

Public Law 96-381  
96th Congress

## An Act

To amend section 204 of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 to authorize appropriations for title II of such Act for fiscal year 1980.

Oct. 6, 1980  
[S. 1123]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That section 203 of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 (33 U.S.C. 1443) is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 203. (a) The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall—

Marine  
Protection,  
Research, and  
Sanctuaries Act  
of 1972,  
amendment.

"(1) conduct research, investigations, experiments, training, demonstrations, surveys, and studies for the purpose of—

"(A) determining means of minimizing or ending, as soon as possible after the date of the enactment of this section, the dumping into ocean waters, or waters described in section 101(b), of material which may unreasonably degrade or endanger human health, welfare, or amenities, or the marine environment, ecological systems, or economic potentialities, and

33 USC 1411.

"(B) developing disposal methods as alternatives to the dumping described in subparagraph (A); and

"(2) encourage, cooperate with, promote the coordination of, and render financial and other assistance to appropriate public authorities, agencies, and institutions (whether Federal, State, interstate, or local) and appropriate private agencies, institutions, and individuals in the conduct of research and other activities described in paragraph (1).

"(b) Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect in any way the December 31, 1981, termination date, established in section 4 of the Act of November 4, 1977 (Public Law 95-153; 33 U.S.C. 1412a), for the ocean dumping of sewage sludge."

SEC. 2. Section 204 of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 (33 U.S.C. 1444) is amended—

Appropriation  
authorization.

(1) by striking out "and" immediately after "fiscal year 1977," and

(2) by striking out "fiscal year 1978." and inserting in lieu thereof the following: "fiscal year 1978, not to exceed \$11,396,000 for fiscal year 1981, and not to exceed \$12,000,000 for fiscal year 1982."

**SEC. 3. Section 202(a) of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 (33 U.S.C. 1442(a)) is amended by inserting the following immediately after the first sentence thereof: "These responsibilities shall include the scientific assessment of damages to the natural resources from spills of petroleum or petroleum products."**

Approved October 6, 1980.

#### LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

HOUSE REPORT No. 96-894 Pt. 1 (Comm. on Merchant Marine and Fisheries) and Pt. 2 (Comm. on Science and Technology), both accompanying H.R. 6616.

SENATE REPORT No. 96-133 (Comm. on Commerce, Science, and Transportation).  
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Vol. 125 (1979): June 6, considered and passed Senate.

Vol. 126 (1980): May 12, 13, H.R. 6616 considered and passed House; passage vacated and S. 1123, amended, passed in lieu.

Sept. 9, Senate concurred in House amendment with an amendment.

Sept. 24, House concurred in Senate amendment.