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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To require the Secretary of the Army to consult with stakeholders in determining the scope of contracts entered into for the purposes of maintenance dredging, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Army to consult with stakeholders in determining the scope of contracts entered into for the purposes of maintenance dredging, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Dredging Coordination
5 Improvement Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. MAINTENANCE DREDGING REQUIREMENTS.**

2 (a) CONSULTATION AND PRIORITIZATION.—In deter-
3 mining the scope and performance timeline to be included
4 in any contract entered into on or after the date of enact-
5 ment of this Act with an entity to carry out maintenance
6 dredging, the Secretary—

7 (1) shall—

8 (A) consult with stakeholders, including
9 the applicable non-Federal sponsor and other
10 relevant entities determined by the Secretary;
11 and

12 (B) the extent practicable, prioritize the
13 completion of maintenance dredging in waters
14 used for commercial and navigation activities,
15 maintenance dredging that is needed for emer-
16 gencies, maintenance dredging that is needed to
17 accommodate environmental windows (as de-
18 fined by the Secretary), and maintenance
19 dredging that supports other activities in which
20 there is an important national interest before
21 the completion of maintenance dredging in
22 waters used primarily for other activities, such
23 as recreation, or for purposes other than to fa-
24 cilitate commerce or navigation; and

25 (2) notwithstanding paragraph (1), may deter-
26 mine the scope and performance timeline to be in-

1 cluded in such contract without consultation with
2 stakeholders that are not a party to such contract,
3 if the Secretary determines that an emergency exists
4 or there is an important national interest at stake.

5 (b) COMMUNICATION.—Upon receiving information
6 about changes with respect to the performance of mainte-
7 nance dredging and determining that such changes are
8 reasonably likely to affect the period of performance of
9 a contract for such dredging, the Secretary shall notify
10 the applicable non-Federal sponsor of such changes not
11 later than the third business day after the date on which
12 the Secretary received such information.

13 (c) CAPABILITY NUMBERS.—With respect to any
14 maintenance dredging activity, the Secretary shall, upon
15 request, make the respective capability numbers for such
16 activities available to the non-Federal sponsor of such ac-
17 tivity.

18 (d) SECRETARY DEFINED.—In this section, the term
19 “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Army, acting
20 through the Chief of Engineers