

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1216

To amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to establish a Marine Mammal Rescue Grant Program, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 10, 1999

Mr. TORRICELLI (for himself and Mr. LAUTENBERG) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to establish a Marine Mammal Rescue Grant Program, 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. MARINE MAMMAL RESCUE GRANT PROGRAM.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title IV of the Marine Mammal
5 Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1421a et seq.) is
6 amended—

7 (1) by redesignating sections 408 and 409 as
8 sections 409 and 410, respectively; and

9 (2) by inserting after section 407 the following:

1 **“SEC. 408. MARINE MAMMAL RESCUE GRANT PROGRAM.**

2 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

3 “(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term ‘Adminis-
4 trator’ means the Administrator of the National
5 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

6 “(2) CHIEF.—The term ‘Chief’ means the Chief
7 of the Office.

8 “(3) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’ means
9 the Secretary of Commerce.

10 “(4) STRANDING CENTER.—The term ‘strand-
11 ing center’ means a center with respect to which the
12 Secretary has entered into an agreement referred to
13 in section 403 to take marine mammals under sec-
14 tion 109(h)(1) in response to a stranding.

15 “(b) GRANTS.—

16 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability
17 of appropriations, the Secretary, acting through the
18 Chief, shall conduct a grant program to be known as
19 the Marine Mammal Rescue Grant Program, to pro-
20 vide grants to eligible stranding centers and eligible
21 stranding network participants for the recovery or
22 treatment of marine mammals and the collection of
23 health information relating to marine mammals.

24 “(2) APPLICATION.—In order to receive a grant
25 under this section, a stranding center or stranding
26 network participant shall submit an application in

1 such form and manner as the Secretary, acting
2 through the Chief, may prescribe.

3 “(3) ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.—The Secretary,
4 acting through the Chief and in consultation with
5 stranding network participants, shall establish cri-
6 teria for eligibility for participation in the grant pro-
7 gram under this section.

8 “(4) LIMITATION.—The amount of a grant
9 awarded under this section shall not exceed
10 \$100,000.

11 “(5) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—The non-Fed-
12 eral share for an activity conducted by a grant re-
13 cipient under the grant program under this section
14 shall be 25 percent of the cost of that activity.

15 “(6) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—
16 There are authorized to be appropriated to the De-
17 partment of Commerce to carry out the grant pro-
18 gram under this section, \$5,000,000 for each of fis-
19 cal years 2000 through 2004.”.

20 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
21 in the first section of the Marine Mammal Protection Act
22 of 1972 (86 Stat. 1027) is amended by striking the items
23 relating to sections 408 and 409 and inserting the fol-
24 lowing:

“Sec. 408. Marine Mammal Rescue Grant Program.

“Sec. 409. Authorization of appropriations.

“Sec. 410. Definitions.”.

