

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3627

To establish in the Executive Office of the President the Office of Oceans
and Coastal Policy.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 21, 2003

Mr. SAXTON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Science, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To establish in the Executive Office of the President the
Office of Oceans and Coastal Policy.

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 “Office of Ocean and
5 Coastal Policy Creation Act of 2003”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds that there is a demonstrated need
8 for there to be an Office of Oceans and Coastal Policy
9 in the Executive Office of the President.

1 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICE OF OCEANS AND**
2 **COASTAL POLICY.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the
4 Executive Office of the President the Office of Oceans and
5 Coastal Policy.

6 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the office is to de-
7 velop comprehensive oceans and coastal policy and to ad-
8 vise the President on scientific, environmental, economic,
9 technological, and international considerations involved in
10 areas of national concern to ocean and coastal policy, in-
11 cluding the sustainable use of the Nation's ocean and
12 coastal resources, in order to provide for a better under-
13 standing and knowledge of the world's oceans.

14 **SEC. 4. DIRECTOR AND ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS.**

15 (a) DIRECTOR.—There shall be at the head of the
16 Office a Director of the Office of Oceans and Coastal Pol-
17 icy, who shall—

18 (1) be appointed by the President, by and with
19 the advice and consent of the Senate; and

20 (2) be compensated at a rate consistent with
21 the compensation of the Directors of other Offices
22 within the Executive Office of the President.

23 (b) ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS.—The President may ap-
24 point not more than 2 Associate Directors of the Office
25 of Oceans and Coastal Policy, by and with the advice and
26 consent of the Senate, who shall each—

1 (1) be compensated at a rate not to exceed the
2 rate provided for other Associate Directors of Offices
3 within the Executive Office of the President; and

4 (2) shall perform such functions as the Director
5 may prescribe.

6 **SEC. 5. FUNCTIONS OF THE DIRECTOR.**

7 (a) PRIMARY FUNCTION.—The primary function of
8 the Director is to provide, within the Executive Office of
9 the President, advice on the scientific environmental, eco-
10 nomic, technological, and international aspects of ocean
11 and coastal issues that require the attention at the highest
12 levels of the Government.

13 (b) OTHER FUNCTIONS.—The Director shall—

14 (1) advise the President on scientific, environ-
15 mental, economic, technological, and international
16 considerations involved in areas of national concern
17 relating to ocean and coastal policy, including the
18 sustainable use of the Nation’s ocean and coastal re-
19 sources;

20 (2) evaluate the scale, quality, and effectiveness
21 of the Federal effort in management and conserva-
22 tion of the Nation’s oceans and coastal resources,
23 and advise the President on appropriate actions to
24 take with respect to such management and conserva-
25 tion;

1 (3) advise the President on scientific, environ-
2 mental, economic, technological, and international
3 aspects of ocean and coastal considerations with re-
4 gard to Federal budgets, assist the Office of Man-
5 agement and Budget with an annual review and
6 analysis of funding proposed for research and devel-
7 opment in budgets of all Federal agencies, and aid
8 the Office of Management and Budget and the agen-
9 cies throughout the budget development process;

10 (4) assist the Office of Management and Budg-
11 et with an annual review and analysis of funding
12 proposed for research and development relating to
13 such policy in budgets of all Federal agencies, and
14 aid the Office of Management and Budget and Fed-
15 eral agencies regarding oceans and coastal policy
16 throughout the budget development process;

17 (5) assist the President in providing general
18 leadership and coordination of the research and de-
19 velopment programs of the Federal Government re-
20 lating to the oceans and coastal concerns;

21 (6) coordinate the scientific, environmental, eco-
22 nomic, technological, and international aspects of
23 ocean and coastal issues with the Council on Envi-
24 ronmental Quality, the Office of Science and Tech-
25 nology, the Council of Economic Advisers, and other

1 offices within the Executive Office of the President;
2 and

3 (7) perform such other functions and activities
4 relating to the oceans and coastal policy as the
5 President may prescribe.

6 **SEC. 6. CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION ON OCEAN AND**
7 **COASTAL POLICY.**

8 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The President shall establish
9 a Commission on Ocean and Coastal Policy. The purpose
10 of the Commission shall be to advise and assist the Direc-
11 tor of the Office of Ocean and Coastal Policy in identifying
12 and fostering policies to conserve and manage the ocean
13 and coastal environments and resources.

14 (b) MEMBERSHIP.—(1) The Commission shall consist
15 of no less than 18 and no more than 36 members, who
16 shall be appointed for three year terms.

17 (2) The Commission shall be composed of the Direc-
18 tor, the Chair of the Council on Environmental Quality,
19 the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Pol-
20 icy, at least eight members to represent the interests of
21 the States, and representatives of various interested stake-
22 holders.

23 (3) The Director of the Office of Ocean and Coastal
24 Policy shall serve as the Chairman of the Commission.

1 (4) Each member of the Commission shall, while serv-
2 ing on business of the Commission, be entitled to receive
3 compensation at a rate not to exceed a daily rate to be
4 determined by the President consistent with other Federal
5 advisory boards. Federal and State officials serving on the
6 Commission and serving in their official capacity shall not
7 receive compensation in addition to their Federal or State
8 salaries for their time on the Commission. Members of the
9 Commission may be compensated for reasonable travel ex-
10 penses while performing their duties as members of the
11 Commission.

12 (5) The Commission shall meet at least twice per
13 year, or as prescribed by the President.

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