

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To require the Secretary of the Navy to notify Congress of pending action to strike from the Naval Vessel Register any naval vessel that is a viable candidate for artificial reefing, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. RUBIO introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Navy to notify Congress of pending action to strike from the Naval Vessel Register any naval vessel that is a viable candidate for artificial reefing, 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 “Re-using Equipment
5 for Environmental Fortification Act of 2023” or the
6 “REEF Act of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION OF PENDING AC-**
2 **TION TO STRIKE FROM THE NAVAL VESSEL**
3 **REGISTER NAVAL VESSELS THAT ARE VIABLE**
4 **CANDIDATES FOR ARTIFICIAL REEFING.**

5 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
6 gress that the Secretary of the Navy should explore and
7 solicit artificial reefing opportunities with appropriate en-
8 tities for any naval vessel planned for retirement before
9 initiating any plans to dispose of the vessel.

10 (b) NOTIFICATION.—Not later than 90 days before
11 the date on which a naval vessel that is a viable candidate
12 for artificial reefing is to be stricken from the Naval Vessel
13 Register, the Secretary of the Navy shall notify Congress
14 of such pending action.