

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To amend title 54, United States Code, to require State approval before the Secretary of the Interior restricts access to waters under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service for recreational or commercial fishing.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Mr. RUBIO) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend title 54, United States Code, to require State approval before the Secretary of the Interior restricts access to waters under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service for recreational or commercial fishing.

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 “Preserving Public Ac-
5 cess to Public Waters Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. REQUIREMENT OF STATE APPROVAL OF RESTRIC-**
2 **TION OF RECREATIONAL OR COMMERCIAL**
3 **FISHING ACCESS TO CERTAIN STATE OR TER-**
4 **RITORIAL WATERS UNDER THE JURISDIC-**
5 **TION OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 1049 of title 54, United
7 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
8 lowing:

9 **“§ 104908. Requirement of State approval of restric-**
10 **tion of recreational or commercial fishing**
11 **access to certain State or territorial**
12 **waters under the jurisdiction of the Serv-**
13 **ice**

14 “(a) DEFINITION OF MARINE WATERS.—In this sec-
15 tion, the term ‘marine waters’ includes coastal waters and
16 estuaries.

17 “(b) APPROVAL REQUIRED.—The Secretary shall not
18 restrict recreational or commercial fishing access to any
19 State or territorial marine waters or Great Lakes waters
20 under the jurisdiction of the Service unless the restrictions
21 are developed in coordination with, and approved by, the
22 fish and wildlife management agency of the State or terri-
23 tory that has fisheries management authority over the ma-
24 rine waters.”.

25 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
26 ter 1049 of title 54, United States Code, is amended by

1 inserting after the item relating to section 104907 the fol-

2 lowing:

“104908. Requirement of State approval of restriction of recreational or commercial fishing access to certain State or territorial waters under the jurisdiction of the Service.”.