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1ST SESSION

H. R. 2400

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 24, 2007

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science,
and Transportation

AN ACT

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.

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”.

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

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Na-
9 tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall es-
10 tablish a program to develop, in coordination with the
11 Interagency Committee on Ocean and Coastal Mapping
12 and affected coastal states, a coordinated and comprehen-
13 sive Federal ocean and coastal mapping plan for the Great
14 Lakes and coastal state waters, the territorial sea, the ex-
15 clusive economic zone, and the Continental Shelf of the
16 United States that enhances ecosystem approaches in de-
17 cisionmaking for conservation and management of marine
18 resources and habitats, establishes priorities for research
19 and mapping, supports the siting of research and other
20 platforms, enhances safety of navigation, and advances
21 ocean and coastal science.

22 (b) PROGRAM PARAMETERS.—In developing such a
23 program, the Administrator shall work with the Com-
24 mittee to—

1 (1) identify all Federal and federally funded
2 programs conducting shoreline delineation and ocean
3 or coastal mapping, noting geographic coverage, fre-
4 quency, spatial coverage, resolution, and subject
5 matter focus of the data and location of data ar-
6 chives;

7 (2) facilitate cost-effective, cooperative mapping
8 efforts that incorporate policies for contracting with
9 non-governmental entities among all Federal agen-
10 cies conducting ocean and coastal mapping, by in-
11 creasing data sharing, developing appropriate data
12 acquisition and metadata standards, and facilitating
13 the interoperability of in situ data collection systems,
14 data processing, archiving, and distribution of data
15 products;

16 (3) facilitate the adaptation of existing tech-
17 nologies as well as foster expertise in new ocean and
18 coastal mapping technologies, including through re-
19 search, development, and training conducted among
20 Federal agencies and in cooperation with non-gov-
21 ernmental entities;

22 (4) develop standards and protocols for testing
23 innovative experimental mapping technologies and
24 transferring new technologies between the Federal

1 Government, coastal state, and non-governmental
2 entities;

3 (5) provide for the archiving, management, and
4 distribution of data sets through a national registry
5 as well as provide mapping products and services to
6 the general public in service of statutory require-
7 ments;

8 (6) develop data standards and protocols con-
9 sistent with standards developed by the Federal Geo-
10 graphic Data Committee for use by Federal, coastal
11 state, and other entities in mapping and otherwise
12 documenting locations of federally permitted activi-
13 ties, living and nonliving coastal and marine re-
14 sources, marine ecosystems, sensitive habitats, sub-
15 merged cultural resources, undersea cables, offshore
16 aquaculture projects, offshore energy projects, and
17 any areas designated for purposes of environmental
18 protection or conservation and management of living
19 and nonliving coastal and marine resources;

20 (7) identify the procedures to be used for co-
21 ordinating the collection and integration of Federal
22 ocean and coastal mapping data with coastal state
23 and local government programs;

24 (8) facilitate, to the extent practicable, the col-
25 lection of real-time tide data and the development of

1 hydrodynamic models for coastal areas to allow for
2 the application of V-datum tools that will facilitate
3 the seamless integration of onshore and offshore
4 maps and charts;

5 (9) establish a plan for the acquisition and col-
6 lection of ocean and coastal mapping data; and

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

10 **SEC. 3. INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE ON OCEAN AND COAST-
11 AL MAPPING.**

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

16 (b) **MEMBERSHIP.**—The committee shall be com-
17 prised of senior representatives from Federal agencies
18 with ocean and coastal mapping and surveying responsibil-
19 ities. The representatives shall be high-ranking officials of
20 their respective agencies or departments and, whenever
21 possible, the head of the portion of the agency or depart-
22 ment that is most relevant to the purposes of this Act.
23 Membership shall include senior representatives from the
24 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the
25 Chief of Naval Operations, the United States Geological

1 Survey, the Minerals Management Service, the National
2 Science Foundation, the National Geospatial-Intelligence
3 Agency, the United States Army Corps of Engineers, the
4 Coast Guard, the Environmental Protection Agency, the
5 Federal Emergency Management Agency, the National
6 Aeronautics and Space Administration, and other appro-
7 priate Federal agencies involved in ocean and coastal map-
8 ping.

9 (c) CHAIRMAN.—The committee shall have as its
10 chairman the representative from the National Oceanic
11 and Atmospheric Administration. The chairman may cre-
12 ate subcommittees chaired by any member agency of the
13 committee. The full committee may form working groups
14 to address issues of short duration.

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

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

20 (1) other Federal efforts, including the Digital
21 Coast, Geospatial One-Stop, and the Federal Geo-
22 graphic Data Committee;
23 (2) international mapping activities;
24 (3) coastal states;

5 (f) ADVISORY PANEL.—The Administrator may con-
6 vene an ocean and coastal mapping advisory panel con-
7 sisting of representatives from non-governmental entities
8 to provide input regarding activities of the committee.

9 SEC. 4. NOAA INTEGRATED MAPPING INITIATIVE.

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the
11 date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator, in con-
12 sultation with the Committee, shall develop and submit to
13 the Congress a plan for an integrated ocean and coastal
14 mapping initiative within the National Oceanic and At-
15 mospheric Administration.

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

13 (4) document available and developing tech-
14 nologies, best practices in data processing and dis-
15 tribution, and leveraging opportunities with other
16 Federal agencies, coastal states, and non-govern-
17 mental entities;

23 (6) identify a centralized mechanism or office
24 for coordinating data collection, processing,
25 archiving, and dissemination activities of all such

1 mapping programs within the National Oceanic and
2 Atmospheric Administration that meets Federal
3 mandates for data accuracy and accessibility and
4 designate a repository that is responsible for
5 archiving and managing the distribution of all ocean
6 and coastal mapping data to simplify the provision
7 of services to benefit Federal and coastal state pro-
8 grams; and

9 (7) set forth a timetable for implementation
10 and completion of the plan, including a schedule for
11 submission to the Congress of periodic progress re-
12 ports and recommendations for integrating ap-
13 proaches developed under the initiative into the
14 interagency program.

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

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

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

3 (3) data processing for nontraditional data and
4 uses;

5 (4) advancing the use of remote sensing technologies, for related issues, including mapping and
6 assessment of essential fish habitat and of coral re-
7 sources, ocean observations, and ocean exploration;
8 and
9

10 (5) providing graduate education and training
11 in ocean and coastal mapping sciences for members
12 of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Adminis-
13 tration Commissioned Officer Corps, personnel of
14 other agencies with ocean and coastal mapping pro-
15 grams, and civilian personnel.

16 (d) ENHANCED OPPORTUNITIES FOR NON-GOVERN-
17 MENTAL CONTRACTING.—The Administrator shall con-
18 tinue developing a strategy for expanding contracting with
19 non-governmental entities to minimize duplication and
20 take maximum advantage of non-governmental capabilities
21 in fulfilling the Administration's mapping and charting re-
22 sponsibilities. Within 120 days after the date of enactment
23 of this Act, the Administrator shall transmit a report de-
24 scribing the strategy developed under this subsection to
25 the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

1 of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources
2 of the House of Representatives.

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

4 No later than 18 months after the date of enactment
5 of this Act, and biannually thereafter, the Chairman of
6 the Committee shall transmit to the Committee on Com-
7 merce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the
8 Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Rep-
9 resentatives a report detailing progress made in imple-
10 menting this Act, including—

11 (1) an inventory of ocean and coastal mapping
12 data within the territorial sea and the exclusive eco-
13 nomic zone and throughout the Continental Shelf of
14 the United States, noting the age and source of the
15 survey and the spatial resolution (metadata) of the
16 data;

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

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

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

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

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

13 (9) a statement of resource requirements for or-
14 ganizations to meet the goals of the program, includ-
15 ing technology needs for data acquisition, proc-
16 essing, and distribution systems;

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

1 (12) a description of efforts of Federal agencies
2 to increase contracting with non-governmental enti-
3 ties.

4 SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

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

10 (1) \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2008;
11 (2) \$26,000,000 for fiscal year 2009;
12 (3) \$32,000,000 for fiscal year 2010;
13 (4) \$38,000,000 for fiscal year 2011; and
14 (5) \$45,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2012
15 through 2015.

16 (b) JOINT OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING CEN-
17 TERS.—Of the amount appropriated under subsection (a)
18 for each fiscal year, no more than 25 percent may be ap-
19 propriated to carry out section 4(c).

20 SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.

21 In this Act:

22 (6) OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING.—The term
23 “ocean and coastal mapping” means the acquisition,
24 processing, and management of physical, biological,
25 geological, chemical, and archaeological characteris-

1 tics and boundaries of ocean and coastal areas, re-
2 sources, and sea beds through the use of acoustics,
3 satellites, aerial photogrammetry, light and imaging,
4 direct sampling, and other mapping technologies.

Passed the House of Representatives July 23, 2007.

Attest: **LORRAINE C. MILLER,**

Clerk.

By DEBORAH M. SPRIGGS,

Deputy Clerk.