

## Union Calendar No. 248

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1205

**[Report No. 110-394, Part I]**

To reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000, and for other purposes.

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### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 27, 2007

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA (for himself, Ms. BORDALLO, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, and Mr. ABERCROMBIE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Science and Technology, 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

OCTOBER 22, 2007

Additional sponsors: Mr. GILCHREST, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. KLEIN of Florida, and Mr. FORTUÑO

OCTOBER 22, 2007

Reported from the Committee on Natural Resources with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

OCTOBER 22, 2007

Committee on Science and Technology discharged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

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# A BILL

To reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000,  
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 “Coral Reef Conservation*  
5 *Amendments Act of 2007”.*

6 **SEC. 2. EXPANSION OF CORAL REEF CONSERVATION PRO-**  
7 **GRAM.**

8 *(a) PROJECT DIVERSITY.—Section 204(d) of the Coral*  
9 *Reef Conservation Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 6403(d)) is*  
10 *amended—*

11 *(1) in the heading by striking “GEOGRAPHIC*  
12 *AND BIOLOGICAL” and inserting “PROJECT”; and*

13 *(2) by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the*  
14 *following:*

15 *“(3) Remaining funds shall be awarded for—*

16 *“(A) projects (with priority given to com-*  
17 *munity-based local action strategies) that ad-*  
18 *dress emerging priorities or threats, including*  
19 *international and territorial priorities, or*

1        *threats identified by the Administrator in con-*  
2        *sultation with the Coral Reef Task Force; and*

3                *“(B) other appropriate projects, as deter-*  
4        *mined by the Administrator, including moni-*  
5        *toring and assessment, research, pollution reduc-*  
6        *tion, education, and technical support.”.*

7        *(b) APPROVAL CRITERIA.—Section 204(g) of that Act*  
8        *(16 U.S.C. 6403(g)) is amended—*

9                *(1) by striking “or” after the semicolon in para-*  
10       *graph (9);*

11               *(2) by striking paragraph (10); and*

12               *(3) by inserting after paragraph (9) the fol-*  
13       *lowing:*

14               *“(10) promoting activities designed to minimize*  
15       *the likelihood of vessel impacts on coral reefs, particu-*  
16       *larly those areas identified under section 210(b), in-*  
17       *cluding the promotion of ecologically sound naviga-*  
18       *tion and anchorages near coral reefs; or*

19               *“(11) promoting and assisting entities to work*  
20       *with local communities, and all appropriate govern-*  
21       *mental and nongovernmental organizations, to sup-*  
22       *port community-based planning and management*  
23       *initiatives for the protection of coral reef ecosystems.”.*

1 **SEC. 3. EMERGENCY RESPONSE.**

2 *Section 206 of the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000*  
 3 *(16 U.S.C. 6405) is amended to read as follows:*

4 **“SEC. 206. EMERGENCY RESPONSE ACTIONS.**

5 *“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may under-*  
 6 *take or authorize action necessary—*

7 *“(1) to minimize the destruction or loss of, or in-*  
 8 *jury to, a coral reef from—*

9 *“(A) vessel impacts, derelict fishing gear,*  
 10 *vessel anchors, and anchor chains; and*

11 *“(B) from unforeseen or disaster-related cir-*  
 12 *cumstances; and*

13 *“(2) to stabilize, repair, recover, or restore such*  
 14 *coral reef.*

15 *“(b) VESSEL REMOVAL; RESTABILIZATION.—Action*  
 16 *authorized by subsection (a) includes vessel removal and*  
 17 *emergency restabilization of the vessel or any impacted*  
 18 *coral reef.*

19 *“(c) PARTNERING WITH OTHER FEDERAL AGEN-*  
 20 *CIES.—When possible, action by the Administrator under*  
 21 *this section should—*

22 *“(1) be conducted in partnership with other gov-*  
 23 *ernment agencies as appropriate, including—*

24 *“(A) the Coast Guard, the Federal Emer-*  
 25 *gency Management Agency, the Army Corps of*

1           *Engineers, and the Department of the Interior;*  
2           *and*

3                   *“(B) agencies of States and territories of the*  
4           *United States; and*

5           *“(2) leverage resources of other agencies.*

6           *“(d) EMERGENCY RESPONSE ASSISTANCE BY OTHER*  
7   *FEDERAL AGENCIES.—*

8                   *“(1) IN GENERAL.—The head of any other Fed-*  
9           *eral agency may assist the Administrator in emer-*  
10          *gency response actions under this section, using funds*  
11          *available for operations of the agency concerned.*

12                   *“(2) REIMBURSEMENT.—The Administrator,*  
13          *subject to the availability of appropriations, may re-*  
14          *imburse a Federal agency for assistance provided*  
15          *under paragraph (1).*

16           *“(e) LIABILITY FOR COSTS AND DAMAGES TO CORAL*  
17   *REEFS.—*

18                   *“(1) TREATMENT OF CORAL REEFS UNDER NA-*  
19          *TIONAL MARINE SANCTUARIES ACT.—For purposes of*  
20          *the provisions set forth in paragraph (2), and subject*  
21          *to paragraph (3), each of the terms ‘sanctuary re-*  
22          *sources’, ‘resource’, ‘sanctuary resource managed*  
23          *under law or regulations for that sanctuary,’ ‘na-*  
24          *tional marine sanctuary’, ‘sanctuary resources of the*  
25          *national marine sanctuary’, and ‘sanctuary resources*

1 *of other national marine sanctuaries’ is deemed to in-*  
 2 *clude any coral reef that is subject to the jurisdiction*  
 3 *of the United States or any State, without regard to*  
 4 *whether such coral reef is located in a national ma-*  
 5 *rine sanctuary.*

6 “(2) *APPLICABLE PROVISIONS OF NATIONAL MA-*  
 7 *RINE SANCTUARIES ACT.*—*The provisions referred to*  
 8 *in paragraph (1) are the following provisions of the*  
 9 *National Marine Sanctuaries Act:*

10 “(A) *Paragraphs (6) and (7) of section 302*  
 11 *(16 U.S.C. 1432).*

12 “(B) *Paragraphs (1), (2), (3), and (4) of*  
 13 *section 306 (16 U.S.C. 1436).*

14 “(C) *Section 307 (16 U.S.C. 1437).*

15 “(D) *Section 312 (16 U.S.C. 1443).*

16 “(3) *STATE CONSENT REQUIRED.*—

17 “(A) *IN GENERAL.*—*This subsection shall*  
 18 *not apply to any coral reef that is subject to the*  
 19 *jurisdiction of a State unless the Governor of*  
 20 *that State notifies the Secretary that the State*  
 21 *consents to that application.*

22 “(B) *REVOCATION OF CONSENT.*—*The gov-*  
 23 *ernor of a State may revoke consent under sub-*  
 24 *paragraph (A) by notifying the Secretary of such*  
 25 *revocation.*

1           “(4) *CONSISTENCY WITH INTERNATIONAL LAW*  
 2           *AND TREATIES.*—Any action taken under the author-  
 3           ity of this subsection must be consistent with other-  
 4           wise applicable international law and treaties.

5           “(5) *ACTIONS AUTHORIZED WITH RESPECT TO*  
 6           *VESSELS.*—Actions authorized under this subsection  
 7           include vessel removal, and emergency re-stabilization  
 8           of a vessel and any coral reef that is impacted by a  
 9           vessel

10           “(6) *REGULATIONS.*—The Secretary may issue  
 11           regulations necessary to implement this subsection.”.

12 **SEC. 4. NATIONAL PROGRAM.**

13           (a) *PURPOSE OF ACT.*—Section 202 of the Coral Reef  
 14           Conservation Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 6401) is amended—

15                   (1) by amending paragraph (3) to read as fol-  
 16           lows:

17                   “(3) to develop sound scientific information on  
 18           the condition of coral reef ecosystems and the threats  
 19           to such ecosystems including large-scale threats re-  
 20           lated to climate change, to benefit local communities  
 21           and the Nation, and to the extent practicable support  
 22           and enhance coral reef research capabilities at local  
 23           academic institutions;”; and

24                   (2) by striking “and” after the semicolon at the  
 25           end of paragraph (5), by striking the period at the

1        *end of paragraph (6) and inserting “; and”, and by*  
 2        *adding at the end the following:*

3                *“(7) to recognize the benefits of healthy coral*  
 4        *reefs to island and coastal communities and to en-*  
 5        *courage Federal action to ensure, to the maximum ex-*  
 6        *tent practicable, the continued availability of those*  
 7        *benefits.”.*

8        *(b) GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF NATIONAL CORAL*  
 9        *REEF ACTION STRATEGY.—Section 203(b)(8) of the Coral*  
 10        *Reef Conservation Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 6402(b)(8)) is*  
 11        *amended to read as follows:*

12                *“(8) conservation, including the consideration of*  
 13        *island and local traditions and practices.”.*

14        *(c) AMENDMENTS RELATING TO ACTIVITIES TO CON-*  
 15        *SERVE CORAL REEFS AND CORAL REEF ECOSYSTEMS.—*  
 16        *Section 207(b) of the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000*  
 17        *(16 U.S.C. 6406) is amended—*

18                *(1) in paragraph (3) by striking “and” after the*  
 19        *semicolon;*

20                *(2) in paragraph (4)—*

21                        *(A) by striking “cooperative conservation”*  
 22                        *and inserting “cooperative research, conserva-*  
 23                        *tion,”; and*

24                        *(B) by striking “partners.” and inserting*  
 25                        *“partners, including academic institutions lo-*



1           *cated in those States, territories, and freely asso-*  
 2           *ciated States referred to in section 212; and”;*  
 3           *and*

4           *(3) by adding at the end the following:*

5           *“(5) activities designed to minimize the likeli-*  
 6           *hood of vessel impacts or other physical damage to*  
 7           *coral reefs, including those areas identified in section*  
 8           *210(b).”.*

9   **SEC. 5. REPORT TO CONGRESS.**

10       *Section 208 of the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000*  
 11       *(16 U.S.C. 6407) is amended to read as follows:*

12   **“SEC. 208. REPORT TO CONGRESS.**

13       *“Not later than March 1, 2010, and every 3 years*  
 14       *thereafter, the Administrator shall submit to the Committee*  
 15       *on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate*  
 16       *and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of*  
 17       *Representatives a report describing all activities under-*  
 18       *taken to implement the strategy, including—*

19           *“(1) a description of the funds obligated by each*  
 20           *participating Federal agency to advance coral reef*  
 21           *conservation during each of the 3 fiscal years next*  
 22           *preceding the fiscal year in which the report is sub-*  
 23           *mitted;*

24           *“(2) a description of Federal interagency and co-*  
 25           *operative efforts with States, United States territories,*

1 *freely associated States, and non-governmental part-*  
2 *ner organizations to prevent or address overhar-*  
3 *vesting, coastal runoff, or other anthropogenic im-*  
4 *pacts on coral reef ecosystems, including projects un-*  
5 *dertaken with the Department of the Interior, the De-*  
6 *partment of Agriculture, the Environmental Protec-*  
7 *tion Agency, and the Army Corps of Engineers;*

8 “(3) *a summary of the information contained in*  
9 *the vessel grounding inventory established under sec-*  
10 *tion 210, including additional authorization or fund-*  
11 *ing, needed for response and removal of such vessels;*

12 “(4) *a description of Federal disaster response*  
13 *actions taken pursuant to the National Response Plan*  
14 *to address damage to coral reefs and coral reef eco-*  
15 *systems; and*

16 “(5) *an assessment of the condition of United*  
17 *States coral reefs, accomplishments under this Act,*  
18 *and the effectiveness of management actions to ad-*  
19 *dress threats to coral reefs, including actions taken to*  
20 *address large-scale threats to coral reef ecosystems re-*  
21 *lated to climate change.”.*

1 **SEC. 6. FUND; GRANTS; GROUNDING INVENTORY; COORDI-**  
2 **NATION.**

3 (a) *FUND; GRANTS; GROUNDING INVENTORY; COORDI-*  
4 *NATION.—The Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000 (16*  
5 *U.S.C. 6401 et seq.) is amended—*

6 (1) *in section 205(a) (16 U.S.C. 6404(a)), by*  
7 *striking “organization solely” and all that follows*  
8 *and inserting “organization—*

9 *“(1) to support partnerships between the public*  
10 *and private sectors that further the purposes of this*  
11 *Act and are consistent with the national coral reef*  
12 *strategy under section 203; and*

13 *“(2) to address emergency response actions under*  
14 *section 206.”;*

15 (2) *by adding at the end of section 205(b) (16*  
16 *U.S.C. 6404(b)) “The organization is encouraged to*  
17 *solicit funding and in-kind services from the private*  
18 *sector, including nongovernmental organizations, for*  
19 *emergency response actions under section 206 and for*  
20 *activities to prevent damage to coral reefs, including*  
21 *areas identified in section 210(b)(2).”;*

22 (3) *in section 205(c) (16 U.S.C. 6404(c)), by*  
23 *striking “the grant program” and inserting “any*  
24 *grant program or emergency response action”;*

25 (4) *by redesignating sections 209 and 210 as sec-*  
26 *tions 213 and 214, respectively; and*

1           (5) *by inserting after section 208 the following:*

2   **“SEC. 209. COMMUNITY-BASED PLANNING GRANTS.**

3           “(a) *IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may make*  
4 *grants to entities that are eligible to receive grants under*  
5 *section 204(c) to provide additional funds to such entities*  
6 *to work with local communities and through appropriate*  
7 *Federal and State entities to prepare and implement plans*  
8 *for the increased protection of coral reef areas identified by*  
9 *the community and scientific experts as high priorities for*  
10 *focused attention. The plans shall—*

11           “(1) *support attainment of 1 or more of the cri-*  
12 *teria described in section 204(g);*

13           “(2) *be developed at the community level;*

14           “(3) *utilize where applicable watershed-based or*  
15 *ecosystem-based approaches;*

16           “(4) *provide for coordination with Federal and*  
17 *State experts and managers;*

18           “(5) *build upon local approaches or models, in-*  
19 *cluding traditional or island-based resource manage-*  
20 *ment concepts; and*

21           “(6) *complement local action strategies or re-*  
22 *gional plans for coral reef conservation.*

23           “(b) *TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The provisions of sub-*  
24 *sections (b), (d), (f), and (h) of section 204 apply to grants*  
25 *under subsection (a), except that, for the purpose of apply-*

1 *ing section 204(b)(1) to grants under this section, ‘75 per-*  
 2 *cent’ shall be substituted for ‘50 percent’.*

3 **“SEC. 210. VESSEL GROUNDING INVENTORY.**

4 *“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator, in coordina-*  
 5 *tion with other Federal agencies, may maintain an inven-*  
 6 *tory of all vessel grounding incidents involving coral reefs,*  
 7 *including a description of—*

8 *“(1) the impacts to such resources;*

9 *“(2) vessel and ownership information, if avail-*  
 10 *able;*

11 *“(3) the estimated cost of removal, mitigation, or*  
 12 *restoration;*

13 *“(4) the response action taken by the owner, the*  
 14 *Administrator, the Commandant of the Coast Guard,*  
 15 *or other Federal or State agency representatives;*

16 *“(5) the status of the response action, including*  
 17 *the dates of vessel removal and mitigation or restora-*  
 18 *tion and any actions taken to prevent future ground-*  
 19 *ing incidents; and*

20 *“(6) recommendations for additional naviga-*  
 21 *tional aids or other mechanisms for preventing future*  
 22 *grounding incidents.*

23 *“(b) IDENTIFICATION OF AT-RISK REEFS.—The Ad-*  
 24 *ministrator may—*

1           “(1) use information from any inventory main-  
2           tained under subsection (a) or any other available in-  
3           formation source to identify all coral reef areas that  
4           have a high incidence of vessel impacts, including  
5           groundings and anchor damage; and

6           “(2) identify appropriate measures, including  
7           action by other agencies, to reduce the likelihood of  
8           such impacts.

9   **“SEC. 211. REGIONAL COORDINATION.**

10          *“The Administrator shall work in coordination and*  
11          *collaboration with other Federal agencies, States, and*  
12          *United States territorial governments to implement the na-*  
13          *tional coral reef action strategy developed under section*  
14          *203, including regional and local strategies, to address mul-*  
15          *tiple threats to coral reefs and coral reef ecosystems such*  
16          *as coastal runoff, vessel impacts, overharvesting, and factors*  
17          *attributed to climate change.*

18   **“SEC. 212. UNITED STATES CORAL REEF TASK FORCE.**

19          “(a) *ESTABLISHMENT.*—*There is hereby established the*  
20          *United States Coral Reef Task Force.*

21          “(b) *GOAL.*—*The goal of the Task Force shall be to*  
22          *lead, coordinate, and strengthen Federal Government ac-*  
23          *tions to better preserve and protect coral reef ecosystems.*

24          “(c) *DUTIES.*—*The duties of the Task Force shall be—*

1           “(1) to coordinate, in cooperation with State,  
2           territory, freely associated State, commonwealth, and  
3           local government partners, academic, and nongovern-  
4           mental partners if appropriate, activities regarding  
5           the mapping, monitoring, research, conservation,  
6           mitigation, restoration of coral reefs and coral reef  
7           ecosystems;

8           “(2) to monitor and advise regarding implemen-  
9           tation of the policy and Federal agency responsibil-  
10          ities set forth in Executive Order 13089 and the na-  
11          tional coral reef action strategy developed under sec-  
12          tion 203; and

13          “(3) to work with the Secretary of State and the  
14          Administrator of the Agency for International Devel-  
15          opment, and in coordination with the other members  
16          of the Task Force, to—

17                 “(A) assess the United States role in inter-  
18                 national trade and protection of coral species;  
19                 and

20                 “(B) encourage implementation of appro-  
21                 priate strategies and actions to promote con-  
22                 servation and sustainable use of coral reef re-  
23                 sources worldwide.

24          “(d) MEMBERSHIP, GENERALLY.—The Task Force  
25          shall be comprised of—

1           “(1) *the Secretary of Commerce, acting through*  
2           *the Administrator of the National Oceanic and At-*  
3           *mospheric Administration, and the Secretary of the*  
4           *Interior, who shall be co-chairs of the Task Force;*

5           “(2) *the Administrator of the Agency of Inter-*  
6           *national Development;*

7           “(3) *the Secretary of Agriculture;*

8           “(4) *the Secretary of Defense;*

9           “(5) *the Secretary of the Army, acting through*  
10          *the Corps of Engineers;*

11          “(6) *the Secretary of Homeland Security;*

12          “(7) *the Attorney General;*

13          “(8) *the Secretary of State;*

14          “(9) *the Secretary of Transportation;*

15          “(10) *the Administrator of the Environmental*  
16          *Protection Agency;*

17          “(11) *the Administrator of the National Aero-*  
18          *navitics and Space Administration;*

19          “(12) *the Director of the National Science Foun-*  
20          *dation;*

21          “(13) *the Governor, or a representative of the*  
22          *Governor, of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mar-*  
23          *iana Islands;*

24          “(14) *the Governor, or a representative of the*  
25          *Governor, of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico;*



1           “(15) *the Governor, or a representative of the*  
2           *Governor, of the State of Florida;*

3           “(16) *the Governor, or a representative of the*  
4           *Governor, of the State of Hawaii;*

5           “(17) *the Governor, or a representative of the*  
6           *Governor, of the Territory of Guam;*

7           “(18) *the Governor, or a representative of the*  
8           *Governor, of the Territory of American Samoa; and*

9           “(19) *the Governor, or a representative of the*  
10          *Governor, of the Virgin Islands.*

11          “(e) *NONVOTING MEMBERS.—The President, or a rep-*  
12          *resentative of the President, of each of the Freely Associated*  
13          *States of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic*  
14          *of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau may*  
15          *appoint a nonvoting member of the Task Force.*

16          “(f) *RESPONSIBILITIES OF FEDERAL AGENCY MEM-*  
17          *BERS.—*

18                 “(1) *IN GENERAL.—The Federal agency members*  
19                 *of the Task Force shall—*

20                         “(A) *identify the actions of their agencies*  
21                         *that may affect coral reef ecosystems;*

22                         “(B) *utilize the programs and authorities of*  
23                         *their agencies to protect and enhance the condi-*  
24                         *tions of such ecosystems; and*

1           “(C) assist in the implementation of the Na-  
2           tional Action Plan to Conserve Coral Reefs, the  
3           national coral reef action strategy developed  
4           under section 203, the local action strategies,  
5           and any other coordinated efforts approved by  
6           the Task Force.

7           “(2) CO-CHAIRS.—In addition to their respon-  
8           sibilities under paragraph (1), the co-chairs of the  
9           Task Force shall administer performance of the func-  
10          tions of the Task Force and facilitate the coordination  
11          of the Federal agency members of the Task Force.

12          “(g) WORKING GROUPS.—

13               “(1) IN GENERAL.—The co-chairs of the Task  
14               Force may establish working groups as necessary to  
15               meet the goals and duties of this Act. The Task Force  
16               may request the co-chairs to establish such a working  
17               group.

18               “(2) PARTICIPATION BY NONGOVERNMENTAL OR-  
19               GANIZATIONS.—The co-chairs may allow a nongovern-  
20               mental organization or academic institution to par-  
21               ticipate in such a working group.

22               “(h) FACA.—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5  
23               U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the Task Force.”.

1       (b) *COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.*—Section 204 of the  
 2   Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 6403) is  
 3   amended by adding at the end the following:

4       “(k) *MULTIYEAR COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.*—The  
 5   Administrator may enter into multiyear cooperative agree-  
 6   ments with the heads of other Federal agencies, States, terri-  
 7   tories, other freely associated States, local governments, aca-  
 8   demic institutions, and non-governmental organizations to  
 9   carry out the activities of the national coral reef action  
 10   strategy developed under section 203 and to implement re-  
 11   gional strategies developed pursuant to section 211.”.

12   **SEC. 7. AMENDMENTS RELATING TO DEPARTMENT OF THE**  
 13       **INTERIOR PROGRAM.**

14       (a) *AMENDMENTS AND CLARIFICATIONS TO DEFINI-*  
 15   *TIONS.*—

16       (1) *FISH AND WILDLIFE COORDINATION ACT.*—  
 17       Section 8 of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act  
 18       (16 U.S.C. 666b) is amended by inserting before the  
 19       period at the end the following: “, including coral reef  
 20       ecosystems (as such term is defined in section 214 of  
 21       the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000)”.

22       (2) *FISH AND WILDLIFE ACT OF 1956 AND FISH*  
 23       *AND WILDLIFE IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1978.*—With re-  
 24       spect to the authorities under the Fish and Wildlife  
 25       Act of 1956 (16 U.S.C. 742a et. seq) and the authori-

1        *ties under the Fish and Wildlife Improvement Act of*  
 2        *1978 (16 U.S.C. 742l), references in such Acts to*  
 3        *“wildlife” and “fish and wildlife” shall be construed*  
 4        *to include coral reef ecosystems (as such term is de-*  
 5        *defined in section 214 of the Coral Reef Conservation*  
 6        *Act of 2000, as amended by this Act).*

7        *(b) CORAL REEF CONSERVATION ASSISTANCE.—The*  
 8        *Secretary of the Interior may provide technical assistance*  
 9        *and, subject to the availability of appropriations, financial*  
 10       *assistance to coastal States (as that term is defined in the*  
 11       *Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000, as amended by this*  
 12       *Act).*

13       **SEC. 8. CLARIFICATION OF DEFINITIONS.**

14       *Section 214 of the Coral Reef Conservation Act of*  
 15       *2000, as redesignated by section 6(a) of this Act (relating*  
 16       *to definitions; 16 U.S.C. 6409), is further amended—*

17                *(1) by amending paragraph (2) to read as fol-*  
 18       *lows:*

19                *“(2) CONSERVATION.—The term ‘conservation’*  
 20       *means the use of methods and procedures that are*  
 21       *necessary to preserve or sustain coral reefs and associ-*  
 22       *ated species as diverse, viable, and self-perpetuating*  
 23       *coral reef ecosystems, including—*

24                *“(A) all activities associated with resource*  
 25       *management, such as assessment, conservation,*

1           *protection, restoration, sustainable use, and*  
 2           *management of habitat;*

3           “(B) mapping;

4           “(C) monitoring of coral reef ecosystems;

5           “(D) assistance in the development of man-  
 6           agement strategies for marine protected area or  
 7           networks thereof and marine resources consistent  
 8           with the National Marine Sanctuaries Act (16  
 9           U.S.C. 1431 et seq.) and the Magnuson-Stevens  
 10          Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16  
 11          U.S.C. 1801 et seq.);

12          “(E) law enforcement;

13          “(F) conflict resolution initiatives;

14          “(G) community outreach and education;

15          and

16          “(H) activities that promote safe and eco-  
 17          logically sound navigation.”;

18          (2) by amending paragraph (3) to read as fol-  
 19          lows:

20               “(3) CORAL.—The term ‘coral’ means species of  
 21          the phylum Cnidaria, including—

22               “(A) all species of the orders Antipatharia  
 23               (black corals), Scleractinia (stony corals),  
 24               Gorgonacea (horny corals), Stolonifera  
 25               (organpipe corals and others), Alcyonacea (soft

1           corals), and *Helioporacea* (blue coral), of the  
2           class *Anthozoa*; and

3                   “(B) all species of the families *Milleporidae*  
4           (fire corals) and *Stylasteridae* (stylasterid  
5           hydrocorals), of the class *Hydrozoa*.”;

6           (3) by amending paragraph (4) to read as fol-  
7           lows:

8                   “(4) *CORAL REEF*.—The term ‘coral reef’ means  
9           a limestone structure composed in whole or in part of  
10          living zooxanthellate stony corals (Class *Anthozoa*,  
11          Order *Scleractinia*), their skeletal remains, or both.”;  
12          and

13          (4) by amending paragraph (7) to read as fol-  
14          lows:

15                   “(7) *SECRETARY*.—The term ‘Secretary’—

16                   “(A) except as provided in subparagraph  
17           (B), means the Secretary of Commerce; and

18                   “(B) in sections 203, 206(e), and 209,  
19           means—

20                   “(i) the Secretary of the Interior, with  
21           respect to any coral reef or component  
22           thereof that is located in—

23                   “(I) the National Wildlife Refuge  
24           System;

1 “(II) the National Park System;

2 or

3 “(III) the waters surrounding

4 Wake Island under the jurisdiction of

5 the Secretary of the Interior, as set

6 forth in Executive Order 11048 (27

7 Fed. Reg. 8851), dated September 4,

8 1962; or

9 “(ii) the Secretary of Commerce, with

10 respect to any other coral reef or component

11 thereof.”.

12 **SEC. 9. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

13 Section 213 of the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000

14 (formerly 16 U.S.C. 6408), as redesignated by section 4, is

15 amended—

16 (1) by amending subsection (a) to read as fol-

17 lows:

18 “(a) *IN GENERAL.*—There are authorized to be appro-

19 priated to the Secretary of Commerce to carry out this title

20 \$30,000,000 for fiscal year 2008, \$32,000,000 for fiscal year

21 2009, \$34,000,000 for fiscal year 2010 and \$35,000,000 for

22 fiscal years 2011 and 2012.”;

23 (2) in subsection (b) by striking “\$1,000,000”

24 and inserting “\$2,000,000”;

1           (3) *by striking subsection (c) and inserting the*  
 2           *following:*

3           “(c) *COMMUNITY-BASED PLANNING GRANTS.—There is*  
 4           *authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator to carry*  
 5           *out section 209, \$8,000,000 for fiscal years 2008 through*  
 6           *2012, to remain available until expended.”; and*

7           (4) *by striking subsection (d) and inserting the*  
 8           *following:*

9           “(d) *DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.—There is au-*  
 10          *thorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of the Interior*  
 11          *to carry out this title \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years*  
 12          *2008 through 2012.”.*

13       **SEC. 10. FUNDING FOR MARINE FACILITIES, CORAL REEF**  
 14               **RESEARCH, AND CORAL REEF INSTITUTES.**

15          (a) *AMERICAN SAMOA COMMUNITY COLLEGE.—There*  
 16          *is authorized to be appropriated \$1,000,000 to the Secretary*  
 17          *of Commerce, acting through the National Oceanic and At-*  
 18          *mospheric Administration, to provide funds to a research*  
 19          *facility for coral reef research and protection, and coastal*  
 20          *ecology and development, at the American Samoa Commu-*  
 21          *nity College.*

22          (b) *UNIVERSITY OF GUAM.—There is authorized to be*  
 23          *appropriated \$1,000,000 to the Secretary of Commerce, act-*  
 24          *ing through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin-*



1 istration, to provide funds to the University of Guam for  
2 coral reef research and protection.

3 (c) *SUPPORT FOR CORAL REEF INSTITUTES.*—The Ad-  
4 ministrator, subject to the availability of appropriations  
5 specifically to carry out this subsection, may enter into, re-  
6 negotiate, or extend a cooperative agreement with any uni-  
7 versity or local academic institution or other research center  
8 with established programs that support coral reef conserva-  
9 tion to accomplish the following:

10 (1) *Provide technical and other assistance to*  
11 *build capacity for effective resource management on a*  
12 *regional level and within local communities.*

13 (2) *Facilitate interdisciplinary research regard-*  
14 *ing coral reef ecosystems to improve resource manage-*  
15 *ment and improve understanding of potential im-*  
16 *pacts to such ecosystems attributed to climate change.*

17 (3) *Conduct public education programs regard-*  
18 *ing coral reefs and coral reef ecosystems to improve*  
19 *public awareness of the need to protect and conserve*  
20 *such resources.*

21 (4) *To advance the purposes and policies set*  
22 *forth in the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000.*

23 (d) *DEFINITIONS.*—For purposes of this section the  
24 definitions in section 214 of the Coral Reef Conservation

- 1 *Act of 2000, as redesignated by section 6(a) of this Act and*
- 2 *amended by section 8 of this Act, apply.*



Union Calendar No. 248

110<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> Session

**H. R. 1205**

[Report No. 110-394, Part I]

**A BILL**

To reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of  
2000, and for other purposes.

OCTOBER 22, 2007

Reported from the Committee on Natural Resources with  
an amendment

OCTOBER 22, 2007

Committee on Science and Technology discharged; com-  
mitted to the Committee of the Whole House on the  
State of the Union and ordered to be printed