



118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To require the Comptroller General to conduct a study to assess certain environmental review processes with regard to offshore wind projects, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To require the Comptroller General to conduct a study to assess certain environmental review processes with regard to offshore wind projects, 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. OFFSHORE WIND ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**
4 **PROCESS STUDY.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.— No later than 60 days after
6 the enactment of this bill, the Comptroller General
7 shall conduct a study to assess the sufficiency of the
8 environmental review processes for offshore wind projects
9 in place as of the date of the enactment of this section of

1 the national Marine Fisheries Service, the Bureau of
2 Ocean Energy Management, and any other relevant
3 Federal agency.

4 (b) CONTENTS.—The study required under sub-
5 section (a) shall include consideration of—

6 (1) the impacts of offshore wind projects on
7 whales, finfish, marine mammals, benthic resources,
8 commercial and recreational fishing, air quality and
9 greenhouse gas emissions, cultural, historical, and
10 archaeological resources, invertebrates, and essential
11 fish habitat, military use and navigation/vessel traffic;
12 recreation and tourism, and sustainability of
13 shoreline beaches and inlets;

14 (2) how the agencies determines which
15 stakeholders are consulted and if a timely,
16 comprehensive comment period is provided for local
17 representatives and interested parties; and

18 (3) the estimated cost and who pays for the
19 offshore wind projects.