

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5063

To ensure continuity of staffing at Federal beaches, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 29, 2025

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To ensure continuity of staffing at Federal beaches, 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 “Safe Beaches, Safe
5 Swimmers Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. ADEQUATE LIFEGUARD STAFFING AT FEDERAL**
7 **SWIMMING AREAS AND BEACHES.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary determines there
9 is a staffing shortage with respect to a designated swim
10 location, the Secretary shall seek to enter into an agree-
11 ment with one or more local government agencies to enable

1 lifeguards employed by those local government agencies
2 to—

3 (1) adequately staff such designated swim loca-
4 tion during normal seasonal operating hours; and

5 (2) ensure visitor safety and provide rescue and
6 first aid services at the designated swim location as
7 necessary.

8 (b) REIMBURSEMENT.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—In entering into an agree-
10 ment under subsection (a), the Secretary shall en-
11 sure that the local government agency providing the
12 lifeguard services is reimbursed for all reasonable
13 costs incurred by the local government agency in
14 carrying out the agreement.

15 (2) CURRENT AGREEMENTS.—If an agreement
16 has been entered into by the Secretary and a local
17 government agency for lifeguard services at a des-
18 ignated swim location on or before the date of the
19 enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall amend
20 such agreement as necessary to provide for the reim-
21 bursement of the local government agency for all
22 reasonable costs incurred by the local government
23 agency in carrying out the agreement, regardless of
24 the terms of the original agreement relating to cost
25 sharing.

1 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

2 (1) DESIGNATED SWIM LOCATION.—The term
3 “designated swim location” means a swimming area
4 or swimming beach—

5 (A) on lands and waters managed by the
6 National Park Service, the United States Fish
7 and Wildlife Service, the Bureau of Land Man-
8 agement, or the Bureau of Reclamation; and

9 (B) that is typically monitored by federally
10 employed lifeguards during normal seasonal op-
11 erating hours.

12 (2) STAFFING SHORTAGE.—

13 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “staffing
14 shortage” means a level of staffing that nega-
15 tively impacts the ability to adequately staff a
16 designated swim location with federally em-
17 ployed lifeguards and will likely result or has
18 resulted in a designated swim location being left
19 unmonitored by federally employed lifeguards
20 during normal seasonal operating hours.

21 (B) EXCLUSION.—The term “staffing
22 shortage” does not refer to short-term staffing
23 shortages caused by temporary absences, such
24 as an employee taking annual or sick leave.

1 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
2 the Secretary of the Interior.

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