

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 933

To improve data collection and monitoring of the Great Lakes, oceans, bays, estuaries, and coasts, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 28, 2019

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

A BILL

To improve data collection and monitoring of the Great Lakes, oceans, bays, estuaries, and coasts, 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 “Bolstering Long-Term
5 Understanding and Exploration of the Great Lakes,
6 Oceans, Bays, and Estuaries Act” or the “BLUE GLOBE
7 Act”.

8 **SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

9 The purpose of this Act is to promote and support—

1 (1) the monitoring, understanding, and explo-
2 ration of the Great Lakes, oceans, bays, estuaries,
3 and coasts; and

4 (2) the collection, analysis, synthesis, and shar-
5 ing of data related to the Great Lakes, oceans, bays,
6 estuaries, and coasts to facilitate science and oper-
7 ational decision making.

8 **SEC. 3. FINDINGS.**

9 Congress makes the following findings:

10 (1) The Great Lakes, oceans, bays, estuaries,
11 and coasts face significant challenges from, among
12 other things, marine debris, illegal, unreported, and
13 unregulated fishing, and changing conditions.

14 (2) Most of the ocean floor is mapped only at
15 a very coarse resolution of 5 kilometers per pixel,
16 whereas Mars, the Moon, and Venus are mapped at
17 a much finer resolution of 100 meters per pixel or
18 better.

19 (3) Many industries, including the fishing and
20 aquaculture, energy, shipping, insurance, telecommu-
21 nications, weather and climate forecasting, and tour-
22 ism industries, among others, use ocean data, wheth-
23 er or not the industries collect that data themselves.

24 (4) In 2017, the National Oceanic and Atmos-
25 pheric Administration estimated that United States

1 businesses that collect ocean data or provide en-
2 hanced ocean data products have overall revenues of
3 approximately \$58,000,000,000.

4 (5) Although a large amount of data related to
5 the Great Lakes, oceans, bays, estuaries, and coasts
6 is collected internationally, nationally, and region-
7 ally, by international bodies, national agencies, insti-
8 tutes, private companies, and other entities, that
9 data collection is often uncoordinated, and the re-
10 sulting data are not always shared in a timely and
11 useful manner between those entities.

12 (6) Improved collection, analysis, synthesis, and
13 sharing of such data will improve our understanding
14 of, and responses to, the challenges faced by the
15 Great Lakes, oceans, bays, estuaries, and coasts.

16 (7) Innovation, research, and a skilled work-
17 force are required to improve our understanding of
18 the Great Lakes, oceans, bays, estuaries, and coasts
19 and the challenges they face.

20 (8) According to the National Oceanic and At-
21 mospheric Administration, in 2015, the ocean and
22 Great Lakes economy in the United States employed
23 approximately 3,200,000 people and accounted for
24 approximately \$320,000,000,000 of the gross do-
25 mestic product of the United States.

1 (9) The value and impact of the industries re-
2 lated to the Great Lakes, oceans, bays, estuaries,
3 and coasts on the economy of the United States are
4 evidently immense; however, what is known as the
5 “Blue Economy” is neither consistently defined nor
6 regularly quantified.

7 (10) The Federal Government has a responsi-
8 bility to support the monitoring, understanding, and
9 exploration of the Great Lakes, oceans, bays, estu-
10 aries, and coasts in pursuit of the national security
11 and economic and environmental well-being of the
12 United States, and as a world leader.

13 **SEC. 4. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

14 It is the sense of Congress that—

15 (1) agencies should optimize data collection,
16 management, and dissemination, to the extent prac-
17 ticable, to maximize their impact for research, com-
18 mercial, regulatory, and educational benefits and to
19 foster innovation, scientific discoveries, the develop-
20 ment of commercial products, and the development
21 of sound policy with respect to the Great Lakes,
22 oceans, bays, estuaries, and coasts;

23 (2) the United States is a leading member of
24 the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of
25 the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cul-

1 tural Organization, a founding member of the Atlan-
2 tic Ocean Research Alliance, and a key partner in
3 developing the United Nations Decade of Ocean
4 Science for Sustainable Development;

5 (3) the Integrated Ocean Observing System and
6 the Global Ocean Observing System are key assets
7 and networks that bolster our understanding of the
8 marine environment;

9 (4) the National Oceanographic Partnership
10 Program is a meaningful venue for collaboration and
11 coordination among Federal agencies, scientists, and
12 ocean users;

13 (5) the National Centers for Environmental In-
14 formation of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
15 Administration should be looked to by other Federal
16 agencies as a primary, centralized repository for
17 Federal ocean data;

18 (6) the Marine Cadastre, a joint effort of the
19 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
20 and the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, pro-
21 vides access to data and information for specific
22 issues and activities in ocean resources management
23 to meet the needs of offshore energy and planning
24 efforts;

1 (7) the regional associations of the Integrated
 2 Ocean Observing System, certified by the National
 3 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for the
 4 quality and reliability of their data, are important
 5 sources of observation information for the Great
 6 Lakes, oceans, bays, estuaries, and coasts; and

7 (8) the Regional Ocean Partnerships and re-
 8 gional data portals, which provide publicly available
 9 tools such as maps, data, and other information to
 10 inform decisions and enhance marine development,
 11 should be supported by and viewed as collaborators
 12 with Federal agencies and ocean users.

13 **SEC. 5. DEFINITION.**

14 In this Act, the term “Administrator” means the
 15 Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere
 16 in the Under Secretary’s capacity as Administrator of the
 17 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

18 **SEC. 6. INCREASED COORDINATION AMONG AGENCIES**
 19 **WITH RESPECT TO DATA AND MONITORING.**

20 (a) INTERAGENCY OCEAN OBSERVATION COM-
 21 MITTEE.—In addition to its responsibilities as of the date
 22 of the enactment of this Act, and in consultation with the
 23 associated advisory committee authorized by section
 24 12304(d) of the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observa-

tion System Act of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3603(d)), the Inter-
agency Ocean Observation Committee shall—

(1) work with international coordinating bodies,
as necessary, to ensure robust, direct measurements
of the Great Lakes, oceans, bays, estuaries, and
coasts, including oceanographic data;

(2) coordinate supercomputing capacity, data
storage capacity, and public access across agencies;
and

(3) support cross-agency and multi-platform
synergy, by coordinating overlapping data collection
by satellites, buoys, submarines, gliders, vessels, and
other data collection vehicles and technologies.

(b) FEDERAL GEOGRAPHIC DATA COMMITTEE.—In
addition to its responsibilities as of the date of the enact-
ment of this Act, and in consultation with the National
Geospatial Advisory Committee, the Federal Geographic
Data Committee shall—

(1) work with international coordinating bodies,
as necessary, to ensure robust, continuous measure-
ments of the Great Lakes, oceans, bays, estuaries,
and coasts, including satellite and geospatial data;

(2) coordinate supercomputing capacity, data
storage capacity, and public access across agencies;

1 (3) develop and deploy cross-agency, real-time,
 2 standardized, centralized, archived, open-source, and
 3 publicly available databases (using declassified infor-
 4 mation to the extent possible) for all federally fund-
 5 ed observational and model data, using the example
 6 of the World Ocean Database; and

7 (4) support new and old data and metadata cer-
 8 tification, quality assurance, quality control, integra-
 9 tion, and archiving.

10 (c) INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE ON OCEAN AND
 11 COASTAL MAPPING.—In addition to its responsibilities as
 12 of the date of the enactment of this Act, and in consulta-
 13 tion with its associated advisory panel authorized by sec-
 14 tion 12203(g) of the Ocean and Coastal Mapping Integra-
 15 tion Act (33 U.S.C. 3502(g)), the Interagency Committee
 16 on Ocean and Coastal Mapping shall—

17 (1) work with international coordinating bodies,
 18 as necessary, to ensure robust, continuous satellite
 19 and direct measurements of the Great Lakes,
 20 oceans, bays, estuaries, and coasts, including bathy-
 21 metric data;

22 (2) coordinate supercomputing capacity, data
 23 storage capacity, and public access across agencies;
 24 and

1 (3) make recommendations on how to make
 2 data, metadata, and model output accessible to a
 3 broader public audience, including through geo-
 4 graphic information system layers, graphics, and
 5 other visuals.

6 **SEC. 7. INTERAGENCY OCEAN EXPLORATION COMMITTEE.**

7 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The President shall establish
 8 a committee to promote the exploration and improved un-
 9 derstanding of the oceans, to be known as the “Inter-
 10 agency Ocean Exploration Committee”.

11 (b) MEMBERSHIP.—The Interagency Ocean Explo-
 12 ration Committee shall be composed of not fewer than one
 13 senior-level representative from each of the following Fed-
 14 eral agencies:

15 (1) The Department of the Navy.

16 (2) The Department of the Interior.

17 (3) The Department of Commerce.

18 (4) The department in which the Coast Guard
 19 is operating.

20 (5) The Office of Management and Budget.

21 (6) The Council on Environmental Quality.

22 (7) The Office of Science and Technology Pol-
 23 icy.

24 (8) The Department of State.

25 (9) The National Science Foundation.

1 (10) The National Aeronautics and Space Ad-
2 ministration.

3 (11) The Subcommittee on Ocean Science and
4 Technology of the National Science and Technology
5 Council.

6 (12) The elements of the intelligence commu-
7 nity (as defined in section 3 of the National Security
8 Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003)), as the President
9 considers appropriate.

10 (c) DUTIES.—The Interagency Ocean Exploration
11 Committee shall—

12 (1) cultivate public-private partnerships, includ-
13 ing with Federal agencies, academic institutions,
14 nongovernmental organizations, technology compa-
15 nies, and international partners, to develop and de-
16 ploy advanced technologies to explore and charac-
17 terize the oceans; and

18 (2) coordinate the application of existing inno-
19 vative technologies and development of emerging
20 technologies to promote the understanding, mapping,
21 and collection of data describing the oceans and the
22 changes the oceans are experiencing and are antici-
23 pated to experience in the future, such as changes
24 in temperature, salinity, oxygenation, and acidity,
25 and the biological consequences of those changes.

1 **SEC. 8. COMMITTEE ON OCEAN POLICY.**

2 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the
3 Executive Office of the President a Committee on Ocean
4 Policy, which—

5 (1) succeeds the Ocean Policy Committee estab-
6 lished on June 19, 2018, by Executive Order 13840
7 (83 Fed. Reg. 29431; relating to ocean policy);

8 (2) shall continue the activities of that com-
9 mittee as it was in existence on the day before the
10 date of the enactment of this Act; and

11 (3) shall carry out the functions described in
12 subsection (b).

13 (b) FUNCTIONS.—The Committee on Ocean Policy
14 shall—

15 (1) facilitate coordination and integration of
16 Federal activities in ocean and coastal waters to in-
17 form ocean policy and identify priority ocean re-
18 search, technology, and data needs; and

19 (2) engage and collaborate with stakeholders,
20 including Regional Ocean Partnerships, to address
21 ocean-related matters that may require interagency
22 or intergovernmental solutions.

1 **SEC. 9. TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION TASK FORCE TO COM-**
2 **BAT ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED, AND UNREGU-**
3 **LATED FISHING.**

4 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The President shall establish
5 a technology innovation task force (in this Act referred
6 to as the “IUU Tech Force”) to combat IUU fishing.

7 (b) LEADERSHIP.—The IUU Tech Force shall be led
8 by the Director of the National Maritime Intelligence-Inte-
9 gration Office, who shall coordinate with the National
10 Ocean Counsel Committee on IUU Fishing and Seafood
11 Fraud.

12 (c) MEMBERSHIP.—The IUU Tech Force shall be
13 composed of not fewer than one senior-level representative
14 from each of the following Federal agencies:

15 (1) The Department of the Navy.

16 (2) The Department of Justice.

17 (3) The Department of the Interior.

18 (4) The Department of Agriculture.

19 (5) The Department of Commerce.

20 (6) The Department of Labor.

21 (7) The Department of Health and Human
22 Services.

23 (8) The department in which the Coast Guard
24 is operating.

25 (9) The Office of Management and Budget.

26 (10) The Council on Environmental Quality.

1 (11) The Office of Science and Technology Pol-
2 icy.

3 (12) The Office of the United States Trade
4 Representative.

5 (13) The United States Agency for Inter-
6 national Development.

7 (14) The Department of State.

8 (15) The National Science Foundation.

9 (16) The National Aeronautics and Space Ad-
10 ministration.

11 (17) The Subcommittee on Ocean Science and
12 Technology of the National Science and Technology
13 Council.

14 (d) DUTIES.—The IUU Tech Force shall—

15 (1) cultivate public-private partnerships, includ-
16 ing with Federal agencies, academic institutions,
17 nongovernmental organizations, technology compa-
18 nies, and international partners, to develop and de-
19 ploy advanced technologies to identify and combat
20 IUU fishing;

21 (2) identify opportunities to declassify and
22 make more publicly available imagery from the De-
23 partment of Defense and the department in which
24 the Coast Guard is operating and other information

1 that can be used to identify IUU fishing or be used
 2 in enforcement actions against violators; and

3 (3) coordinate the application of existing inno-
 4 vative technologies and development of emerging
 5 technologies to address—

6 (A) IUU fishing; and

7 (B) associated forced labor, human traf-
 8 ficking, and other illicit activities.

9 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

10 (1) INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES.—The term
 11 “innovative technologies” includes the following:

12 (A) Improved satellite imagery and track-
 13 ing.

14 (B) Advanced electronic monitoring equip-
 15 ment.

16 (C) Vessel location data.

17 (D) Improved genetic, molecular, or other
 18 biological methods of tracking sources of sea-
 19 food.

20 (E) Electronic catch documentation and
 21 traceability.

22 (F) Such other technologies as the Admin-
 23 istrator considers appropriate.

24 (2) IUU FISHING.—The term “IUU fishing”—

(A) means illegal fishing, unreported fishing, or unregulated fishing (as such terms are defined in paragraph 3 of the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, adopted at the 24th Session of the Committee on Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome on March 2, 2001); and

(B) includes fishing activities conducted in contravention of applicable laws and regulations related to labor conditions.

SEC. 10. WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT.

(a) **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.**—The Administrator shall develop a workforce development program, in consultation with the following:

(1) The Secretary of Defense.

(2) The Commandant of the Coast Guard.

(3) The Chief of Engineers of the Army Corps of Engineers.

(4) The Secretary of Education.

(5) The Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

(6) The Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

1 (7) The Assistant Director for Geosciences of
2 the National Science Foundation.

3 (8) The Secretary of the Navy.

4 (9) The Director of the Office of Science and
5 Technology Policy.

6 (10) The Secretary of Labor.

7 (11) The heads of other relevant Federal agen-
8 cies.

9 (12) The Interagency Ocean Observation Com-
10 mittee and the associated advisory committee au-
11 thorized by section 12304(d) of the Integrated
12 Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act of 2009
13 (33 U.S.C. 3603(d)).

14 (13) The Federal Geographic Data Committee
15 and the National Geospatial Advisory Committee.

16 (14) The Interagency Committee on Ocean and
17 Coastal Mapping and its associated advisory panel
18 authorized by section 12203(g) of the Ocean and
19 Coastal Mapping Integration Act (33 U.S.C.
20 3502(g)).

21 (15) The Interagency Ocean Exploration Com-
22 mittee established under section 7.

23 (16) The Committee on Ocean Policy estab-
24 lished under section 8.

1 (17) The IUU Tech Force established under
2 section 9.

3 (18) Non-Federal partners and other experts.

4 (b) DUTIES.—The workforce development program
5 developed under subsection (a) shall—

6 (1) support undergraduate and graduate edu-
7 cation in the fields of engineering, marine sciences,
8 data science and analytics, machine learning, robot-
9 ics, cybersecurity, and other fields related to the ad-
10 vancement of the monitoring, collection, synthesis,
11 and analysis of data relating to the Great Lakes,
12 oceans, bays, estuaries, and coasts;

13 (2) support citizen science and public outreach
14 related to the Great Lakes, oceans, bays, estuaries,
15 and coasts that may encourage people to develop sci-
16 entific skills and to enter the fields described in
17 paragraph (1);

18 (3) promote diversity in the fields described in
19 paragraph (1); and

20 (4) build on existing science, technology, engi-
21 neering, and math (known as “STEM”) education,
22 veterans’ training, and programs to support indige-
23 nous people and other underrepresented groups to
24 facilitate education and training through programs
25 that include—

1 (A) grants to members of the Armed
 2 Forces and veterans for vocational training or
 3 other educational opportunities in the fields of
 4 engineering, marine sciences, and data manage-
 5 ment and collection;

6 (B) grants to marine trade associations,
 7 engineering associations, and other professional
 8 organizations to provide apprenticeships; and

9 (C) scholarships for trade schools, voca-
 10 tional institutes, institutions of higher edu-
 11 cation, and educational coalitions such as the
 12 Alaska Native Science and Engineering Pro-
 13 gram.

14 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

15 (1) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The
 16 term “institution of higher education” has the
 17 meaning given that term in section 101(a) of the
 18 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)).

19 (2) VETERAN.—The term “veteran” has the
 20 meaning given that term in section 101 of title 38,
 21 United States Code.

22 **SEC. 11. ACCELERATING INNOVATION AT COOPERATIVE IN-**
 23 **STITUTES.**

24 (a) FOCUS ON EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES.—The Ad-
 25 ministrator shall ensure that the goals of the Cooperative

1 Institutes of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Ad-
2 ministration include focusing on advancing or applying
3 emerging technologies, which may include—

4 (1) applied uses and development of real-time
5 and other advanced genetic technologies and applica-
6 tions, including such technologies and applications
7 that derive genetic material directly from environ-
8 mental samples without any obvious signs of biologi-
9 cal source material;

10 (2) deployment of, and improvements to, the
11 durability, maintenance, and other lifecycle concerns
12 of advanced unmanned vehicles, regional small re-
13 search vessels, and other research vessels that sup-
14 port and launch unmanned vehicles and sensors; and

15 (3) supercomputing and big data management,
16 including data collected through electronic moni-
17 toring and remote sensing.

18 (b) DESIGNATION OF NEW INSTITUTES.—The Ad-
19 ministrator may carry out subsection (a) by—

20 (1) incorporating the goals described in that
21 subsection into one or more Cooperative Institutes in
22 existence on the date of the enactment of this Act;
23 or

1 (2) designating through a competitive selection
2 process the development of not more than 2 new Co-
3 operative Institutes to carry out those goals.

4 (c) DATA SHARING.—Each Cooperative Institute
5 shall ensure that data collected from the work of the insti-
6 tute, other than classified, confidential, or proprietary
7 data, are archived and made publicly accessible.

8 (d) COORDINATION WITH OTHER PROGRAMS.—The
9 Cooperative Institutes shall work with the Interagency
10 Ocean Observation Committee, the regional associations
11 of the Integrated Ocean Observing System, and other
12 ocean observing programs to coordinate technology needs
13 and the transition of new technologies from research to
14 operations.

15 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be
17 appropriated such sums as may be necessary to
18 carry out this section.

19 (2) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—No funds
20 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this sec-
21 tion may be obligated or expended for the construc-
22 tion of new buildings or facilities for Cooperative In-
23 stitutes.

1 **SEC. 12. BUILDING DATA SOURCES.**

2 (a) ENGAGING INDIGENOUS, SUBSISTENCE, AND
3 FISHING COMMUNITIES.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall es-
5 tablish opportunities to engage indigenous, subsist-
6 ence, and fishing communities to understand the
7 needs of those communities and to provide improved
8 products and services that are practical and useful
9 to those communities, including collecting and inte-
10 grating traditional ecological data and narrative
11 records into national datasets.

12 (2) DATA RIGHTS.—In carrying out paragraph
13 (1), the Administrator shall—

14 (A) consider issues relating to data owner-
15 ship; and

16 (B) ensure that indigenous, subsistence,
17 and fishing communities retain any specific
18 rights or ownership of data provided to Federal
19 agencies.

20 (b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

21 (1) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than one
22 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
23 Administrator shall submit to Congress a report
24 identifying potential opportunities to encourage vol-
25 untary actions and partnerships between the Na-
26 tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and

1 non-Federal partners to increase and enhance data
2 collection.

3 (2) OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARTNERSHIP.—The
4 opportunities described in paragraph (1) may in-
5 clude opportunities that can be pursued in conjunc-
6 tion with Federal permits, leases, and other actions
7 requiring Federal approval or funding, such as
8 partnering with companies to acquire and share
9 bathymetric data or supplying fishermen with sen-
10 sors that can collect data through fishing gear.

11 **SEC. 13. OCEAN INNOVATION PRIZE AND PRIORITIZATION.**

12 (a) OCEAN INNOVATIVE PRIZES.—The Adminis-
13 trator, in consultation with the heads of relevant Federal
14 agencies, including the Secretary of Defense, and in con-
15 junction with nongovernmental partners, as appropriate
16 and at the discretion of the Administrator, shall establish
17 at least one Ocean Innovation Prize to catalyze the rapid
18 development and deployment of data collection and moni-
19 toring technology related to the Great Lakes, oceans, bays,
20 estuaries, and coasts in at least one of the areas specified
21 in subsection (b).

22 (b) AREAS.—The areas specified in this subsection
23 are the following:

24 (1) Improved eDNA analytics and deployment
25 with autonomous vehicles.

1 (2) Plastic pollution detection, quantification,
2 and mitigation, including with respect to used fish-
3 ing gear and tracking technologies to reduce or
4 eliminate bycatch.

5 (3) Advanced satellite data and other advanced
6 technology for improving scientific assessment.

7 (4) New stock assessment methods using sat-
8 ellite data or other advanced technologies.

9 (5) Identifying forced labor or human traf-
10 ficking (or other illicit activity) often associated with
11 IUU fishing (as defined in section 9).

12 (6) Advanced electronic fisheries monitoring
13 equipment and data analysis tools, including im-
14 proved fish species recognition software, confidential
15 data management, data analysis and visualization,
16 and storage of electronic reports, imagery, location
17 information, and other data.

18 (7) Autonomous and other advanced surface ve-
19 hicles, underwater vehicles, or airborne platforms for
20 data collection and monitoring.

21 (8) Artificial intelligence and machine learning
22 applications for data collection and monitoring re-
23 lated to the Great Lakes, oceans, bays, estuaries,
24 and coasts.

25 (9) Coral reef ecosystem monitoring.

1 (10) Electronic equipment, chemical or biological
2 cal sensors, data analysis tools, and platforms to
3 identify and fill gaps in robust and shared continuous
4 data related to the Great Lakes, oceans, bays,
5 estuaries, and coasts to inform global earth system
6 models.

7 (11) Means for protecting aquatic life from injury
8 or other ill effects caused, in whole or in part,
9 by monitoring or exploration activities.

10 (12) Discovery and dissemination of data related
11 to the Great Lakes, oceans, bays, estuaries,
12 and coasts.

13 (13) Water quality monitoring, including improved
14 detection and prediction of harmful algal blooms
15 and pollution.

16 (14) Enhancing blue carbon sequestration and
17 other ocean acidification mitigation opportunities.

18 (15) Such other areas as may be identified by
19 the Administrator.

20 (c) PRIORITIZATION OF PROPOSALS.—In selecting recipients
21 of Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small
22 Business Technology Transfer (STTR) solicitations and
23 interagency grants for ocean innovation, including the
24 National Oceanographic Partnership Program, the
25 Administrator shall prioritize proposals for fiscal years

1 2020 and 2021 that address at least one of the areas spec-
 2 ified in subsection (b).

3 **SEC. 14. REAUTHORIZATION OF NOAA PROGRAMS.**

4 (a) NOAA OCEAN EXPLORATION PROGRAM.—Sec-
 5 tion 12006 of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act
 6 of 2009 (33 U.S.C. 3406) is amended—

7 (1) in paragraph (6), by striking “and”;

8 (2) in paragraph (7), by striking the period at
 9 the end and inserting “; and”; and

10 (3) by adding at the end the following:

11 “(8) \$60,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019
 12 through 2024.”.

13 (b) OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING INTEGRATION
 14 ACT.—Section 12207 of the Ocean and Coastal Mapping
 15 Integration Act (33 U.S.C. 3506) is amended—

16 (1) in subsection (a)—

17 (A) in paragraph (3), by striking “and”;

18 (B) in paragraph (4), by striking the pe-
 19 riod at the end and inserting “; and”; and

20 (C) by adding at the end the following:

21 “(5) \$45,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019
 22 through 2024.”; and

23 (2) in subsection (b), by adding at the end the
 24 following:

1 “(5) \$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019
2 through 2024.”.

3 (c) HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICES IMPROVEMENT ACT
4 OF 1998.—Section 306 of the Hydrographic Services Im-
5 provement Act of 1998 (33 U.S.C. 892d) is amended—

6 (1) in paragraph (1)—

7 (A) in subparagraph (C), by striking
8 “and”;

9 (B) in subparagraph (D), by striking the
10 period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

11 (C) by adding at the end the following:

12 “(E) \$71,000,000 for each of fiscal years
13 2019 through 2024.”;

14 (2) in paragraph (2)—

15 (A) in subparagraph (C), by striking
16 “and”;

17 (B) in subparagraph (D), by striking the
18 period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

19 (C) by adding at the end the following:

20 “(E) \$34,000,000 for each of fiscal years
21 2019 through 2024.”;

22 (3) in paragraph (3)—

23 (A) in subparagraph (C), by striking
24 “and”;

1 (B) in subparagraph (D), by striking the
 2 period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

3 (C) by adding at the end the following:

4 “(E) \$38,000,000 for each of fiscal years
 5 2019 through 2024.”;

6 (4) in paragraph (4)—

7 (A) in subparagraph (C), by striking
 8 “and”;

9 (B) in subparagraph (D), by striking the
 10 period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

11 (C) by adding at the end the following:

12 “(E) \$45,000,000 for each of fiscal years
 13 2019 through 2024.”; and

14 (5) in paragraph (5)—

15 (A) in subparagraph (C), by striking
 16 “and”;

17 (B) in subparagraph (D), by striking the
 18 period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

19 (C) by adding at the end the following:

20 “(E) \$35,000,000 for each of fiscal years
 21 2019 through 2024.”.

22 **SEC. 15. BLUE ECONOMY VALUATION.**

23 (a) MEASUREMENT OF BLUE ECONOMY INDUS-
 24 TRIES.—The Administrator, the Director of the Bureau
 25 of Economic Analysis, the Commissioner of the Bureau

1 of Labor Statistics, the Secretary of the Treasury, and
2 the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, shall
3 prioritize the collection, aggregation, and analysis of data
4 to measure the value and impact of industries related to
5 the Great Lakes, oceans, bays, estuaries, and coasts on
6 the economy of the United States, including living re-
7 sources, marine construction, marine transportation, off-
8 shore mineral extraction, ship and boat building, tourism,
9 recreation, subsistence, and such other industries the Ad-
10 ministrator considers appropriate (known as “Blue Econ-
11 omy” industries).

12 (b) COLLABORATION.—In carrying out subsection
13 (a), the Administrator shall—

14 (1) work with the Director of the Bureau of
15 Economic Analysis and the heads of other relevant
16 Federal agencies to develop a Coastal and Ocean
17 Economy Satellite Account that includes national
18 and State-level statistics to measure the contribution
19 of the Great Lakes, oceans, bays, estuaries, and
20 coasts to the overall economy of the United States;
21 and

22 (2) collaborate with national and international
23 organizations and governments to promote consist-
24 ency of methods, measurements, and definitions to
25 ensure comparability of results between countries.

1 (c) REPORT.—Not less frequently than once every 2
 2 years, the Administrator, in consultation with the Director
 3 of the Bureau of Economic Analysis, the Commissioner
 4 of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Secretary of the
 5 Treasury, and the heads of other relevant Federal agen-
 6 cies, shall publish a report that—

7 (1) defines the Blue Economy, in coordination
 8 with academia, industry, nongovernmental organiza-
 9 tions, and other relevant experts;

10 (2) makes recommendations for updating North
 11 American Industry Classification System (NAICS)
 12 reporting codes to reflect the Blue Economy; and

13 (3) provides a comprehensive estimate of the
 14 value and impact of the Blue Economy with respect
 15 to each State and territory of the United States, in-
 16 cluding—

17 (A) the value and impact of—

18 (i) economic activities that are de-
 19 pendent upon the resources of the Great
 20 Lakes, oceans, bays, estuaries, and coasts;

21 (ii) the population and demographic
 22 characteristics of the population along the
 23 coasts;

24 (iii) port and shoreline infrastructure;

1 (iv) the volume and value of cargo
 2 shipped by sea or across the Great Lakes;
 3 and

4 (v) data collected from the Great
 5 Lakes, oceans, bays, estuaries, and coasts,
 6 including such data collected by businesses
 7 that purchase and commodify the data, in-
 8 cluding weather prediction and seasonal
 9 agricultural forecasting; and

10 (B) to the extent possible, the qualified
 11 value and impact of the natural capital of the
 12 Great Lakes, oceans, bays, estuaries, and coasts
 13 with respect to tourism, recreation, natural re-
 14 sources, and cultural heritage, including other
 15 indirect values.

16 **SEC. 16. ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY-**
 17 **OCEANS.**

18 (a) AGREEMENT.—Not later than 45 days after the
 19 date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall
 20 seek to enter into an agreement with the National Acad-
 21 emy of Sciences to conduct the comprehensive assessment
 22 under subsection (b).

23 (b) COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—Under an agreement be-
 25 tween the Administrator and the National Academy

1 of Sciences under this section, the National Acad-
 2 emy of Sciences shall conduct a comprehensive as-
 3 sessment of the need for and feasibility of estab-
 4 lishing an Advanced Research Projects Agency–
 5 Oceans (ARPA–O).

6 (2) ELEMENTS.—The comprehensive assess-
 7 ment carried out pursuant to paragraph (1) shall in-
 8 clude—

9 (A) an assessment of how an ARPA–O
 10 could help overcome the long-term and high-risk
 11 technological barriers in the development of
 12 ocean technologies, with the goal of enhancing
 13 the economic, ecological, and national security
 14 of the United States through the rapid develop-
 15 ment of technologies that result in—

16 (i) improved data collection, moni-
 17 toring, and prediction of the ocean environ-
 18 ment, including sea ice conditions;

19 (ii) overcoming barriers to the appli-
 20 cation of new and improved technologies,
 21 such as high costs and scale of operational
 22 missions;

23 (iii) improved management practices
 24 for protecting ecological sustainability;

1 (iv) improved national security capac-
2 ity;

3 (v) improved technology for fishery
4 population assessments;

5 (vi) expedited processes between and
6 among Federal agencies to successfully
7 identify, transition, and coordinate re-
8 search and development output to oper-
9 ations, applications, commercialization, and
10 other uses; and

11 (vii) ensuring that the United States
12 maintains a technological lead in devel-
13 oping and deploying advanced ocean tech-
14 nologies;

15 (B) an evaluation of the organizational
16 structures under which an ARPA-O could be
17 organized, which takes into account—

18 (i) best practices for new research
19 programs;

20 (ii) metrics and approaches for peri-
21 odic program evaluation;

22 (iii) capacity to fund and manage ex-
23 ternal research awards; and

24 (iv) options for oversight of the activ-
25 ity through a Federal agency, an inter-

1 agency organization, nongovernmental or-
2 ganization, or other institutional arrange-
3 ment; and

4 (C) an estimation of the scale of invest-
5 ment necessary to pursue high priority ocean
6 technology projects.

7 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the
8 date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall
9 submit to Congress a report on the comprehensive assess-
10 ment conducted under subsection (b).

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