

Reinvesting in Shoreline Economies and Ecosystems (RISEE) Act

(S. 373 / H.R. 913)

The Reinvesting in Shoreline Economies and Ecosystems (RISEE) Act, introduced in the 118th Congress by Senators Whitehouse (D-RI) and Cassidy (R-LA) and Representatives Fletcher (D-TX) and Weber (R-TX), would develop dedicated funding streams for coastal infrastructure and resilience efforts to safeguard vulnerable communities and businesses most threatened by sea level rise and coastal erosion. This bipartisan legislation would establish a new revenue sharing model between the federal government and coastal and Great Lakes states for federal offshore wind money generated beyond six nautical miles from a state's coastline. It also amends the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (GOMESA) to remove the revenue cap states receive from money generated by Gulf energy production. These efforts will enable more equal resource sharing among states, the federal government and conservation initiatives. The bill also strengthens the National Oceans and Coastal Security Fund (NOCSF), which serves coastal and Great Lakes states, by dedicating a percentage of wind energy earnings to it and removing the cap on the state-side share of the Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and redirecting funding to NOCSF.

Under current law, all revenues earned from offshore wind leases and generation beyond state waters must be deposited in the United States Treasury. The RISEE Act directs 37.5% of offshore wind revenue to neighboring states where offshore wind farms are being established. This approach provides fiscal incentives for governments to promote successful siting procedures, balances the requirements of diverse ocean users and successfully helps turbines get up and running.

State funds can be used:

- For coastal restoration, hurricane protection or infrastructure;
- To mitigate damage to fish, wildlife, or other natural resources, including through fisheries science and research; and
- To implement a marine, coastal or conservation management plan

The bill amends GOMESA by:

- Eliminating the state revenue sharing cap, currently at \$375 million
- Lifting the Land & Water Conservation Fund's state side funding cap of \$125 million
- Protecting GOMESA revenues from sequestration

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