AMENDMENT NO. _______ Calendar No. _______

Purpose: To authorize a report on efforts by the Regional Fishery Management Councils, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, and the National Marine Fisheries Service to prepare and adapt to the impacts of climate change.


S. 2346

To improve the Fishery Resource Disaster Relief program of the National Marine Fisheries Service, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on _________ and ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by _________and _________

Viz:

1 At the end of section 5, add the following:
2 (c) REPORT ON EFFORTS TO PREPARE AND ADAPT
3 UNITED STATES FISHERY MANAGEMENT FOR THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE.—
4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit a report to Congress examining efforts by the Regional Fishery Management Councils, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, and the National Marine
Fisheries Service to prepare and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

(2) CONTENTS OF STUDY.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) an examination of current or previous efforts (including the 2016 GAO Report on Federal Fisheries Management), and whether those efforts have resulted in changes to management, by the Regional Fishery Management Councils, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, and the National Marine Fisheries Service to prepare and adapt Federal and jointly managed fisheries for the impacts of climate change;

(B) an examination of any guidance issued to the Regional Fishery Management Councils by the National Marine Fisheries Service to prepare and adapt Federal fishery management for the impacts of climate change and whether and how that guidance has been utilized;

(C) identification of and recommendations for how best to address the most significant economic, social, ecological, or other knowledge gaps, as well as key funding gaps, that would increase the ability of the Regional Fishery
Management Councils, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, or the National Marine Fisheries Service to prepare and adapt fishery management for the impacts of climate change;

(D) recommendations for how the Regional Fishery Management Councils, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, and the National Marine Fisheries Service can better adapt fishery management and prepare associated fishing industries and dependent communities for the impacts of climate change; and

(E) recommendations for how to enhance the capacity of the National Marine Fisheries Service to monitor climate-related changes to fisheries and marine ecosystems, to understand the mechanisms of change, to evaluate risks and priorities, to provide forecasts and projections of future conditions, to communicate scientific advice, and to better manage fisheries under changing conditions due to climate change.