

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To amend title 54, United States Code, to provide consistent and reliable authority for, and for the funding of, the Land and Water Conservation Fund to maximize the effectiveness of the Fund for future generations, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CASEY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. COONS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To amend title 54, United States Code, to provide consistent and reliable authority for, and for the funding of, the Land and Water Conservation Fund to maximize the effectiveness of the Fund for future generations, 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 “Land and Water Con-
5 servation Authorization and Funding Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PERMANENT AUTHORIZATION AND FULL FUNDING**
2 **OF THE LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION**
3 **FUND.**

4 (a) AUTHORIZATION.—Section 200302 of title 54,
5 United States Code, is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (b), in the matter preceding
7 paragraph (1), by striking “During the period end-
8 ing September 30, 2018, there” and inserting
9 “There”; and

10 (2) in subsection (c)(1), by striking “through
11 September 30, 2018”.

12 (b) FULL FUNDING.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 200303 of title 54,
14 United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

15 **“§ 200303. Availability of funds**

16 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Amounts deposited in the Fund
17 under section 200302 shall be made available for expendi-
18 ture, without further appropriation or fiscal year limita-
19 tion, to carry out the purposes of the Fund (including ac-
20 counts and programs made available from the Fund under
21 the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations
22 Act, 2015 (Public Law 113–235)).

23 “(b) ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS.—Amounts made avail-
24 able under subsection (a) shall be in addition to amounts
25 made available to the Fund under section 105 of the Gulf
26 of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 (43 U.S.C. 1331

1 note; Public Law 109–432) or otherwise appropriated
2 from the Fund.

3 “(c) ALLOCATION AUTHORITY.—

4 “(1) SUBMISSION OF COST ESTIMATES.—The
5 President shall submit to Congress detailed account,
6 program, and project allocations to be funded under
7 subsection (a) as part of the annual budget submis-
8 sion of the President.

9 “(2) ALTERNATE ALLOCATION.—

10 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Appropriations Acts
11 may provide for alternate allocation of amounts
12 made available under subsection (a), including
13 allocations by account and program.

14 “(B) ALLOCATION BY PRESIDENT.—

15 “(i) NO ALTERNATE ALLOCATIONS.—

16 If Congress has not enacted legislation es-
17 tablishing alternate allocations by the date
18 that is 120 days after the date on which
19 the applicable fiscal year begins, amounts
20 made available under subsection (a) shall
21 be allocated by the President.

22 “(ii) INSUFFICIENT ALTERNATE AL-
23 LOCATION.—If Congress enacts legislation
24 establishing alternate allocations for
25 amounts made available under subsection

1 (a) that are less than the full amount ap-
2 propriated under that subsection, the dif-
3 ference between the amount appropriated
4 and the alternate allocation shall be allo-
5 cated by the President.

6 “(3) ANNUAL REPORT.—The President shall
7 submit to Congress an annual report that describes
8 the final allocation by account, program, and project
9 of amounts made available under subsection (a), in-
10 cluding a description of the status of obligations and
11 expenditures.”.

12 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-
13 tions for chapter 2003 of title 54, United States
14 Code, is amended by striking the item relating to
15 section 200303 and inserting the following:

“200303. Availability of funds.”.

16 (c) PUBLIC ACCESS.—Section 200306 of title 54,
17 United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the
18 following:

19 “(c) PUBLIC ACCESS.—Not less than 1.5 percent of
20 the annual authorized funding amount shall be made
21 available each year for projects that secure recreational
22 public access to existing Federal public land for hunting,
23 fishing, or other recreational purposes.”.