

Calendar No. 288

105TH CONGRESS
1ST Session

S. 1213

[Report No. 105-151]

A BILL

To establish a National Ocean Council, a Commission on Ocean Policy, and for other purposes.

NOVEMBER 8, 1997

Reported with an amendment

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To establish a National Ocean Council, a Commission on Ocean Policy,
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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 24, 1997

Mr. HOLLINGS (for himself, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. KERRY, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. INOUE, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. THURMOND, and Mrs. MURRAY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

NOVEMBER 8, 1997

Reported by Mr. MCCAIN, with an amendment

[Omit the part struck through and insert the part printed in *italic*]

A BILL

To establish a National Ocean Council, a Commission on
Ocean Policy, 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 “Oceans Act of 1997”.

1 **SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS; PURPOSE AND OBJEC-**
2 **TIVES.**

3 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress makes the following
4 findings:

5 (1) Covering more than two-thirds of the
6 Earth's surface, the oceans and Great Lakes play a
7 critical role in the global water cycle and in regulat-
8 ing climate, sustain a large part of Earth's biodiver-
9 sity, provide an important source of food and a
10 wealth of other natural products, act as a frontier
11 to scientific exploration, are critical to national secu-
12 rity, and provide a vital means of transportation.
13 The coasts, transition between land and open ocean,
14 are regions of remarkably high biological productiv-
15 ity, contribute more than 30 percent of the Gross
16 Domestic Product, and are of considerable impor-
17 tance for recreation, waste disposal, and mineral ex-
18 ploration.

19 (2) Ocean and coastal resources are susceptible
20 to change as a direct and indirect result of human
21 activities, and such changes can significantly impact
22 the ability of the oceans and Great Lakes to provide
23 the benefits upon which the Nation depends.
24 Changes in ocean and coastal processes could affect
25 global climate patterns, marine productivity and bio-
26 diversity, environmental quality, national security,

1 economic competitiveness, availability of energy, vul-
2 nerability to natural hazards, and transportation
3 safety and efficiency.

4 (3) Ocean and coastal resources are not infi-
5 nite, and human pressure on them is increasing. One
6 half of the Nation's population lives within 50 miles
7 of the coast, ocean and coastal resources once con-
8 sidered inexhaustible are now threatened with deple-
9 tion, and if population trends continue as expected,
10 pressure on and conflicting demands for ocean and
11 coastal resources will increase further as will vulner-
12 ability to coastal hazards.

13 (4) Marine technologies hold tremendous prom-
14 ise for expanding the range and increasing the util-
15 ity of products from the oceans and Great Lakes,
16 improving the stewardship of ocean and coastal re-
17 sources, and contributing to business and manufac-
18 turing innovations and the creation of new jobs.

19 (5) Marine research has uncovered the link be-
20 tween oceanic and atmospheric processes and im-
21 proved understanding of world climate patterns and
22 forecasts. Important new advances, including avail-
23 ability of military technology, have made feasible the
24 exploration of large areas of the ocean which were
25 inaccessible several years ago. In designating 1998

1 as “The Year of the Ocean”, the United Nations
2 highlights the value of increasing our knowledge of
3 the oceans.

4 (6) It has been 30 years since the Commission
5 on Marine Science, Engineering, and Resources
6 (known as the Stratton Commission) conducted a
7 comprehensive examination of ocean and coastal ac-
8 tivities that led to enactment of major legislation
9 and the establishment of key oceanic and atmos-
10 pheric institutions.

11 (7) A review of existing activities is essential to
12 respond to the changes that have occurred over the
13 past three decades and to develop an effective new
14 policy for the twenty-first century to conserve and
15 use sustainable ocean and coastal resources, protect
16 the marine environment, explore ocean frontiers,
17 protect human safety, and create marine tech-
18 nologies and economic opportunities.

19 (8) While significant Federal ocean and coastal
20 programs are underway, those programs would bene-
21 fit from a coherent national ocean and coastal policy
22 that reflects the need for cost-effective allocation of
23 fiscal resources, improved interagency coordination,
24 and strengthened partnerships with State, private,

1 and international entities engaged in ocean and
2 coastal activities.

3 (b) PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES.—The purpose of this
4 Act is to develop and maintain a coordinated, comprehen-
5 sive, and long-range national policy with respect to ocean
6 and coastal activities that will assist the Nation in meeting
7 the following objectives:

8 (1) The protection of life and property against
9 natural and manmade hazards.

10 (2) Responsible stewardship, including use, of
11 fishery resources and other ocean and coastal re-
12 sources.

13 (3) The protection of the marine environment
14 and prevention of marine pollution.

15 (4) The enhancement of marine-related com-
16 merce, transportation, and national security, and the
17 resolution of conflicts among users of the marine en-
18 vironment.

19 (5) The expansion of human knowledge of the
20 marine environment including the role of the oceans
21 in climate and global environmental change and the
22 advancement of education and training in fields re-
23 lated to ocean and coastal activities.

24 (6) The continued investment in and develop-
25 ment and improvement of the capabilities, perform-

1 ance, use, and efficiency of technologies for use in
2 ocean and coastal activities.

3 (7) Close cooperation among all government
4 agencies and departments to ensure—

5 (A) coherent regulation of ocean and coast-
6 al activities;

7 (B) availability and appropriate allocation
8 of Federal funding, personnel, facilities, and
9 equipment for such activities; and

10 (C) cost-effective and efficient operation of
11 Federal departments, agencies, and programs
12 involved in ocean and coastal activities.

13 (8) The preservation of the role of the United
14 States as a leader in ocean and coastal activities,
15 and, when it is in the national interest, the coopera-
16 tion by the United States with other nations and
17 international organizations in ocean and coastal ac-
18 tivities.

19 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

20 As used in this Act—

21 (1) The term “Commission” means the Com-
22 mission on Ocean Policy.

23 (2) The term “Council” means the National
24 Ocean Council.

1 (3) The term “marine research” means sci-
2 entific exploration, including basic science, engineer-
3 ing, mapping, surveying, monitoring, assessment,
4 and information management, of the oceans, coasts,
5 and Great Lakes—

6 (A) to describe and advance understanding
7 of—

8 (i) the role of the oceans, coasts and
9 Great Lakes in weather and climate, natu-
10 ral hazards, and the processes that regu-
11 late the marine environment; and

12 (ii) the manner in which such role,
13 processes, and environment are affected by
14 human actions;

15 (B) for the conservation, management and
16 sustainable use of living and nonliving re-
17 sources; and

18 (C) to develop and implement new tech-
19 nologies related to sustainable use of the ma-
20 rine environment.

21 (4) The term “marine environment” includes—

22 (A) the oceans, including coastal and off-
23 shore waters and the adjacent shore lands;

24 (B) the continental shelf;

25 (C) the Great Lakes; and

1 (D) the ocean and coastal resources there-
 2 of.

3 (5) The term “ocean and coastal activities” in-
 4 cludes activities related to marine research, fisheries
 5 and other ocean and coastal resource stewardship
 6 and use, marine aquaculture, energy and mineral re-
 7 source extraction, national security, marine trans-
 8 portation, recreation and tourism, waste manage-
 9 ment, pollution mitigation and prevention, and natu-
 10 ral hazard reduction.

11 (6) The term “ocean and coastal resource”
 12 means, with respect to the oceans, coasts, and Great
 13 Lakes, any living or non-living natural resource (in-
 14 cluding all forms of animal and plant life found in
 15 the marine environment, habitat, biodiversity, water
 16 quality, minerals, oil, and gas) and any significant
 17 historic, cultural or aesthetic resource.

18 **SEC. 4. NATIONAL OCEAN AND COASTAL POLICY.**

19 (a) EXECUTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES.—The President,
 20 with the assistance of the Council and the advice of the
 21 Commission, shall—

22 (1) develop and maintain a coordinated, com-
 23 prehensive, and long-range national policy with re-
 24 spect to ocean and coastal activities; and

1 (2) with regard to Federal agencies and depart-
2 ments—

3 (A) review significant ocean and coastal
4 activities, including plans, priorities, accom-
5 plishments, and infrastructure requirements;

6 (B) plan and implement an integrated and
7 cost-effective program of ocean and coastal ac-
8 tivities including, but not limited to, marine re-
9 search, stewardship of ocean and coastal re-
10 sources, protection of the marine environment,
11 maritime transportation safety and efficiency,
12 the marine aspects of national security, marine
13 recreation and tourism, and marine aspects of
14 weather, climate, and natural hazards;

15 (C) designate responsibility for funding
16 and conducting ocean and coastal activities; and

17 (D) ensure cooperation and resolve dif-
18 ferences arising from laws and regulations ap-
19 plicable to ocean and coastal activities which re-
20 sult in conflicts among participants in such ac-
21 tivities.

22 (b) COOPERATION AND CONSULTATION.—In carrying
23 out responsibilities under this Act, the President and the
24 Council may use such staff, interagency, and advisory ar-
25 rangements as they find necessary and appropriate and

1 shall consult with non-Federal organizations and individ-
2 uals involved in ocean and coastal activities.

3 **SEC. 5. NATIONAL OCEAN COUNCIL.**

4 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The President shall establish
5 a National Ocean Council which shall consist of—

6 (1) the Secretary of Commerce, who shall be
7 Chairman of the Council;

8 (2) the Secretary of the Navy;

9 (3) the Secretary of State;

10 (4) the Secretary of Transportation;

11 (5) the Secretary of the Interior;

12 (6) the Administrator of the Environmental
13 Protection Agency;

14 (7) the Director of the National Science Foun-
15 dation;

16 (8) the Director of the Office of Science and
17 Technology Policy;

18 (9) the Chairman of the Council on Environ-
19 mental Quality;

20 (10) the Chairman of the National Economic
21 Council;

22 (11) the Director of the Office of Management
23 and Budget; and

24 (12) such other Federal officers and officials as
25 the President considers appropriate.

1 (b) ADMINISTRATION.—

2 (1) The President or the Chairman of the
3 Council may from time to time designate one of the
4 members of the Council to preside over meetings of
5 the Council during the absence or unavailability of
6 such Chairman.

7 (2) Each member of the Council may designate
8 an officer of his or her agency or department ap-
9 pointed with the advice and consent of the Senate to
10 serve on the Council as an alternate in the event of
11 the unavoidable absence of such member.

12 (3) An executive secretary shall be appointed by
13 the Chairman of the Council, with the approval of
14 the Council. The executive secretary shall be a per-
15 manent employee of one of the agencies or depart-
16 ments represented on the Council and shall remain
17 in the employ of such agency or department.

18 (4) For the purpose of carrying out the func-
19 tions of the Council, each Federal agency or depart-
20 ment represented on the Council shall furnish nec-
21 essary assistance to the Council. Such assistance
22 may include—

23 (A) detailing employees to the Council to
24 perform such functions, consistent with the pur-

1 poses of this section, as the Chairman of the
2 Council may assign to them; and

3 (B) undertaking, upon request of the
4 Chairman of the Council, such special studies
5 for the Council as are necessary to carry out its
6 functions.

7 (5) The Chairman of the Council shall have the
8 authority to make personnel decisions regarding any
9 employees detailed to the Council.

10 (c) FUNCTIONS.—The Council shall—

11 (1) serve as the forum for developing an ocean
12 and coastal policy and program, taking into consid-
13 eration the Commission report, and for overseeing
14 implementation of such policy and program;

15 (2) improve coordination and cooperation, and
16 eliminate duplication, among Federal agencies and
17 departments with respect to ocean and coastal activi-
18 ties;

19 (3) work with academic, State, industry, public
20 interest, and other groups involved in ocean and
21 coastal activities to provide for periodic review of the
22 Nation's ocean and coastal policy;

23 (4) cooperate with the Secretary of State in—

24 (A) providing representation at inter-
25 national meetings and conferences on ocean and

1 coastal activities in which the United States
2 participates; and

3 (B) coordinating the Federal activities of
4 the United States with programs of other na-
5 tions; and

6 (5) report at least biennially on Federal ocean
7 and coastal programs, priorities, and accomplish-
8 ments and provide budgetary advice as specified in
9 section 7.

10 **SEC. 6. COMMISSION ON OCEAN POLICY.**

11 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

12 ~~(1) The President shall, within 90 days of the~~
13 ~~enactment of this Act, establish a Commission on~~
14 ~~Ocean Policy. The Commission shall be composed of~~
15 ~~15 members including individuals drawn from Fed-~~
16 ~~eral and State governments, industry, academic and~~
17 ~~technical institutions, and public interest organiza-~~
18 ~~tions involved with ocean and coastal activities.~~
19 ~~Members shall be appointed for the life of the Com-~~
20 ~~mission as follows:~~

21 ~~(A) 7 shall be appointed by the President~~
22 ~~of the United States, no more than 3 of whom~~
23 ~~may be from the executive branch of the Gov-~~
24 ~~ernment.~~

1 ~~(B)~~ 2 shall be appointed by the Majority
 2 Leader of the Senate in consultation with the
 3 Chairman of the Senate Committee on Com-
 4 merce, Science, and Transportation.

5 ~~(C)~~ 2 shall be appointed by the Minority
 6 Leader of the Senate in consultation with the
 7 Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on
 8 Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

9 ~~(D)~~ 2 shall be appointed by the Speaker of
 10 the House of Representatives in consultation
 11 with the Chairman of the House Committee on
 12 Resources and the Chairman of the House
 13 Committee on Science.

14 ~~(E)~~ 2 shall be appointed by the Minority
 15 Leader of the House of Representatives in con-
 16 sultation with the Ranking Member of the
 17 House Committee on Resources and the Rank-
 18 ing Member of the House Committee on
 19 Science.

20 *(1) The President shall, within 90 days after the*
 21 *enactment of this Act, establish a Commission on*
 22 *Ocean Policy. The Commission shall be composed of*
 23 *16 members including individuals drawn from State*
 24 *and local governments, industry, academic and tech-*
 25 *nical institutions, and public interest organizations*

1 *involved with ocean and coastal activities. Members*
2 *shall be appointed for the life of the Commission as*
3 *follows:*

4 *(A) 4 shall be appointed by the President of*
5 *the United States.*

6 *(B) 4 shall be appointed by the President*
7 *chosen from a list of 8 proposed members submit-*
8 *ted by the Majority Leader of the Senate in con-*
9 *sultation with the Chairman of the Senate Com-*
10 *mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transpor-*
11 *tation.*

12 *(C) 4 shall be appointed by the President*
13 *chosen from a list of 8 proposed members submit-*
14 *ted by the Speaker of the House of Representa-*
15 *tives in consultation with the Chairman of the*
16 *House Committee on Resources and the Chair-*
17 *man of the House Committee on Science.*

18 *(D) 2 shall be appointed by the President*
19 *chosen from a list of 4 proposed members submit-*
20 *ted by the Minority Leader of the Senate in con-*
21 *sultation with the Ranking Member of the Senate*
22 *Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transpor-*
23 *tation.*

24 *(E) 2 shall be appointed by the President*
25 *chosen from a list of 4 proposed members submit-*

1 *ted by the Minority Leader of the House in con-*
 2 *sultation with the Ranking Member of the House*
 3 *Committee on Resources and the Ranking Mem-*
 4 *ber of the House Committee on Science.*

5 (2) CHAIRMAN.—The President shall select a
 6 Chairman and Vice Chairman from among such 15
 7 members.

8 (3) ADVISORY MEMBERS TO THE COMMIS-
 9 SION.—The President shall appoint 4 advisory mem-
 10 bers from among the Members of the Senate and
 11 House of Representatives as follows:

12 (A) Two Members, one from each party,
 13 selected from the Senate.

14 (B) Two Members, one from each party,
 15 selected from the House of Representatives.

16 (b) FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.—The Com-
 17 mission shall report to the President and the Congress on
 18 a comprehensive national ocean and coastal policy to carry
 19 out the purpose and objectives of this Act. In developing
 20 the findings and recommendations of the report, the Com-
 21 mission shall—

22 (1) review and suggest any necessary modifica-
 23 tions to United States laws, regulations, and prac-
 24 tices necessary to define and implement such policy;

1 (2) assess the condition and adequacy of invest-
2 ment in existing and planned facilities and equip-
3 ment associated with ocean and coastal activities in-
4 cluding human resources, vessels, computers, sat-
5 ellites, and other appropriate technologies and plat-
6 forms;

7 (3) review existing and planned ocean and
8 coastal activities of Federal agencies and depart-
9 ments, assess the contribution of such activities to
10 development of an integrated long-range program for
11 marine research, ocean and coastal resource man-
12 agement, and protection of the marine environment,
13 and identify any such activities in need of reform to
14 improve efficiency and effectiveness;

15 (4) examine and suggest mechanisms to address
16 the interrelationships among ocean and coastal ac-
17 tivities, the legal and regulatory framework in which
18 they occur, and their inter-connected and cumulative
19 effects on the marine environment, ocean and coast-
20 al resources, and marine productivity and biodiver-
21 sity;

22 (5) review the known and anticipated demands
23 for ocean and coastal resources, including an exam-
24 ination of opportunities and limitations with respect
25 to the use of ocean and coastal resources within the

1 exclusive economic zone, projected impacts in coastal
2 areas, and the adequacy of existing efforts to man-
3 age such use and minimize user conflicts;

4 (6) evaluate relationships among Federal,
5 State, and local governments and the private sector
6 for planning and carrying out ocean and coastal ac-
7 tivities and address the most appropriate division of
8 responsibility for such activities;

9 (7) identify opportunities for the development
10 of or investment in new products, technologies, or
11 markets that could contribute to the objectives of
12 this Act;

13 (8) consider the relationship of the ocean and
14 coastal policy of the United States to the United Na-
15 tions Convention on the Law of the Sea and other
16 international agreements, and actions available to
17 the United States to effect collaborations between
18 the United States and other nations, including the
19 development of cooperative international programs
20 for marine research, protection of the marine envi-
21 ronment, and ocean and coastal resource manage-
22 ment; and

23 (9) engage in any other preparatory work
24 deemed necessary to carry out the duties of the
25 Commission pursuant to this Act.

1 (c) DUTIES OF CHAIRMAN.—In carrying out the pro-
2 visions of this subsection, the Chairman of the Commis-
3 sion shall be responsible for—

4 (1) the assignment of duties and responsibilities
5 among staff personnel and their continuing super-
6 vision; and

7 (2) the use and expenditures of funds available
8 to the Commission.

9 (d) COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS.—Each member of
10 the Commission who is not an officer or employee of the
11 Federal Government, or whose compensation is not pre-
12 cluded by a State, local, or Native American tribal govern-
13 ment position, shall be compensated at a rate equal to the
14 daily equivalent of the annual rate payable for Level IV
15 of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5,
16 United States Code, for each day (including travel time)
17 during which such member is engaged in the performance
18 of the duties of the Commission. All members of the Com-
19 mission who are officers or employees of the United States
20 shall serve without compensation in addition to that re-
21 ceived for their services as officers or employees of the
22 United States.

23 (e) STAFF.—

24 (1) The Chairman of the Commission may,
25 without regard to the civil service laws and regula-

1 tions, appoint and terminate an executive director
2 who is knowledgeable in administrative management
3 and ocean and coastal policy and such other addi-
4 tional personnel as may be necessary to enable the
5 Commission to perform its duties. The employment
6 and termination of an executive director shall be
7 subject to confirmation by a majority of the mem-
8 bers of the Commission.

9 (2) The executive director shall be compensated
10 at a rate not to exceed the rate payable for Level
11 V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of
12 title 5, United States Code. The Chairman may fix
13 the compensation of other personnel without regard
14 to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III
15 of chapter 53 of title 5, United States Code, relating
16 to classification of positions and General Schedule
17 pay rates, except that the rate of pay for such per-
18 sonnel may not exceed the rate payable for GS-15,
19 step 7, of the General Schedule under section 5332
20 of such title.

21 (3) Upon request of the Chairman of the Com-
22 mission, the head of any Federal Agency shall detail
23 appropriate personnel of the agency to the Commis-
24 sion to assist the Commission in carrying out its
25 functions under this Act. Federal Government em-

1 ployees detailed to the Commission shall serve with-
2 out reimbursement from the Commission, and such
3 detailee shall retain the rights, status, and privileges
4 of his or her regular employment without interrup-
5 tion.

6 (4) The Commission may accept and use the
7 services of volunteers serving without compensation,
8 and to reimburse volunteers for travel expenses, in-
9 cluding per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized
10 by section 5703 of title 5, United States Code. Ex-
11 cept for the purposes of chapter 81 of title 5, United
12 States Code, relating to compensation for work inju-
13 ries, and chapter 171 of title 28, United States
14 Code, relating to tort claims, a volunteer under this
15 section may not be considered to be an employee of
16 the United States for any purpose.

17 (5) The Commission is authorized to procure
18 the temporary and intermittent services of experts
19 and consultants in accordance with section 3109 of
20 title 5, United States Code, but at rates not to ex-
21 ceed the daily rate payable for GS-15, step 7, of the
22 General Schedule under section 5332 of title 5,
23 United States Code.

24 (f) ADMINISTRATION.—

1 (1) All meetings of the Commission shall be
2 open to the public, except when the Chairman of the
3 Commission or a majority of the members of the
4 Commission determine that the meeting or any por-
5 tion of it may be closed to the public. Interested per-
6 sons shall be permitted to appear at open meetings
7 and present oral or written statement on the subject
8 matter of the meeting. The Commission may admin-
9 ister oaths or affirmations to any person appearing
10 before it.

11 (2) All open meetings of the Commission shall
12 be preceded by timely public notice in the Federal
13 Register of the time, place, and subject of the meet-
14 ing.

15 (3) Minutes of each meeting shall be kept and
16 shall contain a record of the people present, a de-
17 scription of the discussion that occurred, and copies
18 of all statements filed. Subject to section 552 of title
19 5, United States Code, the minutes and records of
20 all meetings and other documents that were made
21 available to or prepared for the Commission shall be
22 available for public inspection and copying at a sin-
23 gle location in the offices of the Commission.

24 (4) The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5
25 U.S.C. App.) does not apply to the Commission.

1 (g) COOPERATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES.—

2 (1) The Commission is authorized to secure di-
3 rectly from any Federal agency or department any
4 information it deems necessary to carry out its func-
5 tions under this Act. Each such agency or depart-
6 ment is authorized to cooperate with the Commis-
7 sion and, to the extent permitted by law, to furnish
8 such information to the Commission, upon the re-
9 quest of the Chairman of the Commission.

10 (2) The Commission may use the United States
11 mails in the same manner and under the same con-
12 ditions as other departments and agencies of the
13 United States.

14 (3) The General Services Administration shall
15 provide to the Commission on a reimbursable basis
16 the administrative support services that the Commis-
17 sion may request.

18 (4) The Commission may enter into contracts
19 with Federal and State agencies, private firms, insti-
20 tutions, and individuals to assist the Commission in
21 carrying out its duties. The Commission may pur-
22 chase and contract without regard to sections 303 of
23 the Federal Property and Administration Services
24 Act of 1949 (41 U.S.C. 253), section 18 of the Of-
25 fice of Federal Procurement Policy Act (41 U.S.C.

1 416), and section 8 of the Small Business Act (15
2 U.S.C. 637), pertaining to competition and publica-
3 tion requirements, and may arrange for printing
4 without regard to the provisions of title 44, United
5 States Code. The contracting authority of the Com-
6 mission under this Act is effective only to the extent
7 that appropriations are available for contracting
8 purposes.

9 (h) REPORT.—The Commission shall submit to the
10 President, via the Council, and to the Congress not later
11 than 18 months after the establishment of the Commis-
12 sion, a final report of its findings and recommendations.
13 The Commission shall cease to exist 30 days after it has
14 submitted its final report.

15 (i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
16 are authorized to be appropriated to support the activities
17 of the Commission a total of \$6,000,000 for fiscal years
18 1998 and 1999. Any sums appropriated shall remain
19 available remain available without fiscal year limitation
20 until expended.

21 **SEC. 7. REPORT AND BUDGET COORDINATION.**

22 (a) BIENNIAL REPORT.—Beginning in January,
23 1999, the President, through the Council, shall transmit
24 to the Congress biennially a report, which shall include—

1 (1) a comprehensive description of the ocean
2 and coastal activities and related accomplishments of
3 all agencies and departments of the United States
4 during the preceding two fiscal years; and

5 (2) an evaluation of such activities and accom-
6 plishments in terms of the purpose and objectives of
7 this Act. Reports made under this section shall con-
8 tain such recommendations for legislation as the
9 President may consider necessary or desirable.

10 (b) BUDGET COORDINATION.—

11 (1) Each year the Council shall provide general
12 guidance to each Federal agency or department in-
13 volved in ocean or coastal activities with respect to
14 the preparation of requests for appropriations.

15 (2) Working in conjunction with the Council,
16 each agency or department involved in such activi-
17 ties shall include with its annual request for appro-
18 priations a report which—

19 (A) identifies significant elements of the
20 proposed agency or department budget relating
21 to ocean and coastal activities; and

22 (B) specifies how each such element con-
23 tributes to the implementation of a national
24 ocean and coastal policy.

1 (3) Each agency or department that submits a
2 report under paragraph (1) shall submit such report
3 simultaneously to the Council.

4 (4) The President shall, in a timely fashion,
5 provide the Council with an opportunity to review
6 and comment on the budget estimate of each such
7 agency or department.

8 (5) The President shall identify in each annual
9 budget submitted to the Congress under section
10 1105 of title 31, United States Code, those elements
11 of each agency or department budget that contribute
12 to the implementation of a national ocean and coast-
13 al policy.

14 **SEC. 8. REPEAL OF 1966 STATUTE.**

15 The Marine Resources and Engineering Development
16 Act of 1966 (33 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.) is repealed.