

108TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2489

AN ACT

To establish a program within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to integrate Federal coastal and ocean mapping activities.

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 “Ocean and Coastal
5 Mapping Integration Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. INTEGRATED OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING PRO-**
2 **GRAM.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Na-
4 tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall es-
5 tablish a program to develop, in coordination with the
6 Interagency Committee on Ocean and Coastal Mapping,
7 a coordinated and comprehensive Federal ocean and coast-
8 al mapping plan for the Great Lakes and Coastal State
9 waters, the territorial sea, the exclusive economic zone,
10 and the continental shelf of the United States that en-
11 hances ecosystem approaches in decision-making for con-
12 servation and management of marine resources and habi-
13 tats, establishes research priorities, supports the siting of
14 research and other platforms, and advances ocean and
15 coastal science.

16 (b) PROGRAM PARAMETERS.—In developing such a
17 program, the Administrator shall work with the Com-
18 mittee to—

19 (1) identify all Federal and federally-funded
20 programs conducting shoreline delineation and ocean
21 or coastal mapping, noting geographic coverage, fre-
22 quency, spatial coverage, resolution, and subject
23 matter focus of the data and location of data ar-
24 chives;

25 (2) promote cost-effective, cooperative mapping
26 efforts among all Federal agencies conducting ocean

1 and coastal mapping agencies by increasing data
 2 sharing, developing data acquisition and metadata
 3 standards, and facilitating the interoperability of in
 4 situ data collection systems, data processing,
 5 archiving, and distribution of data products;

6 (3) facilitate the adaptation of existing tech-
 7 nologies as well as foster expertise in new ocean and
 8 coastal mapping technologies, including through re-
 9 search, development, and training conducted in co-
 10 operation with the private sector, academia, and
 11 other non-Federal entities;

12 (4) develop standards and protocols for testing
 13 innovative experimental mapping technologies and
 14 transferring new technologies between the Federal
 15 government and the private sector or academia;

16 (5) centrally archive, manage, and distribute
 17 data sets as well as provide mapping products and
 18 services to the general public in service of statutory
 19 requirements;

20 (6) develop specific data presentation standards
 21 for use by Federal, State, and other entities that
 22 document locations of federally permitted activities,
 23 living and nonliving resources, marine ecosystems,
 24 sensitive habitats, submerged cultural resources, un-
 25 dersea cables, offshore aquaculture projects, and any

1 areas designated for the purposes of environmental
2 protection or conservation and management of living
3 marine resources; and

4 (7) identify the procedures to be used for co-
5 ordinating Federal data with State and local govern-
6 ment programs.

7 **SEC. 3. INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE ON OCEAN AND COAST-**
8 **AL MAPPING.**

9 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is hereby established
10 an Interagency Committee on Ocean and Coastal Map-
11 ping.

12 (b) MEMBERSHIP.—The Committee shall be com-
13 prised of senior representatives from Federal agencies
14 with ocean and coastal mapping and surveying responsibil-
15 ities. The representatives shall be high-ranking officials of
16 their respective agencies or departments and, whenever
17 possible, the head of the portion of the agency or depart-
18 ment that is most relevant to the purposes of this Act.
19 Membership shall include senior representatives from the
20 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the
21 Chief of Naval Operations, the United States Geological
22 Survey, Minerals Management Service, National Science
23 Foundation, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency,
24 United States Army Corps of Engineers, United States
25 Coast Guard, Environmental Protection Agency, Federal

1 Emergency Management Agency and National Aero-
 2 nautics and Space Administration, and other appropriate
 3 Federal agencies involved in ocean and coastal mapping.

4 (c) CHAIRMAN.—The Committee shall be chaired by
 5 the representative from the National Oceanic and Atmos-
 6 pheric Administration. The chairman may create sub-
 7 committees chaired by any member agency of the com-
 8 mittee. Working groups may be formed by the full Com-
 9 mittee to address issues of short duration.

10 (d) MEETINGS.—The Committee shall meet on a
 11 quarterly basis, but subcommittee or working group meet-
 12 ings shall meet on an as-needed basis.

13 (e) COORDINATION.—The committee should coordi-
 14 nate activities, when appropriate, with—

15 (1) other Federal efforts, including the Digital
 16 Coast, Geospatial One-Stop, and the Federal Geo-
 17 graphic Data Committee;

18 (2) international mapping activities; and

19 (3) States and user groups through workshops
 20 and other appropriate mechanisms.

21 **SEC. 4. NOAA INTEGRATED MAPPING INITIATIVE.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the
 23 date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator, in con-
 24 sultation with the Committee, shall develop and submit to
 25 the Congress a plan for an integrated ocean and coastal

1 mapping initiative within the National Oceanic and At-
2 mospheric Administration.

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

4 (1) identify and describe all ocean and coastal
5 mapping programs within the agency, including
6 those that conduct mapping or related activities in
7 the course of existing missions, such as hydrographic
8 surveys, ocean exploration projects, living marine re-
9 source conservation and management programs,
10 coastal zone management projects, and ocean and
11 coastal science projects;

12 (2) establish priority mapping programs and es-
13 tablish and periodically update priorities for geo-
14 graphic areas in surveying and mapping, as well as
15 minimum data acquisition and metadata standards
16 for those programs;

17 (3) encourage the development of innovative
18 ocean and coastal mapping technologies and applica-
19 tions through research and development through co-
20 operative or other agreements at joint centers of ex-
21 cellence and with the private sector;

22 (4) document available and developing tech-
23 nologies, best practices in data processing and dis-
24 tribution, and leveraging opportunities with other

1 Federal agencies, non-governmental organizations,
2 and the private sector;

3 (5) identify training, technology, and other re-
4 source requirements for enabling the National Oce-
5 anic and Atmospheric Administration's programs,
6 ships, and aircraft to support a coordinated ocean
7 and coastal mapping program;

8 (6) identify a centralized mechanism or office
9 for coordinating data collection, processing,
10 archiving, and dissemination activities of all such
11 mapping programs within the National Oceanic and
12 Atmospheric Administration, including—

13 (A) designating primary data processing
14 centers to maximize efficiency in information
15 technology investment, develop consistency in
16 data processing, and meet Federal mandates
17 for data accessibility; and

18 (B) designating a repository that is re-
19 sponsible for archiving and managing the dis-
20 tribution of all ocean and coastal mapping data
21 to simplify the provision of services to benefit
22 Federal and State programs; and

23 (6) set forth a timetable for implementation
24 and completion of the plan, including a schedule for
25 periodic Congressional progress reports, and rec-

1 ommendations for integrating approaches developed
 2 under the initiative into the interagency program.

3 (c) NOAA JOINT OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING
 4 CENTERS.—The Secretary is authorized to maintain and
 5 operate up to 3 joint ocean and coastal mapping centers,
 6 including a joint hydrographic center, which shall be co-
 7 located with an institution of higher education. The cen-
 8 ters shall serve as hydrographic centers of excellence and
 9 are authorized to conduct activities necessary to carry out
 10 the purposes of this Act, including—

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

14 (2) mapping of the United States outer conti-
 15 nental shelf;

16 (3) data processing for non-traditional data and
 17 uses;

18 (4) advancing the use of remote sensing tech-
 19 nologies, for related issues, including mapping and
 20 assessment of essential fish habitat and of coral re-
 21 sources, ocean observations and ocean exploration;
 22 and

23 (5) providing graduate education in ocean and
 24 coastal mapping sciences for National Oceanic and
 25 Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer

1 Corps, personnel of other agencies with ocean and
2 coastal mapping programs, and civilian personnel.

3 **SEC. 5. INTERAGENCY PROGRAM REPORTING.**

4 No later than 18 months after the date of enactment
5 of this Act, and bi-annually thereafter, the Chairman of
6 the Committee shall transmit to the Senate Committee on
7 Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the House of
8 Representatives Committee on Resources a report detail-
9 ing progress made in implementing the provisions of this
10 Act, including—

11 (1) an inventory of ocean and coastal mapping
12 data, noting the metadata, within the territorial seas
13 and the exclusive economic zone and throughout the
14 continental shelf of the United States, noting the
15 age and source of the survey and the spatial resolu-
16 tion (metadata) of the data;

17 (2) identification of priority areas in need of
18 survey coverage using present technologies;

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

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

24 (5) a description of any products resulting from
25 coordinated mapping efforts under this Act that im-

1 prove public understanding of the coasts, oceans, or
2 regulatory decision-making;

3 (6) documentation of minimum and desired
4 standards for data acquisition and integrated
5 metadata;

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

9 (8) a statement of resource requirements for or-
10 ganizations to meet the goals of the program, includ-
11 ing technology needs for data acquisition, processing
12 and distribution systems;

13 (9) a statement of the status of efforts to de-
14 classify data gathered by the Navy, the National
15 Geospatial-Intelligence Agency and other agencies to
16 the extent possible without jeopardizing national se-
17 curity, and make it available to partner agencies and
18 the public; and

19 (10) a resource plan for a digital coast inte-
20 grated mapping pilot project for the northern Gulf
21 of Mexico that will—

22 (A) cover the area from the authorized
23 coastal counties through the territorial sea;

24 (B) identify how such a pilot project will
25 leverage public and private mapping data and

1 resources, such as the United States Geological
 2 Survey National Map, to result in an oper-
 3 ational coastal change assessment program for
 4 the subregion; and

5 (11) the status of efforts to coordinate Federal
 6 programs with State and local government programs
 7 and leverage those programs.

8 **SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—In addition to the amounts au-
 10 thorized by section 306 of the Hydrographic Services Im-
 11 provement Act of 1998 (33 U.S.C. 892d), there are au-
 12 thorized to be appropriated to the Administrator to carry
 13 out this Act—

- 14 (1) \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2005;
- 15 (2) \$26,000,000 for fiscal year 2006;
- 16 (3) \$32,000,000 for fiscal year 2007;
- 17 (4) \$38,000,000 for fiscal year 2008; and
- 18 (5) \$45,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2009
 19 through 2012.

20 (b) JOINT OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING CEN-
 21 TERS.—Of the amounts appropriated pursuant to sub-
 22 section (a), the following amounts shall be used to carry
 23 out section 4(c) of this Act:

- 24 (1) \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2005.
- 25 (2) \$11,000,000 for fiscal year 2006.

1 (3) \$12,000,000 for fiscal year 2007.

2 (4) \$13,000,000 for fiscal year 2008.

3 (5) \$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2009
4 through 2012.

5 (c) INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE.—Notwithstanding
6 any other provision of law, from amounts authorized to
7 be appropriated for fiscal years 2005 through 2012 to the
8 Department of Defense, the Department of the Interior,
9 the Department of Homeland Security, the Environmental
10 Protection Agency, and the National Aeronautics and
11 Space Administration, the head of each such department
12 or agency may make available not more than \$10,000,000
13 per fiscal year to carry out interagency activities under
14 section 3 of this Act.

15 **SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.**

16 In this Act:

17 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
18 trator” means the Administrator of the National
19 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

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

1 (3) COMMITTEE.—The term “Committee”
2 means the Interagency Ocean Mapping Committee
3 established by section 3.

4 (4) EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE.—The term
5 “exclusive economic zone” means the exclusive eco-
6 nomic zone of the United States established by Pres-
7 idential Proclamation No. 5030, of March 10, 1983.

8 (5) OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING.—The term
9 “ocean and coastal mapping” means the acquisition,
10 processing, and management of physical, biological,
11 geological, chemical, and archaeological characteris-
12 tics and boundaries of ocean and coastal areas, re-
13 sources, and sea beds through the use of acoustics,
14 satellites, aerial photogrammetry, light and imaging,
15 direct sampling, and other mapping technologies.

16 (6) TERRITORIAL SEA.—The term “territorial
17 sea” means the belt of sea measured from the base-
18 line of the United States determined in accordance
19 with international law, as set forth in Presidential

1 Proclamation Number 5928, dated December 27,
2 1988.

Passed the Senate November 16, 2004.

Attest:

Secretary.

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