

104<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 1813

To establish a Minerals Management Service within the Department of the Interior, and for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 9, 1995

Mr. EHRLICH (for himself and Mr. RADANOVICH) introduced the following bill;  
which was referred to the Committee on Resources

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## A BILL

To establish a Minerals Management Service within the  
Department of the Interior, 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 “Minerals Management  
5 Service Organic Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds that:

8 (1) The Outer Continental Shelf currently pro-  
9 duces roughly  $\frac{1}{4}$  of our supply of natural gas and  
10  $\frac{1}{8}$  of domestically produced oil.

1           (2) Because of the large resource potential of  
2 the Outer Continental Shelf, the importance of its  
3 oil and natural gas production is expected to grow.

4           (3) The Minerals Management Service was cre-  
5 ated in 1982 following a recommendation of the  
6 Commission on Fiscal Accountability to the effect  
7 that consolidating mineral revenue collection and off-  
8 shore minerals management in a single agency would  
9 result in better management of the Nation's offshore  
10 mineral resources.

11           (4) The Minerals Management Service has ma-  
12 tured into an agency that possesses the requisite  
13 technical and administrative skills to manage the  
14 Outer Continental Shelf oil and gas properly and ef-  
15 ficiently.

16           (5) The Minerals Management Service has  
17 great institutional knowledge about the program and  
18 about the industry that has built up around it.

19           (6) The Minerals Management Service routinely  
20 collects revenue in excess of \$5,000,000,000 per  
21 year that is deposited to the General Fund of the  
22 Treasury. Some of these receipts are shared with  
23 coastal States and some are transferred to the Land  
24 and Water Conservation Fund that benefits all 50  
25 States.

1           (7) Because the energy resources of the Outer  
2 Continental Shelf belong to the whole Nation and  
3 are of national significance, strong unified manage-  
4 ment of the sort provided by the Minerals Manage-  
5 ment Service is required.

6           (8) Disruption of the program by making radi-  
7 cal changes in the way it is managed could tend to  
8 discourage needed new investment in further Outer  
9 Continental Shelf exploration and development  
10 projects and cause that investment to be made else-  
11 where.

12           (9) The orderly and highly productive develop-  
13 ment of the energy resources in the Central and  
14 Western Gulf of Mexico planning areas clearly dem-  
15 onstrate the Minerals Management Service's ability  
16 to manage Outer Continental Shelf resources and  
17 collect the revenue those resources produce in a pro-  
18 fessional and efficient manner.

19 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF MINERALS MANAGEMENT**  
20 **SERVICE.**

21           There is established in the Department of the Inte-  
22 rior a service to be called the Minerals Management Serv-  
23 ice, which shall be under the charge of a Director who  
24 shall report to the Assistant Secretary for Land and Min-  
25 erals Management. The Director shall be appointed by the

1 President, by and with the advice and consent of the Sen-  
2 ate, and shall be compensated at the rate provided for  
3 Level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of  
4 title 5 of the United States Code. The Director shall be  
5 appointed on the basis of professional competence and ca-  
6 pacity to administer the provisions of this Act. There shall  
7 also be in said service such subordinate officers, clerks,  
8 and employees as may be appropriated for by Congress.  
9 The service thus established shall promote and regulate  
10 the use of lands on the Outer Continental Shelf for pur-  
11 poses of energy and mineral resources exploration, produc-  
12 tion, and development, and shall administer a program re-  
13 sponsible for the timely and accurate collection, distribu-  
14 tion, accounting for and auditing of revenues owed by  
15 holders of mineral leases on Federal and offshore and In-  
16 dian lands. The service shall administer its functions by  
17 such means as are reasonably necessary to carry out the  
18 purposes of this Act, the Outer Continental Shelf Lands  
19 Act (43 U.S.C. 1301 et seq.), the Mineral Leasing Act  
20 (30 U.S.C. 181–287), and the Federal Oil and Gas Roy-  
21 alty Management Act (30 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), and all  
22 other applicable Federal laws.

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