

Summary of Key Ocean Bills

The Joint Ocean Commission Initiative is a collaborative effort by the members of the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy and the Pew Oceans Commission to advance the pace of change for meaningful ocean policy reform consistent with the two Commissions' recommendations. Since early 2005, the Joint Initiative has been engaging leaders in Congress and the Administration on critical ocean policy reform issues. It has also been working closely with Governors and other state leaders, as well as a variety of networks of people involved in local, state, and regional ocean issues, facilitating progress in the regions in order to build durable support for the Initiative's national priorities. For more information on the Joint Initiative, please visit www.jointoceancommission.org.

The following tables provide information on the status and content of key bills regarding oceans and coasts that are currently moving through the 110th United States Congress. The document focuses on legislation related to comprehensive ocean management reform, coastal zone management, offshore energy, fisheries management, an organic act for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, ocean observation and exploration, and other marine issues.

This edition of the Joint Initiative's Summary of Key Ocean Bills documents the progress of important ocean-related legislation at this point of the 110th United States Congress. As of the writing of this document, the following bills were signed into law by the President:

America COMPETES (P.L. 69). This law calls for investment in innovation through research and development, improving the competitiveness of the United States. It authorizes \$43 billion over three years for multiple programs in six agencies, including NOAA. It directs NOAA and NASA to establish a program aimed at developing "advanced technologies and analytical methods" to ensure U.S. leadership in basic and applied oceanic and atmospheric research. In addition, it directs NOAA to increase educational and other outreach efforts to improve public understanding of oceanic, atmospheric, and coastal science.

Water Resource Development Act (P.L. 114). This law authorizes and funds more than 200 projects for navigation, ecosystem and environmental restoration, and hurricane, flood, or storm damage protection. The law also authorizes the Secretary of the Army to carry out Louisiana coastal ecosystem restoration.

Creating Long-Term Energy Alternatives for the Nation (CLEAN) Energy Act (P.L. 140). The legislation encourages greater energy independence and security by investing in renewable technologies, increasing vehicle fuel efficiency, and setting new energy standards for buildings and home

appliances. Marine and hydrokinetic provisions are included under accelerated research and development programs for renewable energy technologies. The Undersecretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere is required to establish a program of research, development, demonstration, and commercial application to expand marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy production. Grants shall be awarded to higher education consortia or institutions in order to establish a National Marine Renewable Research, Development, and Demonstration Centers. In addition, the legislation rolls back certain tax reductions on the oil and gas industries and eliminates the deepwater royalty provisions that were included in the 2005 Energy Policy Act. Federal receipts generated by the bill shall be deposited in a fund to offset the cost of subsequent legislation designed to promote and conduct research on renewable and alternative energy sources.

This is a living document that is updated as action is taken on existing legislation and as new bills are introduced. It is not intended to capture all legislation that might affect oceans and coasts, but instead is a highlight of the most important bills. This document was prepared by Meridian Institute, which serves as the secretariat for the Joint Ocean Commission Initiative. To facilitate periodic updates, Meridian Institute would appreciate notification of amendments or additions. Please contact Laura Cantral of Meridian Institute at 202-354-6444 or lcantral@merid.org.

Last updated: *28 April 2008*

Bill Number	Elements	Primary Sponsor & Committee Status
-------------	----------	------------------------------------

COMPREHENSIVE OCEAN BILLS

H.R. 21	<p>Ocean Conservation, Education, and National Strategy for the 21st Century Act (OCEANS 21)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establishes a National Oceans Advisor for the President and federal advisory bodies on ocean policy. ▪ Provides guidelines for regional coordination and ecosystem planning. ▪ Establishes an ocean and Great Lakes conservation trust fund. ▪ Formally authorizes NOAA (with language from H.R. 250). 	<p>Farr (D-CA) Natural Resources, SC Fisheries Oceans 1/4/07: Introduced 4/26/07: SC hearings held Science, SC Energy and Env. 1/4/07: Introduced 6/6/07: Sponsor introductory remarks on measure 4/23/08: SC mark-up 4/23/08: Passed (amended) to Full Committee</p>
---------	---	---

COMPREHENSIVE WATER BILLS

H.R. 2421	<p>Clean Water Restoration Act of 2007</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Seeks to overturn 2001 and 2006 Supreme Court's decisions regarding the jurisdiction of the Clean Water Act by eliminating the term "navigable waters" and defining "waters of the United States" to include wetlands and other waters that had been removed by judicial interpretation. 	<p>Oberstar (D-MN) Transportation, SC Water and Env. 5/22/07: Introduced 7/17/07: Committee hearings held 7/19/07: Committee hearings held</p>
H.R. 1350	<p>Great Lakes Collaboration Implementation Act of 2007</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provides federal assistance for wastewater infrastructure improvements. ▪ Authorizes an electric barrier to keep Asian carp from entering the Great Lakes. ▪ Aims to restore fish and wildlife and clean up contaminated sediment. 	<p>Ehlers (R-MI) Transportation, SC Water Resources Natural Resources, SC Fisheries Oceans Science, SC Energy and Env. House Administration 3/6/07: Introduced</p>
S. 1126	<p>Gulf of Mexico Restoration Protection Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Amends the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reestablish the Program Office of the Gulf of Mexico Program as an office of the EPA. ▪ Requires the Office to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate the actions of EPA and other federal, state, and local agencies and authorities • Assist in developing specific action plans to carry out the program 	<p>Lott (R-MS) Environment 4/17/07: Introduced</p>

S. 1126 (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate and implement priority restoration plans and projects • Implement outreach programs to foster stewardship of the Gulf's resources • Develop and communicate information about the environmental quality and living resources of the Gulf • Serve as the liaison with the Mexican members of the Gulf of Mexico States Accord and Mexican EPA counterparts 	
S. 791	<p>Great Lakes Collaboration Implementation Act of 2007</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Companion bill to H.R. 1350 listed on previous page. 	<p>Levin (D-MI) Environment 3/7/07: Introduced</p>

CLIMATE CHANGE

H.R. 3221	<p>New Direction for Energy Independence, National Security, and Consumer Protection Act †*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourages research and development of marine renewable energy sources including energy derived from waves, tidal flows, ocean currents, and ocean thermal energy conversion. ▪ Establishes Climate Change Adaptability Inter-Governmental Panel. ▪ Authorizes grants to coastal states to explore alternative energy development. ▪ Establishes an Ocean Policy and Global Warming Program at NOAA to plan for and mitigate the impacts of climate change as well as offshore alternative energy. ▪ Amends the CZMA to allow states to develop climate change resiliency plans voluntarily. ▪ Amends the CZMA to require NOAA to submit a report on the impacts of climate change. ▪ Directs the President, acting through the National Ocean Research Leadership Council, to establish and maintain a National Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System comprised of federal and non-federal components. ▪ Calls for a network of regional coordination entities. ▪ Authorizes basic and applied research in coastal and ocean observation technologies, modeling systems, and other capabilities to improve the understanding of climate change and dynamics of the oceans, coasts, and Great Lakes. ▪ Institutionalizes programs for public awareness, education, and training to increase awareness of the oceans, coasts, and Great Lakes and of the effects of climate change. ▪ Amends language in the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships. <p>†Language from H.R. 2337 and H.R. 2342 (see pages 8-9 in this document) were incorporated into this bill. * Only select provisions of this bill are summarized.</p>	<p>Pelosi (D-CA) <u>House</u> Natural Resources Energy and Commerce Science and Technology and 7 others 7/30/07: Introduced 8/4/07: General debate held 8/4/07: Passed (amended) (241-172) 9/5/07: Received in Senate and placed on Senate Calendar</p> <p><u>Senate</u> 2/28/08: Cloture on the motion to measure not invoked in Senate (48-46)</p>
-----------	---	---

H.R. 2337	<p>Energy Policy Reform and Revitalization Act of 2007 †*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establishes Climate Change Adaptability Inter-Governmental Panel. ▪ Authorizes grants to coastal states to explore alternative energy development. ▪ Establishes an Ocean Policy and Global Warming Program at NOAA to plan for and mitigate the impacts of climate change as well as offshore alternative energy. ▪ Amends the CZMA to allow states to develop climate change resiliency plans voluntarily. ▪ Authorizes an integrated coastal and ocean observation system. ▪ Amends the CZMA to require NOAA to submit a report on the impacts of climate change. <p>†Ocean-related provisions of this bill were incorporated into H.R. 3221 (see immediately above). * Only select provisions of this bill are summarized.</p>	<p>Rahall (D-WV) Natural Resources 5/16/07: Introduced 5/23/07: Committee hearings held 6/13/07: Approved (26-22) 8/3/07: Reported amended Agriculture, SC Department Operations 5/16/07: Introduced 8/3/07: Discharged from Committee Science, SC Energy and Env. 5/16/07: Introduced 5/31/07: Executive Comment requested from USDA 8/3/07: Discharged from Committee and placed on Union Calendar No. 186</p>
H.R. 906	<p>Global Change Research and Data Management Act of 2007</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establishes an interagency committee to ensure cooperation and coordination of federal research activities pertaining to global climate change and specifically cites the risks to marine life and coastal habitability. ▪ Seeks to develop a National Global Change Research Plan to set research goals and priorities, including physical, economic, and demographic trends. ▪ Requires discussions with other nations leading toward international protocols and other agreements on climate change research activities. ▪ Requires a policy assessment within 1 year and every 3 years thereafter to document policy options being utilized and their effectiveness. 	<p>Udall (D-CO) Science, SC Energy and Env. 2/7/07: Introduced 6/6/07: Amended and forwarded to full Committee 6/27/07: Committee markup; ordered to be reported by Committee Foreign Affairs 2/7/07: Referred to Committee</p>
H.R. 620	<p>Climate Stewardship Act of 2007 *</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establishes a market-driven system of tradable allowances for greenhouse gasses that provides some revenues to be used for fish and wildlife habitat programs. ▪ Adds a section to the CZMA that requires NOAA to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report to Congress within 2 years and every 5 years thereafter on the possible and projected impacts of climate change on oceanic and marine ecosystems, marine fish and wildlife and their habitat, and coastal communities. • Provide states with technical assistance in preparing coastal residents for adaptation to climate change. <p>* Only select provisions of this bill are summarized.</p>	<p>Olver (D-MA) Energy and Commerce Science, SC Energy and Env. Natural Resources, SC Fisheries Oceans 1/22/07: Introduced</p>

H.R. 5453	<p>Coastal State Climate Change Planning Act of 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides assistance to coastal states to voluntarily develop coastal climate change adaptation plans pursuant to approved management programs to minimize contributions to climate change and to prepare for and reduce the negative consequences that may result from climate change in the coastal zone. Provides financial and technical assistance and training to enable coastal states to implement plans developed pursuant to this section through coastal states' enforceable policies. 	<p>Capps (D-CA) Natural Resources 2/14/08: Introduced 2/28/08: SC hearing held</p>
-----------	--	--

COASTAL CONSERVATION

H.R. 3223	<p>Keep Our Waterfronts Working Act of 2007</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amends the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 to establish a grant program to ensure coastal access for commercial and recreational fishermen and other water-dependent, coastal-related businesses, and for other public benefit purposes. 	<p>Allen (D-ME) Natural Resources, SC Fisheries Oceans 7/30/07: Introduced 8/1/07: Referred to SC 2/28/08: SC hearing held</p>
H.R. 1907	<p>Coastal and Estuarine Land Protection Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Directs the Secretary of Commerce to establish within NOAA a federal grant program to help states acquire undeveloped coastal areas of important ecological, aesthetic, recreational, or historic value. 	<p>Saxton (R-NJ) Natural Resources, SC Fisheries Oceans 4/23/07: Introduced 10/24/07: SC hearing held 2/13/08: SC consideration and mark-up 2/13/08: Forwarded to full Committee without recommendation (amended)</p>
S. 1579	<p>Coastal Zone Enhancement Reauthorization Act of 2007</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reauthorizes administrative grants for improved coastal management, including pollution control, and coastal zone administrative grants that aid the creation, restoration, and preservation of coastal habitats. Allows states to amend their coastal zone plans to address impacts of climate change on coastal zone resources. 	<p>Snowe (R-ME) Commerce 6/7/07: Introduced</p>
S. 1142	<p>Coastal and Estuarine Land Protection Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Companion bill to H.R. 1907 listed on previous page. 	<p>Judd (R-NH) Commerce 4/18/07: Introduced 6/5/07: Passed without amendment 6/5/07: Placed on Senate Calendar No. 190</p>
H.R. 5451	<p>Coastal Zone Reauthorization Act of 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authorizes appropriations until 2011 for various programs under the Coastal Zone 	<p>Bordallo (D-GU) Natural Resources</p>

<i>H.R. 5451 (continued)</i>	Management Act and serves as a placeholder for continuing discussions on reauthorization language.	2/14/08: Introduced 2/28/08: SC hearing held
----------------------------------	--	---

CORAL REEF CONSERVATION

H.R. 1205	<p>Coral Reef Conservation Amendments Act of 2007</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reauthorizes the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000. ▪ Expands the coral reef program to address boat navigation around coral reefs, local community and nongovernmental organization involvement, and emergency situations. ▪ Requires submission of a report to Congress every three years. ▪ Establishes the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force in law. 	<p>Faleomavaega (D-AS) Natural Resources, SC Fisheries Oceans 2/27/07: Introduced 3/6/07: SC hearings held 3/22/07: Forwarded to full Committee 6/28/07: Committee consideration and mark-up 10/22/07: Reported (amended) 10/22/07: Passed by voice vote 10/22/07: Placed on Senate Calendar Science, SC Energy and Env 2/27/07: Introduced</p>
S. 1583	<p>Coral Reef Ecosystem Conservation Amendments Act of 2007</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reauthorizes the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000. ▪ Establishes authorities for preserving, restoring, and managing coral reef ecosystems. ▪ Prohibits damage to corals, while providing specific exemptions for activities such as research, fishing, and other activities. ▪ Establishes liability and civil and criminal penalties for damage to coral reefs resulting from prohibited activities. ▪ Reauthorizes the award of grants under the coral reef conservation program to research emerging priorities or threats to coral reefs. 	<p>Inouye (D-HI) Commerce 6/7/07: Introduced</p>

FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE

H.R. 2010	<p>National Offshore Aquaculture Act of 2007</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Authorizes the Secretary of Commerce to issue offshore aquaculture permits. ▪ Requires the Secretary to work with other federal agencies to develop and implement a coordinated permitting process. ▪ Exempts permitted offshore aquaculture from fishing regulations that restrict size, season, and harvest methods. ▪ Authorizes a research and development program for all types of marine aquaculture. ▪ Authorizes funding to carry out the Act and provide for enforcement of the Act. 	<p>Rahall (D-WV) Natural Resources, SC Fisheries Oceans 4/24/07: Introduced 7/12/07: SC hearings held Ways and Means, SC Trade 4/24/07: Introduced Foreign Affairs 4/24/07: Introduced</p>
-----------	--	---

H.R. 1507	<p>Salmon Economic Analysis and Planning Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires the Secretary of Commerce to enter into an arrangement with the National Academy of Sciences for scientific analysis of federal salmon protection, restoration, and recovery actions. 	<p>McDermott (D-WA) Natural Resources, SC Fisheries Oceans 3/13/07: Introduced</p>
S. 1609	<p>National Offshore Aquaculture Act of 2007</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Companion bill to H.R. 2010 listed above. 	<p>Inouye (D-HI) Commerce 6/13/07: Introduced</p>
S. 533	<p>Natural Stock Conservation Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amends the National Aquaculture Act of 1980 to prohibit the issuance of permits for marine aquaculture until requirements for the permits are enacted into law. 	<p>Murkowski (R-AK) Agriculture 2/8/07: Introduced</p>

INVASIVE SPECIES

H.R. 2423	<p>Ballast Water Management Act of 2007</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporates international ballast water management requirements into U.S. law. Establishes ballast water discharge standards that are 100 times more stringent than current international standards. 	<p>LaTourette (R-OH) Transportation, SC Water and Env. 5/22/07: Introduced Transportation, SC Coast Guard</p>
H.R. 889	<p>Prevention of Aquatic Invasive Species Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amends the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention Act of 1990 to establish vessel ballast water management requirements. 	<p>Miller (R-MI) Transportation, SC Coast Guard Transportation, SC Water Resources Natural Resources, SC Fisheries Oceans 2/7/07: Introduced</p>
H.R. 801	<p>Great Lakes Invasive Species Control Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amends the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 to require all vessels equipped with ballast water tanks to carry out exchange of ballast water or alternative ballast water management methods prior to entry into any port within the Great Lakes. Requires the Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, to conduct a study of the effectiveness, feasibility of application, and environmental soundness of ballast water tank treatment methods, other than ballast water exchange, in reducing the threat of invasive species to the Great Lakes. 	<p>Kirk (R-IL) Transportation, SC Coast Guard Transportation, SC Water Resources 2/5/07: Introduced</p>

H.R. 260	<p>Aquatic Invasive Species Research Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishes marine and freshwater research, development, and demonstration programs to support efforts to prevent, control, and eradicate invasive species, as well as to educate citizens and stakeholders and restore ecosystems. 	<p>Ehlers (R-MI) Science, SC Energy and Env. Transportation, SC Coast Guard, SC Water Resources Natural Resources, SC Fisheries Oceans Administration 1/5/07: Introduced</p>
S. 1578	<p>Ballast Water Management Act of 2007</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a national management program for addressing invasive species in ballast water. Establishes requirements for ballast water treatment, as well as procedures for ballast water exchange in the interim. Seeks to prevent the introduction of invasive species from ship equipment or hulls. 	<p>Inouye (D-HI) Commerce 6/7/07: Introduced 9/27/07: Ordered to be reported (amended) favorably 3/3/08: Placed on Senate Calendar</p>
S. 725	<p>National Aquatic Invasive Species Act of 2007</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amends the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990. Establishes aquatic invasive species reduction and prevention requirements for vessels (including towed vessels and structures) operating in U.S. waters. Requires the National Invasive Species Council to establish a federal rapid response team for each of the ten federal regions. 	<p>Levin (I-MI) Environment 3/1/07: Introduced</p>

MARINE AND COASTAL POLLUTION

H.R. 1766	<p>Chesapeake's Healthy and Environmentally Sound Stewardship of Energy Act (CHESSEA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amends the Food Security Act of 1985 to extend funding for the environmental equality incentives program. Gives program allocation priority to interstate watersheds. Provides a cost-share payment exception for limited resources and beginning farmers. 	<p>Van Hollen (D-MD) Agriculture, SC Conservation 3/29/07: Introduced</p>
H.R. 1091	<p>Save our Shores Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amends the Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Act of 1998 to extend the authorization of appropriations for research, education, and monitoring activities related to the prevention, reduction, and control of harmful algal blooms and hypoxia. Requires that all federal financial assistance for harmful algal bloom research be awarded on a competitive, peer reviewed basis. 	<p>Mack (R-FL) Science, SC Energy and Env. Natural Resources, SC Fisheries Oceans 2/15/07: Introduced 2/23/07: Referred to SC</p>

H.R. 909	<p>Safe Water Improvement and Modernization Act of 2007</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amends the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and the Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health Act of 2000 to authorize appropriations for activities to improve the quality of coastal recreation waters. 	<p>Billray (R-CA) Transportation, SC Water and Env. 2/8/07: Introduced</p>
H.R. 802	<p>Maritime Pollution Prevention Act of 2007</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishes limits on ship emissions of nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide, and ozone-depleting chemicals, bringing the U.S. into compliance with the international shipping treaty MARPOL Annex VI. 	<p>Oberstar (D-MN) <u>House</u> Transportation 2/5/07: Introduced 2/7/07: Consideration and mark-up 3/20/07: Amended 3/26/07: Passed the House (359-48)</p> <p><u>Senate</u> Commerce 3/28/07: Introduced</p>
S. 1346	<p>CHESSEA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Companion bill to H.R. 1766 listed on previous page. 	<p>Mikulski (D-MD) Agriculture 5/9/07: Introduced</p>
H.R. 2537	<p>Beach Protection Act of 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amends the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to modify provisions relating to beach monitoring and other purposes. Allows state and local governments to establish monitoring and notification programs for coastal recreation areas. Increases appropriations from \$30 million for FY 2001 through FY up to \$40 million for FY 2008 through FY 2012. 	<p>Pallone (D-NJ) Transportation, SC Water and Env. 5/24/07: Introduced 12/12/07: Reported favorably (amended) 4/16/07: Passed House by voice vote 4/17/08: Referred to Senate Environment Committee</p>
S. 2844	<p>Beach Protection Act of 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amends the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to modify provisions relating to beach monitoring and other purposes. Increases appropriations from \$30 million for FY 2001 through FY 2005 up to \$60 million for FY 2008 through FY 2012. 	<p>Lautenberg (D-NJ) Environment 4/10/08: Introduced</p>
S. 2881	<p>Clean Cruise Ship Act of 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishes new national standards for discharges of treated sewage, graywater, and bilge from cruise vessels no less than 12 miles of U.S. shores. Prohibits discharge of untreated sewage, graywater, bilge, sewage sludge, incinerator ash, or hazardous waste in U.S. waters from a cruise vessel. 	<p>Durbin (D-IL) Commerce 4/17/08: Introduced</p>

MARINE MAMMALS

H.R. 1007	<p><i>No short title available</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Amends the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to repeal the long-term goal of reducing to zero the incidental mortality and serious injury of marine mammals in commercial fishing operations. ▪ Makes reduction of such incidental mortality and serious injury (but not to any specified percentage) the long-term goal. 	<p>Young (R-AK) Natural Resources, SC Fisheries Oceans 2/13/07: Introduced</p>
-----------	--	---

NOAA ORGANIC ACT

H.R. 250	<p>National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Act*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Formally authorizes NOAA as an agency within the Department of Commerce. ▪ Restructures NOAA around four areas: the National Weather Service, research and education, operations and services, and resources management. ▪ Requires a reorganization of the agency within 2 years. ▪ Creates a Science Advisory Board. <p>*This bill is identical to H.R. 5450 from the 109th Congress.</p>	<p>Ehlers (R-MI) Natural Resources, SC Fisheries Oceans Science, SC Energy and Env. 1/5/07: Introduced</p>
----------	---	---

OCEAN OBSERVATION AND EXPLORATION

H.R. 2342	<p>National Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act of 2007[†]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Directs the President, acting through the National Ocean Research Leadership Council, to establish and maintain a National Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System comprised of federal and non-federal components. ▪ Calls for a network of regional coordination entities. ▪ Authorizes basic and applied research in coastal and ocean observation technologies, modeling systems, and other capabilities to improve the understanding of climate change and dynamics of the oceans, coasts, and Great Lakes. ▪ Institutionalizes programs for public awareness, education, and training to increase awareness of the oceans, coasts, and Great Lakes and of the effects of climate change. <p>[†]Language from this bill was incorporated into HR 3221 (see pages 2-3 in this document).</p>	<p>Allen (D-ME) Natural Resources, SC Fisheries Oceans 5/16/07: Introduced 3/31/08: Reported (amended) 3/31/08: Passed House voice vote Science, SC Energy and Env. 5/16/07: Introduced 3/31/08: Discharged</p> <p><u>Senate</u> Commerce 4/1/08: Referred to Committee</p>
-----------	--	---

H.R. 1834	<p>National Ocean Exploration Program Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establishes the Ocean Exploration Program and the National Undersea Research Program within NOAA. 	<p>Saxton (R-NJ) Science, SC Energy and Env. 3/29/07: Introduced 12/18/07: Reported (amended) Natural Resources, SC Fisheries, Oceans 3/29/07: Introduced 6/19/07: Reported to Committee (amended) 6/28/07: Committee mark-up 8/4/07: Reported favorably (amended) Armed Services, SC Terrorism 3/29/07: Introduced 12/18/07: Discharged 12/18/07: Placed on Union Calendar 2/14/08: Passed House (352-49)</p>
S. 950	<p>Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act of 2007</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Directs the President, acting through the National Ocean Research Leadership Council, to establish and maintain an integrated system for the timely detection and prediction of changes occurring in the ocean and coastal environment that impact the nation's social, economic, and ecological systems. ▪ Makes NOAA the lead federal agency, requiring it to establish an Integrated Ocean Observing Program Office. ▪ Requires establishment of a process for the certification of regional associations to be responsible for the development and operation of regional coastal and ocean observing systems. ▪ Requires NOAA to formulate a process by which funding is made available for intramural and extramural research on new technologies. ▪ Authorizes departments and agencies represented on the Council to participate in interagency financing. 	<p>Snowe (R-ME) Commerce 3/21/07: Introduced 6/27/07: Reported favorably (amended) 11/2/07: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders</p>
S. 39	<p>Ocean and Coastal Exploration and NOAA Act (OCEAN Act)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establishes a coordinated national ocean exploration program in NOAA with a focus on deep sea regions, the location of historic shipwrecks and submerged sites, and public education programs. ▪ Requires NOAA to convene an ocean technology and infrastructure task force. ▪ Authorizes NOAA, NSF, and other agencies involved in the program to participate in interagency financing and sharing of funds. ▪ Establishes an undersea research program, a network of regional undersea research centers, and a national technology institute. 	<p>Stevens (R-AK) Commerce 1/4/07: Introduced 2/13/07: Reported favorably (amended) 3/27/07: Placed on Senate Calendar No. 90</p>

OFFSHORE ENERGY

H.R. 2313	<p>Marine Renewable Energy Research and Development Act of 2007</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Directs the Department of Energy to support research and development of technologies to produce electric power from renewable marine resources, such as waves, tidal flows, or ocean currents. Authorizes \$50 million for each fiscal year 2008 through 2012. 	<p>Hooley (D-OR) Science, SC Energy and Env. 5/15/07: Introduced 6/13/07: Reported favorably (amended) 6/21/07: Placed on Union Calendar</p>
H.R. 2036	<p>Marine and Hydrokinetic Renewable Energy Promotion Act of 2007*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourages use of waves, tides, and currents to produce electrical energy. Establishes a program of marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy research. Establishes an Adaptive Management and Environmental Fund to provide loans to projects that produce marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy. <p>*Only select provisions of this bill are summarized.</p>	<p>Inslee (D-WA) Energy Science, SC Energy and Env. Ways and Means Natural Resources, SC Fisheries, Oceans 4/25/07: Introduced</p>
S. 1511	<p>Marine and Hydrokinetic Renewable Energy Promotion Act of 2007</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Companion bill to H.R. 2036 listed on the previous page 	<p>Akaka (D-HI) Finance 5/24/07: Introduced</p>
S. 298	<p>Renewable Energy, Fuel Reduction, and Economic Stabilization and Enhancement Act*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires the provision of grants for development of offshore energy, including wave, current, tidal, and thermal energy, and authorizes \$100 million for this purpose. <p>*Only select provisions of this bill are summarized.</p>	<p>Murkowski (R-AK) Finance 1/16/07: Introduced</p>
S. 151	<p>California Ocean and Coastal Protection Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amends the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to prohibit oil and gas pre-leasing, leasing, and related activities off the coast of California. Amends the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to exclude such areas from oil and natural gas resources inventory and analysis requirements. 	<p>Boxer (D-CA) Energy and Natural Resources 1/4/07: Introduced</p>
H.R. 5452	<p>Coastal State Renewable Energy Promotion Act of 2008</p> <p>Amends the Coastal Zone Management Act to authorize grants to coastal States to support state efforts to initiate and complete surveys of both state and federal waters adjacent to a state's coastal zone to identify potential areas suitable or unsuitable for the exploration, development, and production of renewable energy.</p>	<p>Capps (D-CA) Natural Resources 2/14/08: Introduced 2/28/08: SC hearing held</p>

RESEARCH, SCIENCE, AND EDUCATION

H.R. 3352	<p>Hydrographic Services Improvement Act Amendments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Companion bill to S. 1582 listed on next page. 	<p>Young (R-AK) <u>House</u> Natural Resources</p>
-----------	--	---

<p>H.R. 3352 (continued)</p>		<p>8/2/07: Introduced 10/24/07: Subcommittee hearings held 2/13/08: SC mark-up 3/31/08: Reported (amended) 3/31/08: Passed House on motion to suspend rules (308-60)</p> <p><u>Senate</u> Energy 4/1/08: Received in Senate 4/14/08: Discharged from Committee 4/14/08: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders</p>
<p>H.R. 2836</p>	<p>National Sea Grant College Program Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Amends the National Sea Grant Program Act. ▪ Authorizes appropriations for the National Sea Grant College Program Act for FY2009 through FY2013. 	<p>Faleomavaega (D-AS) Natural Resources, SC Fisheries Oceans 6/22/07: Introduced</p>
<p>H.R. 2400</p>	<p>Ocean and Coastal Mapping and Integration Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Directs NOAA to establish an integrated ocean and coastal mapping program for the Great Lakes and coastal state waters. ▪ Establishes an Interagency Committee on Ocean and Coastal Mapping. ▪ Directs NOAA to identify and coordinate current coastal mapping programs and innovate new technology. 	<p>Bordallo (D-Guam) Natural Resources, SC Fisheries Oceans 5/21/07: Introduced 6/5/07: SC hearings held 6/19/07: Forwarded to full Committee 6/20/07: Committee mark-up 7/23/07: Reported favorably (amended) 7/23/07: Passed House under suspension of rules Science, SC Energy and Env. 5/21/07: Referred to Committee 7/23/07: Discharged from Committee 7/24/07: Received in Senate and referred to Commerce</p>
<p>S. 1582</p>	<p>Hydrographic Services Improvement Act Amendments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Amends the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act of 1998 in order to strengthen the work of NOAA in generating and using hydrographic data. ▪ Provides NOAA with a greater role in providing data in response to natural or man-made disasters such as a hurricane. 	<p>Inouye (D-HI) Commerce 6/7/07: Introduced 7/19/07: Ordered to be reported favorably (amended) 11/2/07: Placed on Senate Calendar</p>

S. 1581	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Federal Ocean Acidifications Research and Monitoring (FOARAM) Act▪ Establishes a federal program to conduct research and monitoring, and provide education, to examine the processes and consequences of ocean acidification.	Lautenberg (D-NJ) Commerce 6/7/07: Introduced 12/4/07: Reported favorably (amended)
---------	--	---