

110TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. 1582

AN ACT

To reauthorize and amend the Hydrographic Services
Improvement Act, 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 “Hydrographic Services
5 Improvement Act Amendments of 2008”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2 Section 303 of the Hydrographic Services Improve-
3 ment Act of 1998 (33 U.S.C. 892) is amended by striking
4 paragraphs (3), (4), and (5) and inserting the following:

5 “(3) HYDROGRAPHIC DATA.—The term ‘hydro-
6 graphic data’ means information that—

7 “(A) is acquired through—

8 “(i) hydrographic, bathymetric, photo-
9 grammetric, lidar, radar, remote sensing,
10 or shoreline and other ocean- and coastal-
11 related surveying;

12 “(ii) geodetic, geospatial, or geo-
13 magnetic measurements;

14 “(iii) tide, water level, and current ob-
15 servations; or

16 “(iv) other methods; and

17 “(B) is used in providing hydrographic
18 services.

19 “(4) HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICES.—The term ‘hy-
20 drographic services’ means—

21 “(A) the management, maintenance, inter-
22 pretation, certification, and dissemination of
23 bathymetric, hydrographic, shoreline, geodetic,
24 geospatial, geomagnetic, and tide, water level,
25 and current information, including the produc-
26 tion of nautical charts, nautical information

1 databases, and other products derived from hy-
2 drographic data;

3 “(B) the development of nautical informa-
4 tion systems; and

5 “(C) related activities.

6 “(5) COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY ACT.—The
7 term ‘Coast and Geodetic Survey Act’ means the Act
8 entitled ‘An Act to define the functions and duties
9 of the Coast and Geodetic Survey, and for other pur-
10 poses’, approved August 6, 1947 (33 U.S.C. 883a et
11 seq.).”.

12 **SEC. 3. FUNCTIONS OF THE ADMINISTRATOR.**

13 Section 303 of the Hydrographic Services Improve-
14 ment Act of 1998 (33 U.S.C. 892a) is amended—

15 (1) by striking “the Act of 1947,” in subsection
16 (a) and inserting “the Coast and Geodetic Survey
17 Act, promote safe, efficient and environmentally
18 sound marine transportation, and otherwise fulfill
19 the purposes of this Act,”;

20 (2) by striking “data;” in subsection (a)(1) and
21 inserting “data and provide hydrographic services;”
22 and

23 (3) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the
24 following:

1 “(b) AUTHORITIES.—To fulfill the data gathering
2 and dissemination duties of the Administration under the
3 Coast and Geodetic Survey Act, promote safe, efficient,
4 and environmentally sound marine transportation, and
5 otherwise fulfill the purposes of this Act, subject to the
6 availability of appropriations, the Administrator—

7 “(1) may procure, lease, evaluate, test, develop,
8 and operate vessels, equipment, and technologies
9 necessary to ensure safe navigation and maintain
10 operational expertise in hydrographic data acquisi-
11 tion and hydrographic services;

12 “(2) shall, subject to the availability of appro-
13 priations, design, install, maintain, and operate real-
14 time hydrographic monitoring systems to enhance
15 navigation safety and efficiency; and

16 “(3) where appropriate and to the extent that
17 it does not detract from the promotion of safe and
18 efficient navigation, may acquire hydrographic data
19 and provide hydrographic services to support the
20 conservation and management of coastal and ocean
21 resources;

22 “(4) where appropriate, may acquire hydro-
23 graphic data and provide hydrographic services to
24 save and protect life and property and support the
25 resumption of commerce in response to emergencies,

1 natural and man-made disasters, and homeland se-
2 curity and maritime domain awareness needs, in-
3 cluding obtaining mission assignments (as defined in
4 section 641 of the Post-Katrina Emergency Manage-
5 ment Reform Act of 2006 (6 U.S.C. 741));

6 “(5) may create, support, and maintain such
7 joint centers with other Federal agencies and other
8 entities as the Administrator deems appropriate or
9 necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act; and

10 “(6) notwithstanding the existence of such joint
11 centers, shall award contracts for the acquisition of
12 hydrographic data in accordance with subchapter VI
13 of chapter 10 of title 40, United States Code.”.

14 **SEC. 4. HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICES REVIEW PANEL.**

15 Section 305(c)(1)(A) of the Hydrographic Services
16 Improvement Act of 1998 (33 U.S.C. 892c(c)(1)(A)) is
17 amended to read as follows: “(A) The panel shall consist
18 of 15 voting members who shall be appointed by the Ad-
19 ministrator. The Co-directors of the Center for Coastal
20 and Ocean Mapping/Joint Hydrographic Center and no
21 more than 2 employees of the National Oceanic and At-
22 mospheric Administration appointed by the Administrator
23 shall serve as nonvoting members of the panel. The voting
24 members of the panel shall be individuals who, by reason
25 of knowledge, experience, or training, are especially quali-

1 fied in 1 or more of the disciplines and fields relating to
 2 hydrographic data and hydrographic services, marine
 3 transportation, port administration, vessel pilotage, coast-
 4 al and fishery management, and other disciplines as deter-
 5 mined appropriate by the Administrator.”.

6 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

7 Section 306 of the Hydrographic Services Improve-
 8 ment Act of 1998 (33 U.S.C. 892d) is amended to read
 9 as follows:

10 **“SEC. 306. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

11 “There are authorized to be appropriated to the Ad-
 12 ministrator the following:

13 “(1) To carry out nautical mapping and chart-
 14 ing functions under sections 304 and 305, except for
 15 conducting hydrographic surveys—

16 “(A) \$55,000,000 for fiscal year 2009;

17 “(B) \$56,000,000 for fiscal year 2010;

18 “(C) \$57,000,000 for fiscal year 2011; and

19 “(D) \$58,000,000 for fiscal year 2012.

20 “(2) To contract for hydrographic surveys
 21 under section 304(b)(1), including the leasing or
 22 time chartering of vessels—

23 “(A) \$32,130,000 for fiscal year 2009;

24 “(B) \$32,760,000 for fiscal year 2010;

25 “(C) \$33,390,000 for fiscal year 2011; and

1 “(D) \$34,020,000 for fiscal year 2012.

2 “(3) To operate hydrographic survey vessels
3 owned by the United States and operated by the
4 Administration—

5 “(A) \$25,900,000 for fiscal year 2009;

6 “(B) \$26,400,000 for fiscal year 2010;

7 “(C) \$26,900,000 for fiscal year 2011; and

8 “(D) \$27,400,000 for fiscal year 2012.

9 “(4) To carry out geodetic functions under this
10 title—

11 “(A) \$32,640,000 for fiscal year 2009;

12 “(B) \$33,280,000 for fiscal year 2010;

13 “(C) \$33,920,000 for fiscal year 2011; and

14 “(D) \$34,560,000 for fiscal year 2012.

15 “(5) To carry out tide and current measure-
16 ment functions under this title—

17 “(A) \$27,000,000 for fiscal year 2009;

18 “(B) \$27,500,000 for fiscal year 2010;

19 “(C) \$28,000,000 for fiscal year 2011; and

20 “(D) \$28,500,000 for fiscal year 2012.

21 “(6) To acquire a replacement hydrographic
22 survey vessel capable of staying at sea continuously
23 for at least 30 days \$75,000,000.”.

1 **SEC. 6. AUTHORIZED NOAA CORPS STRENGTH.**

2 Section 215 of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
3 Administration Commissioned Officer Corps Act of 2002
4 (33 U.S.C. 3005) is amended to read as follows:

5 **“SEC. 215. NUMBER OF AUTHORIZED COMMISSIONED OFFI-**
6 **CERS.**

7 “Effective October 1, 2009, the total number of au-
8 thorized commissioned officers on the lineal list of the
9 commissioned corps of the National Oceanic and Atmos-
10 pheric Administration shall be increased from 321 to 379
11 if—

12 “(1) the Secretary has submitted to the
13 Congress—

14 “(A) the Administration’s ship recapital-
15 ization plan for fiscal years 2010 through 2024;

16 “(B) the Administration’s aircraft remod-
17 ernization plan; and

18 “(C) supporting workforce management
19 plans;

20 “(2) appropriated funding is available; and

1 “(3) the Secretary has justified organizational
2 needs for the commissioned corps for each such fis-
3 cal year.”

 Passed the Senate September 26, 2008 (legislative
day, September 17), 2008.

Attest:

Secretary.

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