

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4822

AN ACT

To prohibit the National Science Foundation from using Federal funds to descope or decommission the Ocean Observatories Initiative instruments.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Saving the OOI Act
3 of 2026”.

4 **SEC. 2. NO NSF FUNDING TO DESCOPE OR DECOMMISSION**
5 **THE OCEAN OBSERVATORIES INITIATIVE IN-**
6 **STRUMENTS; RESTORATION.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
8 sion of law, the National Science Foundation shall not use
9 any Federal funds to decommission or descope the Ocean
10 Observatories Initiative instruments anchored off the
11 States of Oregon, Washington, Alaska, and North Caro-
12 lina, and in the Irminger Sea, until the National Science
13 Foundation conducts a thorough review of the initiative,
14 and the national assets that it provides, with robust stake-
15 holder engagement from the scientific and coastal commu-
16 nities.

17 (b) MAINTENANCE OF OPERATIONS.—The Director
18 of the National Science Foundation shall maintain the
19 Ocean Observatories Initiative with full and consistent

- 1 operations, including monitoring in all States that had in-
- 2 struments decommissioned, until the full review described
- 3 in subsection (a) has been completed.

Passed the Senate June 17, 2026.

Attest:

Secretary.

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