

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1344

To promote research, monitoring, and observation of the Arctic and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 23, 2013

Mr. BEGICH introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To promote research, monitoring, and observation of the Arctic 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Arctic Research, Moni-
5 toring, and Observing Act of 2013”.

6 **SEC. 2. ARCTIC RESEARCH COMMISSION.**

7 (a) DUTIES OF THE ARCTIC RESEARCH COMMIS-
8 SION.—Section 104(a) of the Arctic Research and Policy
9 Act of 1984 (15 U.S.C. 4103(a)) is amended—

1 (1) in paragraph (2), by striking “assist in es-
2 tablishing” and inserting “establish”;

3 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (3) through
4 (10) as paragraphs (4) through (11), respectively;
5 and

6 (3) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-
7 lowing:

8 “(3) award—

9 “(A) grants to Federal, State, local, or
10 tribal governments and academic and private
11 organizations to conduct research on or related
12 to the Arctic, including to the marine environ-
13 ment of the Arctic Ocean, its adjacent seas or
14 associated lesser bodies of water; and

15 “(B) such grants on the basis of merit in
16 accordance with the national Arctic research
17 program plan;”.

18 (b) ADMINISTRATION OF THE COMMISSION.—Section
19 106 of the Arctic Research and Policy Act of 1984 (15
20 U.S.C. 4105) is amended—

21 (1) in paragraph (4), by striking “and” at the
22 end;

23 (2) in paragraph (5), by striking the period at
24 the end and inserting “; and”; and

25 (3) by adding at the end the following:

1 “(6) enter into agreements with appropriate
2 agencies or organizations to administer grants made
3 pursuant to this title for Arctic research including
4 reimbursement from funds of the Commission to ad-
5 minister such grants.”.

6 (c) CONFLICTS OF INTEREST; ARCTIC RESEARCH
7 COMMISSION.—Section 103 of the Arctic Research and
8 Policy Act of 1984 (15 U.S.C. 4102) is amended by add-
9 ing at the end the following:

10 “(e) CONFLICT OF INTEREST.—The Commission
11 shall adopt conflict of interest and recusal provisions that
12 apply to any decision by the Commission and to all mem-
13 bers of the Commission as if each member of the Commis-
14 sion is an ‘affected individual’ within the meaning of sec-
15 tion 302(j) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation
16 and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1852(j)), except that in
17 addition to the disclosure requirements of paragraph (2)
18 of such section 302(j), each member of the Commission
19 shall disclose any financial interest or relationship in an
20 organization or with an individual that is applying for
21 funding from the Commission held by the member of the
22 Commission, including an interest as an officer, director,
23 trustee, partner, employee, contractor, agent, or other rep-
24 resentative.”.

1 **SEC. 3. NORTH PACIFIC RESEARCH BOARD.**

2 Subsection (e) of section 401 of the Department of
3 the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act,
4 1998 (43 U.S.C. 1474d(e)) is amended by striking para-
5 graph (5) and inserting the following:

6 “(5) The Board may adopt such rules of proce-
7 dure and establish such committees as it deems nec-
8 essary to carry out the purposes of this title, includ-
9 ing the conduct of administrative duties between
10 meetings.

11 “(6) All decisions of the Board shall be by ma-
12 jority vote of the full board in regular session.

13 “(7) The Board shall adopt conflict of interest
14 and recusal provisions that apply to any decision by
15 the Board and to all members of the Board as if
16 each member of the Board is an ‘affected individual’
17 within the meaning of section 302(j) of the Magnu-
18 son-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management
19 Act (16 U.S.C. 1852(j)), except that in addition to
20 the disclosure requirements of paragraph (2) of such
21 section 302(j), each member of the Board shall dis-
22 close any financial interest or relationship in an or-
23 ganization or with an individual that is applying for
24 funding from the Board, including an interest as an
25 officer, director, trustee, partner, employee, con-
26 tractor, agent, or other representative.

1 “(8) The Secretary of Commerce may accept
2 funds from a source other than the Government of
3 the United States to be used by the Board to carry
4 out the Board’s functions.”.

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