

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2803

To direct the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement, to conduct a technological capability assessment, survey, and economic feasibility study regarding recovery of minerals, other than oil and natural gas, from the shallow and deep seabed of the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 5, 2011

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement, to conduct a technological capability assessment, survey, and economic feasibility study regarding recovery of minerals, other than oil and natural gas, from the shallow and deep seabed of the United States.

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. TECHNOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT, SURVEY, AND**
2 **STUDY OF SHALLOW AND DEEP SEABED MIN-**
3 **ERALS.**

4 (a) AUTHORIZATION.—The Secretary of the Interior,
5 acting through the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management,
6 Regulation and Enforcement and in consultation with the
7 heads of other appropriate Federal agencies, shall con-
8 duct—

9 (1) a survey of the shallow and deep seabed of
10 the United States to identify sites for the recovery
11 of such minerals; and

12 (2) an assessment of all available domestic tech-
13 nological capabilities required for the location and
14 the efficient and environmentally sound recovery of
15 minerals, other than oil and natural gas, from the
16 shallow and deep seabed of the United States; and

17 (3) an economic feasibility study on the recov-
18 ery of such minerals.

19 (b) REPORT.—No later than 2 years after the date
20 of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit a re-
21 port to Congress containing the findings and recommenda-
22 tions of the assessment, survey, and study under this sec-
23 tion.

24 (c) DEFINITION.—In this section the term “shallow
25 and deep seabed of the United States”—

1 (1) means areas of the seabed that are contig-
2 uous to and within 200 miles of the territorial sea
3 of the United States and the resources of which are
4 subject to its jurisdiction or control; and

5 (2) includes such areas that are contiguous to
6 and within 200 miles of the territorial sea around
7 any inhabited and uninhabited territory or posses-
8 sion of the United States including American
9 Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana
10 Islands, Guam, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands,
11 Midway Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia,
12 Palau, Marshall Islands, Wake Island, Johnston
13 Atoll, Baker, Howland, and Jarvis Islands, Kingman
14 Reef, Navassa Island, Serranilla Bank, Bajo Nuevo
15 Bank, and Palmyra Atoll.

16 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
17 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry
18 out this Act \$500,000 for each of fiscal years 2012 and
19 2013.

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