available until expended, to carry
12 out this subsection.”.