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H. R. 365

To direct the President to establish a program to develop a coordinated and comprehensive Federal ocean and coastal mapping plan for the Great Lakes and coastal state waters, the territorial sea, the exclusive economic zone, and the continental shelf of the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 9, 2009

Ms. BORDALLO (for herself, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. FARR, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. INSLEE, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, and Ms. SHEA-PORTER) 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

A BILL

To direct the President to establish a program to develop a coordinated and comprehensive Federal ocean and coastal mapping plan for the Great Lakes and coastal state waters, the territorial sea, the exclusive economic zone, and the continental shelf of the United States, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Ocean and Coastal
3 Mapping Integration Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.**

5 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The President, in coordination
6 with the Interagency Committee on Ocean and Coastal
7 Mapping and affected coastal states, shall establish a pro-
8 gram to develop a coordinated and comprehensive Federal
9 ocean and coastal mapping plan for the Great Lakes and
10 coastal state waters, the territorial sea, the exclusive eco-
11 nomic zone, and the continental shelf of the United States
12 that enhances ecosystem approaches in decision-making
13 for conservation and management of marine resources and
14 habitats, establishes research and mapping priorities, sup-
15 ports the siting of research and other platforms, and ad-
16 vances ocean and coastal science.

17 (b) **MEMBERSHIP.**—The Committee shall be com-
18 prised of high-level representatives of the Department of
19 Commerce, through the National Oceanic and Atmos-
20 pheric Administration, the Department of the Interior, the
21 National Science Foundation, the Department of Defense,
22 the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of
23 Homeland Security, the National Aeronautics and Space
24 Administration, and other appropriate Federal agencies
25 involved in ocean and coastal mapping.

1 (c) PROGRAM PARAMETERS.—In developing such a
2 program, the President, through the Committee, shall—

3 (1) identify all Federal and federally funded
4 programs conducting shoreline delineation and ocean
5 or coastal mapping, noting geographic coverage, fre-
6 quency, spatial coverage, resolution, and subject
7 matter focus of the data and location of data ar-
8 chives;

9 (2) facilitate cost-effective, cooperative mapping
10 efforts that incorporate policies for contracting with
11 non-governmental entities among all Federal agen-
12 cies conducting ocean and coastal mapping, by in-
13 creasing data sharing, developing appropriate data
14 acquisition and metadata standards, and facilitating
15 the interoperability of in situ data collection systems,
16 data processing, archiving, and distribution of data
17 products;

18 (3) facilitate the adaptation of existing tech-
19 nologies as well as foster expertise in new ocean and
20 coastal mapping technologies, including through re-
21 search, development, and training conducted among
22 Federal agencies and in cooperation with non-gov-
23 ernmental entities;

24 (4) develop standards and protocols for testing
25 innovative experimental mapping technologies and

1 transferring new technologies between the Federal
2 Government, coastal state, and non-governmental
3 entities;

4 (5) provide for the archiving, management, and
5 distribution of data sets through a national registry
6 as well as provide mapping products and services to
7 the general public in service of statutory require-
8 ments;

9 (6) develop data standards and protocols con-
10 sistent with standards developed by the Federal Geo-
11 graphic Data Committee for use by Federal, coastal
12 state, and other entities in mapping and otherwise
13 documenting locations of federally permitted activi-
14 ties, living and nonliving coastal and marine re-
15 sources, marine ecosystems, sensitive habitats, sub-
16 merged cultural resources, undersea cables, offshore
17 aquaculture projects, offshore energy projects, and
18 any areas designated for purposes of environmental
19 protection or conservation and management of living
20 and nonliving coastal and marine resources;

21 (7) identify the procedures to be used for co-
22 ordinating the collection and integration of Federal
23 ocean and coastal mapping data with coastal state
24 and local government programs;

1 (8) facilitate, to the extent practicable, the col-
2 lection of real-time tide data and the development of
3 hydrodynamic models for coastal areas to allow for
4 the application of V-datum tools that will facilitate
5 the seamless integration of onshore and offshore
6 maps and charts;

7 (9) establish a plan for the acquisition and col-
8 lection of ocean and coastal mapping data; and

9 (10) set forth a timetable for completion and
10 implementation of the plan.

11 **SEC. 3. INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE ON OCEAN AND COAST-**
12 **AL MAPPING.**

13 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Administrator of the Na-
14 tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, within 30
15 days after the date of enactment of this Act, shall convene
16 or utilize an existing interagency committee on ocean and
17 coastal mapping to implement section 2.

18 (b) **MEMBERSHIP.**—The committee shall be com-
19 prised of senior representatives from Federal agencies
20 with ocean and coastal mapping and surveying responsibil-
21 ities. The representatives shall be high-ranking officials of
22 their respective agencies or departments and, whenever
23 possible, the head of the portion of the agency or depart-
24 ment that is most relevant to the purposes of this Act.
25 Membership shall include senior representatives from the

1 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the
2 Chief of Naval Operations, the United States Geological
3 Survey, the Minerals Management Service, the National
4 Science Foundation, the National Geospatial-Intelligence
5 Agency, the United States Army Corps of Engineers, the
6 Coast Guard, the Environmental Protection Agency, the
7 Federal Emergency Management Agency, the National
8 Aeronautics and Space Administration, and other appro-
9 priate Federal agencies involved in ocean and coastal map-
10 ping.

11 (c) CO-CHAIRMEN.—The Committee shall be co-
12 chaired by the representative of the Department of Com-
13 merce and a representative of the Department of the Inte-
14 rior.

15 (d) SUBCOMMITTEE.—The co-chairmen shall estab-
16 lish a subcommittee to carry out the day-to-day work of
17 the Committee, comprised of senior representatives of any
18 member agency of the committee. Working groups may
19 be formed by the full Committee to address issues of short
20 duration. The subcommittee shall be chaired by the rep-
21 resentative from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
22 Administration. The chairmen of the Committee may cre-
23 ate such additional subcommittees and working groups as
24 may be needed to carry out the work of Committee.

1 (e) MEETINGS.—The committee shall meet on a
2 quarterly basis, but each subcommittee and each working
3 group shall meet on an as-needed basis.

4 (f) COORDINATION.—The committee shall coordinate
5 activities when appropriate, with—

6 (1) other Federal efforts, including the Digital
7 Coast, Geospatial One-Stop, and the Federal Geo-
8 graphic Data Committee;

9 (2) international mapping activities;

10 (3) coastal states;

11 (4) user groups through workshops and other
12 appropriate mechanisms; and

13 (5) representatives of nongovernmental entities.

14 (g) ADVISORY PANEL.—The Administrator may con-
15 vene an ocean and coastal mapping advisory panel con-
16 sisting of representatives from non-governmental entities
17 to provide input regarding activities of the committee in
18 consultation with the interagency committee.

19 **SEC. 4. BIENNIAL REPORTS.**

20 No later than 18 months after the date of enactment
21 of this Act, and biennially thereafter, the co-chairmen of
22 the Committee shall transmit to the Committee on Com-
23 merce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the
24 Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Rep-

1 representatives a report detailing progress made in imple-
2 menting this Act, including—

3 (1) an inventory of ocean and coastal mapping
4 data within the territorial sea and the exclusive eco-
5 nomic zone and throughout the Continental Shelf of
6 the United States, noting the age and source of the
7 survey and the spatial resolution (metadata) of the
8 data;

9 (2) identification of priority areas in need of
10 survey coverage using present technologies;

11 (3) a resource plan that identifies when priority
12 areas in need of modern ocean and coastal mapping
13 surveys can be accomplished;

14 (4) the status of efforts to produce integrated
15 digital maps of ocean and coastal areas;

16 (5) a description of any products resulting from
17 coordinated mapping efforts under this Act that im-
18 prove public understanding of the coasts and oceans,
19 or regulatory decisionmaking;

20 (6) documentation of minimum and desired
21 standards for data acquisition and integrated
22 metadata;

23 (7) a statement of the status of Federal efforts
24 to leverage mapping technologies, coordinate map-
25 ping activities, share expertise, and exchange data;

1 (8) a statement of resource requirements for or-
2 ganizations to meet the goals of the program, includ-
3 ing technology needs for data acquisition, proc-
4 essing, and distribution systems;

5 (9) a statement of the status of efforts to de-
6 classify data gathered by the Navy, the National
7 Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, and other agencies
8 to the extent possible without jeopardizing national
9 security, and make it available to partner agencies
10 and the public;

11 (10) a resource plan for a digital coast inte-
12 grated mapping pilot project for the northern Gulf
13 of Mexico that will—

14 (A) cover the area from the authorized
15 coastal counties through the territorial sea;

16 (B) identify how such a pilot project will
17 leverage public and private mapping data and
18 resources, such as the United States Geological
19 Survey National Map, to result in an oper-
20 ational coastal change assessment program for
21 the subregion;

22 (11) the status of efforts to coordinate Federal
23 programs with coastal state and local government
24 programs and leverage those programs;

1 (12) a description of efforts of Federal agencies
2 to increase contracting with nongovernmental enti-
3 ties; and

4 (13) an inventory and description of any new
5 Federal or federally funded programs conducting
6 shoreline delineation and ocean or coastal mapping
7 since the previous reporting cycle.

8 **SEC. 5. PLAN.**

9 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 6 months after the
10 date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator, in con-
11 sultation with the Committee, shall develop and submit to
12 the Congress a plan for an integrated ocean and coastal
13 mapping initiative within the National Oceanic and At-
14 mospheric Administration.

15 (b) **PLAN REQUIREMENTS.**—The plan shall—

16 (1) identify and describe all ocean and coastal
17 mapping programs within the agency, including
18 those that conduct mapping or related activities in
19 the course of existing missions, such as hydrographic
20 surveys, ocean exploration projects, living marine re-
21 source conservation and management programs,
22 coastal zone management projects, and ocean and
23 coastal observations and science projects;

24 (2) establish priority mapping programs and es-
25 tablish and periodically update priorities for geo-

1 graphic areas in surveying and mapping across all
2 missions of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
3 Administration, as well as minimum data acquisition
4 and metadata standards for those programs;

5 (3) encourage the development of innovative
6 ocean and coastal mapping technologies and applica-
7 tions, through research and development through co-
8 operative or other agreements with joint or coopera-
9 tive research institutes or centers and with other
10 non-governmental entities;

11 (4) document available and developing tech-
12 nologies, best practices in data processing and dis-
13 tribution, and leveraging opportunities with other
14 Federal agencies, coastal states, and non-govern-
15 mental entities;

16 (5) identify training, technology, and other re-
17 source requirements for enabling the National Oce-
18 anic and Atmospheric Administration's programs,
19 vessels, and aircraft to support a coordinated ocean
20 and coastal mapping program;

21 (6) identify a centralized mechanism or office
22 for coordinating data collection, processing,
23 archiving, and dissemination activities of all such
24 mapping programs within the National Oceanic and
25 Atmospheric Administration that meets Federal

1 mandates for data accuracy and accessibility and
2 designate a repository that is responsible for
3 archiving and managing the distribution of all ocean
4 and coastal mapping data to simplify the provision
5 of services to benefit Federal and coastal state pro-
6 grams; and

7 (7) set forth a timetable for implementation
8 and completion of the plan, including a schedule for
9 submission to the Congress of periodic progress re-
10 ports and recommendations for integrating ap-
11 proaches developed under the initiative into the
12 interagency program.

13 (c) NOAA JOINT OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING
14 CENTERS.—The Administrator may maintain and operate
15 up to 3 joint ocean and coastal mapping centers, including
16 a joint hydrographic center, which shall each be co-located
17 with an institution of higher education. The centers shall
18 serve as hydrographic centers of excellence and may con-
19 duct activities necessary to carry out the purposes of this
20 Act, including—

21 (1) research and development of innovative
22 ocean and coastal mapping technologies, equipment,
23 and data products;

24 (2) mapping of the United States Outer Conti-
25 nental Shelf and other regions;

1 (3) data processing for nontraditional data and
2 uses;

3 (4) advancing the use of remote sensing tech-
4 nologies, for related issues, including mapping and
5 assessment of essential fish habitat and of coral re-
6 sources, ocean observations, and ocean exploration;
7 and

8 (5) providing graduate education and training
9 in ocean and coastal mapping sciences for members
10 of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Adminis-
11 tration Commissioned Officer Corps, personnel of
12 other agencies with ocean and coastal mapping pro-
13 grams, and civilian personnel.

14 (d) NOAA REPORT.—The Administrator shall con-
15 tinue developing a strategy for expanding contracting with
16 non-governmental entities to minimize duplication and
17 take maximum advantage of nongovernmental capabilities
18 in fulfilling the Administration’s mapping and charting re-
19 sponsibilities. Within 120 days after the date of enactment
20 of this Act, the Administrator shall transmit a report de-
21 scribing the strategy developed under this subsection to
22 the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
23 of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources
24 of the House of Representatives.

1 **SEC. 6. EFFECT ON OTHER LAWS.**

2 Nothing in this Act shall be construed to supersede
3 or alter the existing authorities of any Federal agency with
4 respect to ocean and coastal mapping.

5 **SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

6 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—In addition to the amounts au-
7 thorized by section 306 of the Hydrographic Services Im-
8 provement Act of 1998 (33 U.S.C. 892d), there are au-
9 thorized to be appropriated to the Administrator to carry
10 out this Act—

- 11 (1) \$26,000,000 for fiscal year 2009;
12 (2) \$32,000,000 for fiscal year 2010;
13 (3) \$38,000,000 for fiscal year 2011; and
14 (4) \$45,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2012
15 through 2015.

16 (b) **JOINT OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING CEN-**
17 **TERS.**—Of the amounts appropriated pursuant to sub-
18 section (a), the following amounts shall be used to carry
19 out section 5(c) of this Act:

- 20 (1) \$11,000,000 for fiscal year 2009.
21 (2) \$12,000,000 for fiscal year 2010.
22 (3) \$13,000,000 for fiscal year 2011.
23 (4) \$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2012
24 through 2015.

25 (c) **COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.**—To carry out
26 interagency activities under section 3 of this Act, the head

1 of any department or agency may execute a cooperative
2 agreement with the Administrator, including those author-
3 ized by section 5 of the Act of August 6, 1947 (33 U.S.C.
4 883e).

5 **SEC. 8. DEFINITIONS.**

6 In this Act:

7 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
8 trator” means the Administrator of the National
9 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

10 (2) COASTAL STATE.—The term “coastal state”
11 has the meaning given that term by section 304(4)
12 of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16
13 U.S.C. 1453(4)).

14 (3) COMMITTEE.—The term “Committee”
15 means the Interagency Committee on Ocean and
16 Coastal Mapping established by section 3.

17 (4) EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE.—The term
18 “exclusive economic zone” means the exclusive eco-
19 nomic zone of the United States established by Pres-
20 idential Proclamation No. 5030, of March 10, 1983.

21 (5) OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING.—The term
22 “ocean and coastal mapping” means the acquisition,
23 processing, and management of physical, biological,
24 geological, chemical, and archaeological characteris-
25 tics and boundaries of ocean and coastal areas, re-

1 sources, and sea beds through the use of acoustics,
2 satellites, aerial photogrammetry, light and imaging,
3 direct sampling, and other mapping technologies.

4 (6) TERRITORIAL SEA.—The term “territorial
5 sea” means the belt of sea measured from the base-
6 line of the United States determined in accordance
7 with international law, as set forth in Presidential
8 Proclamation Number 5928, dated December 27,
9 1988.

10 (7) NONGOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES.—The term
11 “nongovernmental entities” includes nongovern-
12 mental organizations, members of the academic com-
13 munity, and private sector organizations that pro-
14 vide products and services associated with meas-
15 uring, locating, and preparing maps, charts, surveys,
16 aerial photographs, satellite images, or other
17 graphical or digital presentations depicting natural
18 or manmade physical features, phenomena, and legal
19 boundaries of the Earth.

20 (8) OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF.—The term
21 “Outer Continental Shelf” means all submerged
22 lands lying seaward and outside of lands beneath
23 navigable waters (as that term is defined in section
24 2 of the Submerged Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1301)),
25 and of which the subsoil and seabed appertain to the

1 United States and are subject to its jurisdiction and
2 control.

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