

OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING INTEGRATION ACT

JULY 23, 2007.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. RAHALL, from the Committee on Natural Resources,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R. 2400]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Natural Resources, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 2400) to direct the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to establish an integrated Federal ocean and coastal mapping plan for the Great Lakes and coastal state waters, the territorial sea, the exclusive economic zone, and the Continental Shelf of the United States, and for other purposes, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with an amendment and recommend that the bill as amended do pass.

The amendment is as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Ocean and Coastal Mapping Integration Act”.

SEC. 2. INTEGRATED OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING PROGRAM.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall establish a program to develop, in coordination with the Interagency Committee on Ocean and Coastal Mapping and affected coastal states, a coordinated and comprehensive Federal ocean and coastal mapping plan for the Great Lakes and coastal state waters, the territorial sea, the exclusive economic zone, and the Continental Shelf of the United States that enhances ecosystem approaches in decisionmaking for conservation and management of marine resources and habitats, establishes priorities for research and mapping, supports the siting of research and other platforms, enhances safety of navigation, and advances ocean and coastal science.

(b) **PROGRAM PARAMETERS.**—In developing such a program, the Administrator shall work with the Committee to—

- (1) identify all Federal and federally funded programs conducting shoreline delineation and ocean or coastal mapping, noting geographic coverage, frequency, spatial coverage, resolution, and subject matter focus of the data and location of data archives;

(2) facilitate cost-effective, cooperative mapping efforts that incorporate policies for contracting with non-governmental entities among all Federal agencies conducting ocean and coastal mapping, by increasing data sharing, developing appropriate data acquisition and metadata standards, and facilitating the interoperability of in situ data collection systems, data processing, archiving, and distribution of data products;

(3) facilitate the adaptation of existing technologies as well as foster expertise in new ocean and coastal mapping technologies, including through research, development, and training conducted among Federal agencies and in cooperation with non-governmental entities;

(4) develop standards and protocols for testing innovative experimental mapping technologies and transferring new technologies between the Federal Government, coastal state, and non-governmental entities;

(5) provide for the archiving, management, and distribution of data sets through a national registry as well as provide mapping products and services to the general public in service of statutory requirements;

(6) develop data standards and protocols consistent with standards developed by the Federal Geographic Data Committee for use by Federal, coastal state, and other entities in mapping and otherwise documenting locations of federally permitted activities, living and nonliving coastal and marine resources, marine ecosystems, sensitive habitats, submerged cultural resources, undersea cables, offshore aquaculture projects, offshore energy projects, and any areas designated for purposes of environmental protection or conservation and management of living and nonliving coastal and marine resources;

(7) identify the procedures to be used for coordinating the collection and integration of Federal ocean and coastal mapping data with coastal state and local government programs;

(8) facilitate, to the extent practicable, the collection of real-time tide data and the development of hydrodynamic models for coastal areas to allow for the application of V-datum tools that will facilitate the seamless integration of on-shore and offshore maps and charts;

(9) establish a plan for the acquisition and collection of ocean and coastal mapping data; and

(10) set forth a timetable for completion and implementation of the plan referred to in subsection (a).

SEC. 3. INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE ON OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator, within 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, shall convene or utilize an existing interagency committee on ocean and coastal mapping to implement section 2.

(b) MEMBERSHIP.—The committee shall be comprised of senior representatives from Federal agencies with ocean and coastal mapping and surveying responsibilities. The representatives shall be high-ranking officials of their respective agencies or departments and, whenever possible, the head of the portion of the agency or department that is most relevant to the purposes of this Act. Membership shall include senior representatives from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Chief of Naval Operations, the United States Geological Survey, the Minerals Management Service, the National Science Foundation, the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, the United States Army Corps of Engineers, the Coast Guard, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and other appropriate Federal agencies involved in ocean and coastal mapping.

(c) CHAIRMAN.—The committee shall have as its chairman the representative from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The chairman may create subcommittees chaired by any member agency of the committee. The full committee may form working groups to address issues of short duration.

(d) MEETINGS.—The committee shall meet on a quarterly basis, but each subcommittee and each working group shall meet on an as-needed basis.

(e) COORDINATION.—The committee shall coordinate activities, when appropriate, with—

(1) other Federal efforts, including the Digital Coast, Geospatial One-Stop, and the Federal Geographic Data Committee;

(2) international mapping activities;

(3) coastal states;

(4) user groups through workshops and other appropriate mechanisms; and

(5) representatives of non-governmental entities.

(f) ADVISORY PANEL.—The Administrator may convene an ocean and coastal mapping advisory panel consisting of representatives from non-governmental entities to provide input regarding activities of the committee.

SEC. 4. NOAA INTEGRATED MAPPING INITIATIVE.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator, in consultation with the Committee, shall develop and submit to the Congress a plan for an integrated ocean and coastal mapping initiative within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(b) **PLAN REQUIREMENTS.**—The plan shall—

(1) identify and describe all ocean and coastal mapping programs within the agency, including those that conduct mapping or related activities in the course of existing missions, such as hydrographic surveys, ocean exploration projects, living marine resource conservation and management programs, coastal zone management projects, and ocean and coastal observations and science projects;

(2) establish priority mapping programs and establish and periodically update priorities for geographic areas in surveying and mapping across all missions of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, as well as minimum data acquisition and metadata standards for those programs;

(3) encourage the development of innovative ocean and coastal mapping technologies and applications, such as Digital Coast, through research and development through cooperative or other agreements with joint or cooperative research institutes or centers and with other non-governmental entities;

(4) document available and developing technologies, best practices in data processing and distribution, and leveraging opportunities with other Federal agencies, coastal states, and non-governmental entities;

(5) identify training, technology, and other resource requirements for enabling the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's programs, vessels, and aircraft to support a coordinated ocean and coastal mapping program;

(6) identify a centralized mechanism or office for coordinating data collection, processing, archiving, and dissemination activities of all such mapping programs within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration that meets Federal mandates for data accuracy and accessibility and designate a repository that is responsible for archiving and managing the distribution of all ocean and coastal mapping data to simplify the provision of services to benefit Federal and coastal state programs; and

(7) set forth a timetable for implementation and completion of the plan, including a schedule for submission to the Congress of periodic progress reports and recommendations for integrating approaches developed under the initiative into the interagency program.

(c) **NOAA JOINT OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING CENTERS.**—The Administrator may maintain and operate up to 3 joint ocean and coastal mapping centers, including a joint hydrographic center, which shall each be co-located with an institution of higher education. The centers shall serve as hydrographic centers of excellence and may conduct activities necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act, including—

(1) research and development of innovative ocean and coastal mapping technologies, equipment, and data products;

(2) mapping of the United States Outer Continental Shelf and other regions;

(3) data processing for nontraditional data and uses;

(4) advancing the use of remote sensing technologies, for related issues, including mapping and assessment of essential fish habitat and of coral resources, ocean observations, and ocean exploration; and

(5) providing graduate education and training in ocean and coastal mapping sciences for members of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps, personnel of other agencies with ocean and coastal mapping programs, and civilian personnel.

(d) **ENHANCED OPPORTUNITIES FOR NON-GOVERNMENTAL CONTRACTING.**—The Administrator shall continue developing a strategy for expanding contracting with non-governmental entities to minimize duplication and take maximum advantage of non-governmental capabilities in fulfilling the Administration's mapping and charting responsibilities. Within 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall transmit a report describing the strategy developed under this subsection to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 5. INTERAGENCY PROGRAM REPORTING.

No later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, and biannually thereafter, the Chairman of the Committee shall transmit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives a report detailing progress made in implementing this Act, including—

(1) an inventory of ocean and coastal mapping data within the territorial sea and the exclusive economic zone and throughout the Continental Shelf of the United States, noting the age and source of the survey and the spatial resolution (metadata) of the data;

(2) an inventory and description of any new Federal or federally funded programs conducting shoreline delineation and ocean or coastal mapping since the previous reporting cycle;

(3) identification of priority areas in need of survey coverage using present technologies;

(4) a resource plan that identifies when priority areas in need of modern ocean and coastal mapping surveys can be accomplished;

(5) the status of efforts to produce integrated digital maps of ocean and coastal areas;

(6) a description of any products resulting from coordinated mapping efforts under this Act that improve public understanding of the coasts and oceans, or regulatory decisionmaking;

(7) documentation of minimum and desired standards for data acquisition and integrated metadata;

(8) a statement of the status of Federal efforts to leverage mapping technologies, coordinate mapping activities, share expertise, and exchange data;

(9) a statement of resource requirements for organizations to meet the goals of the program, including technology needs for data acquisition, processing, and distribution systems;

(10) a statement of the status of efforts to declassify data gathered by the Navy, the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, and other agencies to the extent possible without jeopardizing national security, and make it available to partner agencies and the public;

(11) the status of efforts to coordinate Federal programs with coastal state and local government programs and leverage those programs; and

(12) a description of efforts of Federal agencies to increase contracting with non-governmental entities.

SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In addition to the amounts authorized by section 306 of the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act of 1998 (33 U.S.C. 892d), there are authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator to carry out this Act—

(1) \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2008;

(2) \$26,000,000 for fiscal year 2009;

(3) \$32,000,000 for fiscal year 2010;

(4) \$38,000,000 for fiscal year 2011; and

(5) \$45,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2012 through 2015.

(b) JOINT OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING CENTERS.—Of the amounts appropriated under subsection (a), the following amounts shall be used to carry out section 4(c):

(1) \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2008.

(2) \$11,000,000 for fiscal year 2009.

(3) \$12,000,000 for fiscal year 2010.

(4) \$13,000,000 for fiscal year 2011.

(5) \$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2012 through 2015.

(c) INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, from amounts authorized to be appropriated for fiscal years 2008 through 2015 to the departments of the agencies, and the independent agencies, specified in section 3(b), the head of each such department or agency may make available not more than \$10,000,000 per fiscal year to carry out interagency activities under section 3.

SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Administrator” means the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(2) COASTAL STATE.—The term “coastal state” has the meaning given that term by section 304(4) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1453(4)).

(3) COMMITTEE.—The term “Committee” means the Interagency Committee on Ocean and Coastal Mapping established by section 3.

(4) EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE.—The term “exclusive economic zone” means the exclusive economic zone of the United States established by Presidential Proclamation No. 5030, of March 10, 1983.

(5) NON-GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES.—The term “non-governmental entities” includes non-governmental organizations, members of the academic community, and private sector organizations that provide products and services associated with measuring, locating, and preparing maps, charts, surveys, aerial photo-

graphs, satellite images, or other graphical or digital presentations depicting natural or manmade physical features, phenomena, and legal boundaries of the Earth.

(6) OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING.—The term “ocean and coastal mapping” means the acquisition, processing, and management of physical, biological, geological, chemical, and archaeological characteristics and boundaries of ocean and coastal areas, resources, and sea beds through the use of acoustics, satellites, aerial photogrammetry, light and imaging, direct sampling, and other mapping technologies.

(7) OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF.—The term “Outer Continental Shelf” means all submerged lands lying seaward and outside of lands beneath navigable waters (as that term is defined in section 2 of the Submerged Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1301)), and of which the subsoil and seabed appertain to the United States and are subject to its jurisdiction and control.

(8) TERRITORIAL SEA.—The term “territorial sea” means the belt of sea measured from the baseline of the United States determined in accordance with international law, as set forth in Presidential Proclamation Number 5928, dated December 27, 1988.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of H.R. 2400, Ocean and Coastal Mapping Integration Act, is to direct the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to establish an integrated federal ocean and coastal mapping plan for the Great Lakes and coastal state waters, the territorial sea, the exclusive economic zone, and the Continental Shelf of the United States, and for other purposes.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

Coastal mapping and surveys for nautical charting are two of the oldest functions of the federal government. The root of these activities dates back to 1807, when President Thomas Jefferson signed into law an Act requiring the President “to cause a survey to be taken of the coast of the United States * * * together with such other matters as he may deem proper for completing an accurate chart of every part of the coast.” Two hundred years later, the mapping and charting of our coasts and submerged lands off the continental shelf and in the Exclusive Economic Zone continues to be an issue of great national importance.

Availability of quality, up-to-date, comprehensive maps and charts for all U.S. waters is important for myriad reasons. Accurate maps and charts are imperative to ensure safe navigation for marine shipping and to facilitate effective coastal planning for hazard mitigation, such as a storm surge. Maps and charts are required to develop and implement science-based, ecosystem management approaches, to monitor competing and often conflicting uses of the marine environment, and to track environmental changes. Maps and charts are also, perhaps most obviously, important tools for identifying boundaries, including the extent of our continental shelf beyond the 200 nautical mile limit of the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone.

At least 15 federal agencies, most coastal states, and numerous local agencies, academic institutions, and private companies conduct mapping and charting activities in U.S. waters. Today, no central repository or coordinating body exists under law to oversee and track these mapping efforts. The lack of coordination leads to redundancy of efforts in certain areas, which can be extremely expensive and inefficient. While some areas are “over mapped,” there is a severe lack of data in other regions. The National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) currently designates 35,000 square nautical miles of waters important to navigation that require updated information. Of the data that do exist, differences in scale, projection, resolution, reference frames, and the source and vintage of the data inhibit integration efforts. The lack of communication among agencies also masks opportunities for technology transfer and development.

Additionally, should the U.S. accede to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, documentation and verification of the extent of the continental shelf will be required to claim an extended Exclusive Economic Zone where potentially \$3.1 trillion in marine resources may be located.

In 2004, the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy (USCOP) released a report at the request of the President and the Congress recommending actions needed to improve ocean policy in the United States. Among the suggestions made by the USCOP was a recommendation to consolidate and coordinate federal mapping activities, and that NOAA lead this effort. At the same time, the National Research Council completed a study to identify the most pressing national needs for coastal mapping and charting. This study, requested by three of the primary agencies involved in ocean and coastal surveys, identified the same need for coordination. Their findings included a need for a consistent spatial framework, increased access to geospatial data and mapping products, and increased inter- and intra-agency communication, cooperation, and coordination.

Enactment of H.R. 2400 will provide a framework for an integrated ocean and coastal mapping program. This will improve the conservation and management of marine resources, and increase marine transportation safety. In addition, passage of H.R. 2400 will advance coastal and ocean science research and technology development and increase our understanding of the submerged land areas under U.S. jurisdiction, an area larger than the contiguous United States.

COMMITTEE ACTION

H.R. 2400 was introduced on May 21, 2007, by the Chairwoman of the Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans, Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU). The bill was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and within the Committee to the Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans. The bill was also referred to the Committee on Science and Technology. The Subcommittee met on June 5, 2007, to receive testimony related to the bill. The legislation received positive endorsements from the witnesses, including the Administration.

On June 19, 2007, the Subcommittee met to mark up the bill. Chairwoman Bordallo offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute to direct the NOAA Administrator to facilitate the creation of a national registry for federally-funded ocean and coastal mapping data. The substitute amendment also included provisions to allow the NOAA Administrator to use an existing entity to fulfill the requirement for an Interagency Committee on Ocean and Coastal Mapping, such as the Joint Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology established under the Bush administration Ocean Action Plan, and authorized the Administrator to establish

a non-federal advisory panel to provide input to the Interagency Committee. The substitute amendment also directed the NOAA Administrator to facilitate the integration of onshore and offshore maps and charts. The Bordallo substitute amendment was adopted by voice vote. The bill, as amended, was then forwarded to the Full Committee by voice vote.

On June 28, 2007, the Committee on Natural Resources considered the bill. Chairwoman Bordallo offered a non-controversial amendment in the nature of a substitute to clarify the role of states in the coordination process; strengthen the directive to implement mapping activities in addition to research and planning; clarify the role of private contractors in the gathering of mapping data; and, to encourage the development of ocean and coastal mapping technologies and applications, including the Digital Coast. The substitute amendment was adopted by unanimous consent. The bill, as amended, was then ordered favorably reported to the House of Representatives by unanimous consent.

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

Section 1. Short title

Section 1 cites this Act as the “Ocean and Coastal Mapping Integration Act.”

Section 2. Integrated ocean and coastal mapping program

Section 2 would direct the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), in coordination with the Interagency Committee on Ocean and Coastal Mapping and affected coastal states, to establish a comprehensive Federal ocean and coastal mapping program for U.S. coastal, ocean, and Great Lakes Waters. The program would increase cooperation and communication among Federal agencies, coastal States, and nongovernmental entities in an effort to establish more efficient methods of collecting data, testing and implementing new technologies, and managing and disseminating data.

Section 3. Interagency Committee on Ocean and Coastal Mapping

Section 3 would establish an Interagency Committee on Ocean and Coastal Mapping, or allow the Administrator of NOAA to utilize an existing entity, comprising senior representatives of relevant Federal agencies and chaired by a representative from NOAA. The Committee would meet quarterly and coordinate as appropriate with other Federal, international, state, and private entity activities. In addition, Section 3 would authorize the Administrator to convene an Advisory Panel consisting of representatives from nongovernmental entities to provide input regarding activities of the Interagency Committee.

Section 4. NOAA integrated mapping initiative

Section 4 would require the Administrator of NOAA, in consultation with the Interagency Committee, to submit to Congress within six months after the date of enactment a plan for an integrated ocean and coastal mapping initiative within NOAA. Section 4 would direct the Administrator of NOAA to develop a strategy to use nongovernmental entity capabilities through expanded con-

tracting. Finally, Section 4 would authorize the Administrator of NOAA to operate three Joint Ocean and Coastal Mapping Centers to serve as hydrographic centers of excellence. The centers could conduct a variety of activities, including mapping, advancing the use of remote sensing technologies, training NOAA and other employees, and providing research and development of mapping technologies.

Section 5. Interagency program reporting

Section 5 would require the Chairman of the Interagency Committee to report to Congress no later than 18 months after the date of enactment, and biannually thereafter, the progress made in implementing this Act.

Section 6. Authorization of appropriations

Section 6 authorizes appropriations to NOAA for this program on an incrementally increasing basis as follows: \$20 million for fiscal year 2008, \$26 million for fiscal year 2009, \$32 million for fiscal year 2010, \$38 million for fiscal year 2011, and \$45 million for each of fiscal years 2012 through 2015. The Joint Ocean and Coastal Mapping Centers would be authorized to receive some of this funding.

Section 7. Definitions

Section 7 defines key terms.

COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Regarding clause 2(b)(1) of rule X and clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Natural Resources' oversight findings and recommendations are reflected in the body of this report.

FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE STATEMENT

The functions of the proposed advisory committee authorized in the bill are not currently being nor could they be performed by one or more agencies, an advisory committee already in existence or by enlarging the mandate of an existing advisory committee.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States grants Congress the authority to enact this bill.

COMPLIANCE WITH HOUSE RULE XIII

1. Cost of Legislation. Clause 3(d)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives requires an estimate and a comparison by the Committee of the costs which would be incurred in carrying out this bill. However, clause 3(d)(3)(B) of that rule provides that this requirement does not apply when the Committee has included in its report a timely submitted cost estimate of the bill prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office under section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

2. Congressional Budget Act. As required by clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 308(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, this bill does not

contain any new budget authority, spending authority, credit authority, or an increase or decrease in revenues or tax expenditures.

3. General Performance Goals and Objectives. As required by clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII, the general performance goal or objective of this bill, as ordered reported, is to direct the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to establish an integrated federal ocean and coastal mapping plan for the Great Lakes and coastal state waters, the territorial sea, the exclusive economic zone, and the Continental Shelf of the United States, and for other purposes.

4. Congressional Budget Office Cost Estimate. Under clause 3(c)(3) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee has received the following cost estimate for this bill from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office:

H.R. 2400—Ocean and Coastal Mapping Integration Act

Summary: H.R. 2400 would direct the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to establish an integrated mapping program encompassing the Great Lakes, coastal state waters, the territorial sea, the exclusive economic zone, and the continental shelf of the United States. The bill also would establish an interagency committee to coordinate federal mapping of ocean and coastal areas, require an integrated mapping plan to identify and describe all mapping programs, and authorize up to three joint centers for ocean and coastal mapping to be located at colleges or universities. For those purposes, the bill would authorize the appropriation of \$296 million over the 2008–2015 period.

Assuming appropriation of the amounts authorized by the bill, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost \$7 million in fiscal year 2008 and \$116 million over the 2008–2012 period. CBO estimates that \$180 million would be spent after 2012, including \$135 million authorized to be appropriated between 2013 and 2015. Enacting H.R. 2400 would not affect revenues or direct spending.

This legislation contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

Estimated cost to the Federal Government: H.R. 2400 would authorize the appropriation of between \$20 million and \$45 million a year for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2015 for a new ocean and coastal mapping initiative. Of those amounts, between \$10 million and \$15 million a year would be available for research and other mapping programs to be carried out at newly authorized ocean and coastal mapping centers.

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 2400 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment). For this estimate, CBO assumes that the full amounts authorized by the bill will be appropriated for each year and that outlays will follow historical spending patterns for similar NOAA programs.

	By fiscal year, in millions of dollars—				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION					
Authorization Level ¹	20	26	32	38	45
Estimated Outlays	7	15	25	32	37

¹In addition to the levels shown for 2008 through 2012, the bill would also authorize the appropriation of \$135 million over the 2013–2015 period.

Intergovernmental and private-sector impact: H.R. 2400 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

Estimate prepared by: Federal Costs: Deborah Reis and David Reynolds; Impact on State, Local, and Tribal Governments: Leo Lex; Impact on the Private Sector: Jacob Kuipers.

Estimate approved by: Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC LAW 104–4

This bill contains no unfunded mandates.

EARMARK STATEMENT

H.R. 2400 does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(d), 9(e) or 9(f) of rule XXI.

PREEMPTION OF STATE, LOCAL OR TRIBAL LAW

This bill is not intended to preempt any State, local or tribal law.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

If enacted, this bill would make no changes in existing law.

COMMITTEE CORRESPONDENCE

BART GORDON, TENNESSEE
CHAIRMAN

RALPH M. HALL, TEXAS
RANKING MEMBER

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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July 20, 2007

The Honorable Nick J. Rahall, II
Chairman
Committee on Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I write with regard to H.R. 2400, the Ocean and Coastal Mapping Integration Act, which was referred to both the Committee on Natural Resources and the Committee on Science and Technology on May 21, 2007.

As you know, I support passage of the bill, and I do not intend to object to its consideration on the House floor. I am therefore willing to waive further consideration of the bill by the Committee on Science and Technology at this time. I want to make clear, however, that this waiver does not in any way serve as a jurisdictional precedent as to our two committees. Also, I ask that you support my request for appointment of conferees from the Committee on Science and Technology if a conference is held on this matter.

I request that you send to me a letter confirming our agreement and that, as part of the consideration of the bill on the House floor, you insert our two letters in the Congressional Record.

Sincerely,



Bart Gordon
Chairman

cc: The Honorable Ralph M. Hall
Ranking Member
Committee on Science and Technology

NICK J. RAHALL, II, WV
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JAMES H. ZDIA
 CHIEF OF STAFF

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Natural Resources
 Washington, DC 20515

July 20, 2007

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LLOYD JONES
 REPUBLICAN CHIEF OF STAFF

The Honorable Bart Gordon
 Chairman
 Committee on Science and Technology
 2320 Rayburn H.O.B.
 Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. ~~Chairman~~ ^{Bart}:

Thank you for your willingness to allow floor consideration of H.R. 2400, the Ocean and Coastal Mapping Integration Act, to proceed unimpeded.

I appreciate your willingness to waive rights to further consideration of H.R. 2400, even though your Committee shares jurisdiction over it and has received an additional referral. Of course, this waiver does not prejudice any further jurisdictional claims by your Committee over this legislation or similar language. Furthermore, I agree to support your request for appointment of conferees from the Committee on Science and Technology if a conference is held on this matter.

As you requested, I will insert our two letters in the Congressional Record as part of the consideration of the bill on the House floor. Thank you for the cooperative spirit in which you have worked regarding this matter and others between our respective committees.

With warm regards, I am

Sincerely,



NICK J. RAHALL, II
 Chairman
 Committee on Natural Resources