

119TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION H.R. 3071

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to increase the civil and criminal penalties for oil spills, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

April 29, 2025

Mr. Lieu (for himself, Ms. Brownley, and Ms. Barragán) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to increase the civil and criminal penalties for oil spills, 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 "Increasing Penalties
- 5 for Offshore Polluters Act".

1	SEC. 2. CIVIL AND CRIMINAL PENALTIES RELATING TO OIL
2	SPILLS.
3	(a) Civil Penalties.—Section 311(b)(7) of the
4	Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C.
5	1321(b)(7)) is amended—
6	(1) in subparagraph (A) by striking "an
7	amount up to" each place it appears and inserting
8	"an amount that is at least"; and
9	(2) in subparagraph (D) by striking "not more
10	than" and inserting "at least".
11	(b) Criminal Penalties.—Section 309(c) of the
12	Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1319(c))
13	is amended—
14	(1) in paragraph (1)—
15	(A) by striking "\$2,500" and inserting
16	"\$5,000";
17	(B) by striking "\$25,000" and inserting
18	"\$50,000";
19	(C) by striking "not more than 1 year"
20	and inserting "not more than 2 years"; and
21	(D) by striking "punishment shall be by a
22	fine of not more than \$50,000 per day of viola-
23	tion, or by imprisonment of not more than 2
24	years, or by both" and inserting "the maximum
25	punishment shall be doubled with respect to
26	both fine and imprisonment":

1	(2) in paragraph (2)—
2	(A) by striking "not less that \$5,000" and
3	inserting "not less than \$10,000";
4	(B) by striking "\$50,000" and inserting
5	"\$100,000";
6	(C) by striking "not more than 3 years"
7	and inserting "not more than 6 years"; and
8	(D) by striking "punishment shall be by a
9	fine of not more than \$100,000 per day of vio-
10	lation, or imprisonment of not more than 6
11	years, or by both" and inserting "the maximum
12	punishment shall be doubled with respect to
13	both fine and imprisonment"; and
14	(3) in paragraph (3)(A)—
15	(A) by striking "\$250,000" and inserting
16	"\$500,000";
17	(B) by striking "not more than 15 years"
18	and inserting "not more than 30 years"; and
19	(C) by striking "\$1,000,000" and inserting
20	"\$2.000.000".

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