To provide for congressional approval of national monuments and restrictions on the use of national monuments, to establish requirements for the declaration of marine national monuments, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 5, 2017

Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. DAINES, Mr. HATCH, Mr. HELLER, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. LEE, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. RISCH, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. CRUZ, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. WICKER, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. COCHRAN, and Mr. ROUNDS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To provide for congressional approval of national monuments and restrictions on the use of national monuments, to establish requirements for the declaration of marine national monuments, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Improved National Monument Designation Process Act”.

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SEC. 2. DESIGNATION OF NATIONAL MONUMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 320301 of title 54, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “The President may, in the President’s discretion” and inserting the following: “After obtaining congressional approval of the proposed national monument, certifying compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) with respect to the proposed national monument, receiving from the Governor of each State in which the proposed national monument is to be located notice that the State legislature has enacted legislation approving the designation of the proposed national monument, and subject to subsection (e), the President may”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(e) Requirements for Declaration of Marine National Monuments.—

“(1) Definition of Exclusive Economic Zone.—In this subsection, the term ‘exclusive economic zone’ means the zone established by Proclamation Number 5030, dated March 10, 1983 (16 U.S.C. 1453 note).
“(2) Requirements.—The President may not declare any area of the exclusive economic zone to be a national monument unless—

“(A) the declaration is specifically authorized by an Act of Congress;

“(B) the President has certified compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) with respect to the proposed national monument;

“(C) the President has submitted to the Governor of each State and each territory, any part of which is located within 100 nautical miles of the proposed national monument, a proposal to make the declaration;

“(D) the Governor of each State and territory described in subparagraph (C) submits to the President notice that the legislature of the State or territory has approved the proposal submitted under that paragraph; and

“(E) the declaration is substantially the same as the proposal submitted under subparagraph (C).”.

(b) Restrictions on Public Use.—Section 320303 of title 54, United States Code, is amended—
(1) by striking “The Secretary,” and inserting the following:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary,”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(b) RESTRICTIONS ON PUBLIC USE.—The Secretary, or the Secretary of Commerce, with respect to any area of the exclusive economic zone (as defined in section 320301(e)(1)) designated as a national monument, shall not implement any restrictions on the public use of a national monument until the expiration of an appropriate review period (as determined by the Secretary or the Secretary of Commerce, as applicable) providing for public input and congressional approval.”.