

Union Calendar No. 202

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2803

[Report No. 112-302]

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

DECEMBER 1, 2011

Reported with amendments, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

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

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on August 5, 2011]

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,*

3 **SECTION 1. TECHNOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT, INVENTORY,**
4 **AND STUDY OF SHALLOW AND DEEP SEABED**
5 **MINERALS.**

6 *(a) AUTHORIZATION.—The Secretary of the Interior,*
7 *acting through the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management,*
8 *Regulation and Enforcement and the United States Geo-*
9 *logical Survey and in consultation with the heads of other*
10 *appropriate Federal agencies, shall conduct—*

11 *(1) an inventory of existing data on offshore*
12 *mineral resources, other than oil and natural gas,*
13 *and an analysis of existing samples of such offshore*
14 *minerals, to identify and quantify known resources;*

15 *(2) an assessment of all available domestic tech-*
16 *nological capabilities required for the location and the*
17 *efficient and environmentally sound recovery of such*
18 *minerals from the shallow and deep seabed of the*
19 *United States;*

20 *(3) an economic feasibility study on the recovery*
21 *of such minerals; and*

22 *(4) an assessment of the environmental and safe-*
23 *ty risks associated with shallow and deep sea mineral*
24 *production, other than oil and natural gas.*

1 (b) *REPORT.*—No later than 2 years after the date of
2 enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit a report
3 to Congress containing the findings and recommendations
4 of the inventory, assessment, and study under this section.

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

7 (1) means areas of the seabed that are contiguous
8 to and within 200 miles of the territorial sea of the
9 United States and the resources of which are subject
10 to its jurisdiction or control; and

11 (2) includes such areas that are contiguous to
12 and within 200 miles of the territorial sea around
13 any inhabited and uninhabited territory or possession
14 of the United States including American Samoa, the
15 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands,
16 Guam, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Midway Is-
17 lands, the Federated States of Micronesia, Palau,
18 Marshall Islands, Wake Island, Johnston Atoll, Baker,
19 Howland, and Jarvis Islands, Kingman Reef,
20 Navassa Island, Serranilla Bank, Bajo Nuevo Bank,
21 and Palmyra Atoll.

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

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a technological capa-

bility assessment, inventory, and economic feasibility study regarding the recovery of minerals, other than oil and natural gas, from the shallow and deep seabed of the United States.”.

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