

112TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1829

To provide for the eradication and control of nutria.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 11, 2011

Mr. BOUSTANY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To provide for the eradication and control of nutria.

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 “Nutria Eradication  
5 and Control Act of 2011”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS; PURPOSE.**

7 Section 2 of the Nutria Eradication and Control Act  
8 of 2003 (Public Law 108–16; 117 Stat. 621) is amend-  
9 ed—

10 (1) in subsection (a)—

1 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “and in  
2 Louisiana” and inserting “, the State of Lou-  
3 isiana, and other coastal States”;

4 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “in  
5 Maryland and Louisiana on Federal, State, and  
6 private land” and inserting “on Federal, State,  
7 and private land in the States of Maryland and  
8 Louisiana and in other coastal States”; and

9 (C) by striking paragraphs (3) and (4) and  
10 inserting the following:

11 “(3) This Act authorizes the Maryland Nutria  
12 Project, which has successfully eradicated nutria  
13 from more than 130,000 acres of Chesapeake Bay  
14 wetlands in the State of Maryland and facilitated  
15 the creation of voluntary, public-private partnerships  
16 and more than 406 cooperative landowner agree-  
17 ments.

18 “(4) This Act and the Coastal Wetlands Plan-  
19 ning, Protection, and Restoration Act (16 U.S.C.  
20 3951 et seq.) authorize the Coastwide Nutria Con-  
21 trol Program, which has reduced nutria-impacted  
22 wetland acres in the State of Louisiana from 80,000  
23 acres to 23,141 acres.

24 “(5) The proven techniques developed under  
25 this Act that are eradicating nutria in the State of

1 Maryland and reducing the acres of nutria-impacted  
2 wetlands in the State of Louisiana should be applied  
3 to nutria eradication or control programs in other  
4 nutria-infested coastal States”; and

5 (2) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the  
6 following:

7 “(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to au-  
8 thorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide financial  
9 assistance to the States of Delaware, Louisiana, Mary-  
10 land, North Carolina, Oregon, Virginia, and Washington  
11 to carry out activities—

12 “(1) to eradicate or control nutria; and

13 “(2) to restore nutria damaged wetlands.”.

14 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

15 The Nutria Eradication and Control Act of 2003  
16 (Public Law 108–16; 117 Stat. 621) is amended—

17 (1) by redesignating sections 3 and 4 as sec-  
18 tions 4 and 5, respectively; and

19 (2) by inserting after section 2 the following:

20 **“SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

21 “In this Act:

22 “(1) COASTAL STATE.—The term ‘coastal  
23 State’ means each of the States of Delaware, Or-  
24 egon, North Carolina, Virginia, and Washington.

1           “(2) PROGRAM.—The term ‘program’ means  
2           the nutria eradication program established by sec-  
3           tion 4(a).

4           “(3) PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP.—The  
5           term ‘public-private partnership’ means a voluntary,  
6           cooperative project undertaken by governmental en-  
7           tities or public officials and affected communities,  
8           local citizens, nongovernmental organizations, or  
9           other entities or persons in the private sector.

10           “(4) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’ means  
11           the Secretary of the Interior.”.

12 **SEC. 4. NUTRIA ERADICATION PROGRAM.**

13           Section 4 of the Nutria Eradication and Control Act  
14 of 2003 (Public Law 108–16; 117 Stat. 621) (as redesign-  
15 nated by section 3) is amended—

16           (1) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the  
17           following:

18           “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may, subject to  
19 the availability of appropriations, provide financial assist-  
20 ance to the States of Maryland and Louisiana and the  
21 coastal States to implement measures—

22           “(1) to eradicate or control nutria; and

23           “(2) to restore wetlands damaged by nutria.”;

24           (2) in subsection (b)—

1 (A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “the  
2 State of” before “Maryland”;

3 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “other  
4 States” and inserting “the coastal States”; and

5 (C) in paragraph (3), by striking “marsh-  
6 land” and inserting “wetlands”;

7 (3) in subsection (c)—

8 (A) by striking “(c) ACTIVITIES” and in-  
9 serting “(c) ACTIVITIES IN THE STATE OF  
10 MARYLAND”; and

11 (B) by inserting “, and updated in March  
12 2009” before the period at the end;

13 (4) in subsection (e), by striking “financial as-  
14 sistance provided by the Secretary under this sec-  
15 tion” and inserting “the amounts made available  
16 under subsection (f) to carry out the program”; and

17 (5) by striking subsection (f) and inserting the  
18 following:

19 “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Subject  
20 to subsection (e), for each of fiscal years 2012 through  
21 2016, there are authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-  
22 retary to carry out the program such sums as are nec-  
23 essary.”.

1 **SEC. 5. REPORT.**

2 Section 5 of the Nutria Eradication and Control Act  
3 of 2003 (Public Law 108–16; 117 Stat. 621) (as redesignig-  
4 nated by section 3) is amended—

5 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “2002 docu-  
6 ment entitled ‘Eradication Strategies for Nutria in  
7 the Chesapeake and Delaware Bay Watersheds’;  
8 and” and inserting “March 2009 update of the docu-  
9 ment entitled ‘Eradication Strategies for Nutria in  
10 the Chesapeake and Delaware Bay Watersheds’ and  
11 originally dated March 2002;”;

12 (2) in paragraph (2)—

13 (A) by striking “develop” and inserting  
14 “continue”; and

15 (B) by striking the period at the end and  
16 inserting “; and”; and

17 (3) by adding after paragraph (2) the following:

18 “(3) develop, in cooperation with the State of  
19 Delaware Department of Natural Resources and En-  
20 vironmental Control, the State of Virginia Depart-  
21 ment of Game and Inland Fisheries, the State of Or-  
22 egon Department of Fish and Wildlife, the State of  
23 North Carolina Department of Environment and  
24 Natural Resources, and the State of Washington De-  
25 partment of Fish and Wildlife, long-term nutria con-

1 trol or eradication programs, as appropriate, with  
2 the objective of—

3 “(A) significantly reducing and restoring  
4 the damage nutria cause to coastal wetlands in  
5 the coastal States; and

6 “(B) promoting voluntary, public-private  
7 partnerships to eradicate or control nutria and  
8 restoring nutria-damaged wetlands in the coast-  
9 al States.”.

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