118th Congress  
1st Session  

S. ______

To prohibit the issuance of an interim or final rule that amends, updates, modifies, or replaces the North Atlantic Right Whale vessel strike reduction rule until mitigation protocols are fully developed and deployed.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To prohibit the issuance of an interim or final rule that amends, updates, modifies, or replaces the North Atlantic Right Whale vessel strike reduction rule until mitigation protocols are fully developed and deployed.

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

4 This Act may be cited as the “Protecting Whales,
5 Human Safety, and the Economy Act of 2023”.
SEC. 2. CONDITIONS FOR RULES RELATED TO THE NORTH ATLANTIC RIGHT WHALE VESSEL STRIKE REDUCTION RULE.

The Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall not issue an interim or final rule that amends, updates, modifies, or replaces the North Atlantic Right Whale vessel strike reduction rule under section 224.105 of title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on January 3, 2023, until the date—

(1) the mitigation protocols under section 11303(e) of the Don Young Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2022 (16 U.S.C. 1391) are fully developed and deployed; and

(2) the Secretary provides a report to the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, and Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives on how the mitigation protocols will inform any proposed changes to section 224.105 of title 50, Code of Federal Regulations.