

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To establish a microplastics pilot program, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. COONS, and Ms. DUCKWORTH) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To establish a microplastics pilot program, 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 “Making Investments
5 in Curbing the Ruinous Output of Plastics Act of 2020”
6 or the “MICRO Plastics Act of 2020”.

7 **SEC. 2. MICROPLASTICS PILOT PROGRAM.**

8 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator of the En-
9 vironmental Protection Agency (referred to in this section
10 as the “Administrator”) shall establish a pilot program

1 (referred to in this section as the “pilot program”) to test
2 the efficacy and cost effectiveness of tools, technologies,
3 and techniques—

4 (1) to remove microplastics from the environ-
5 ment; and

6 (2) to prevent the release of microplastics into
7 the environment.

8 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out the pilot pro-
9 gram, the Administrator shall include the testing of—

10 (1) natural infrastructure;

11 (2) green infrastructure (as defined in section
12 502 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33
13 U.S.C. 1362)); and

14 (3) mechanical removal systems (such as
15 pumps) and filtration technologies.

16 (c) ELIGIBLE PILOT PROGRAM LOCATIONS.—In car-
17 rying out the pilot program, the Administrator may carry
18 out projects located in—

19 (1) stormwater systems;

20 (2) wastewater treatment facilities;

21 (3) drinking water systems; and

22 (4) ports, harbors, inland waterways, estuaries,
23 and marine environments.

1 (d) OUTREACH.—In determining selection criteria
2 and projects to carry out under the pilot program, the Ad-
3 ministrator shall conduct outreach to—

4 (1) the Interagency Marine Debris Coordinating
5 Committee established under section 5(a) of the Ma-
6 rine Debris Act (33 U.S.C. 1954(a)); and

7 (2) stakeholders and experts in the applicable
8 field, as determined by the Administrator.

9 (e) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date
10 of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit
11 to Congress a report describing the outreach conducted
12 under subsection (d).

13 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
14 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are nec-
15 essary to carry out this section.