

110TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 3160

To reauthorize and amend the National Sea Grant College Program Act,  
and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 19, 2008

Mr. INOUE (for himself, Mr. STEVENS, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. SNOWE, and Mr. KERRY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

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## A BILL

To reauthorize and amend the National Sea Grant College  
Program 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 “National Sea Grant  
5 College Program Amendments Act of 2008”.

6 **SEC. 2. REFERENCES.**

7 Except as otherwise expressly provided therein, when-  
8 ever in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in  
9 terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other  
10 provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to

1 a section or other provision of the National Sea Grant Col-  
2 lege Program Act (33 U.S.C. 1121 et seq.).

3 **SEC. 3. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

4 (a) FINDINGS.—Section 202(a) (33 U.S.C. 1121(a))  
5 is amended—

6 (1) by striking subparagraphs (D) and (E) of  
7 paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

8 “(D) encourage the development of prepa-  
9 ration, forecast, analysis, mitigation, response,  
10 and recovery systems for coastal hazards;

11 “(E) understand global environmental  
12 processes and their impacts on ocean, coastal,  
13 and Great Lakes resources; and”;

14 (2) by striking “program of research, edu-  
15 cation,” in paragraph (2) and inserting “program of  
16 integrated research, education, extension,”; and

17 (3) by striking paragraph (6) and inserting the  
18 following:

19 “(6) The National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
20 Administration, through the national sea grant col-  
21 lege program, offers the most suitable locus and  
22 means for such commitment and engagement  
23 through the promotion of activities that will result in  
24 greater such understanding, assessment, develop-  
25 ment, management, and conservation of ocean,

1 coastal, and Great Lakes resources. The most cost-  
2 effective way to promote such activities is through  
3 continued and increased Federal support of the es-  
4 tablishment, development, and operation of pro-  
5 grams and projects by sea grant colleges, sea grant  
6 institutes, and other institutions, including strong  
7 collaborations between Administration scientists and  
8 research and outreach personnel at academic institu-  
9 tions.”.

10 (b) PURPOSE.—Section 202(c) (33 U.S.C. 1121(c))  
11 is amended by striking “to promote research, education,  
12 training, and advisory service activities” and inserting “to  
13 promote integrated research, education, training, and ex-  
14 tension services and activities”.

15 (c) TERMINOLOGY.—Subsections (a) and (b) of sec-  
16 tion 202 (15 U.S.C. 1121(a) and (b)) are amended by  
17 striking “utilization,” each place it appears and inserting  
18 “management,”.

19 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

20 Section 203 (33 U.S.C. 1122) is amended—

21 (1) in paragraph (4) by striking “utilization,”  
22 and inserting “management,”;

23 (2) in paragraph (11) by striking “advisory  
24 services” and inserting “extension services”;

1           (3) in each of paragraphs (12) and (13) by  
2 striking “(33 U.S.C. 1126)”;

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

4           “(17) The term ‘regional research and informa-  
5 tion plan’ means a plan developed by one or more  
6 sea grant colleges or sea grant institutes that identi-  
7 fies regional priorities.”.

8 **SEC. 5. NATIONAL SEA GRANT COLLEGE PROGRAM.**

9           (a) PROGRAM ELEMENTS.—Section 204(b) (33  
10 U.S.C. 1123(b)) is amended—

11           (1) by amending in paragraph (1) to read as  
12 follows:

13           “(1) sea grant programs that comprise a na-  
14 tional sea grant college program network, including  
15 international projects conducted within such pro-  
16 grams and regional and national projects conducted  
17 among such programs;”;

18           (2) by amending paragraph (2) to read as fol-  
19 lows:

20           “(2) administration of the national sea grant  
21 college program and this title by the national sea  
22 grant office and the Administration;”;

23           (3) by amending paragraph (4) to read as fol-  
24 lows:

1           “(4) any regional or national strategic invest-  
2           ments in fields relating to ocean, coastal, and Great  
3           Lakes resources developed in consultation with the  
4           Board and with the approval of the sea grant col-  
5           leges and the sea grant institutes.”.

6           (b) TECHNICAL CORRECTION.—Section 204(c)(2)  
7 (33 U.S.C. 1123(c)(2)) is amended by striking “Within  
8 6 months of the date of enactment of the National Sea  
9 Grant College Program Reauthorization Act of 1998, the”  
10 and inserting “The”.

11           (c) FUNCTIONS OF DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL SEA  
12 GRANT COLLEGE PROGRAM.—Section 204(d) (33 U.S.C.  
13 1123(d)) is amended—

14           (1) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking “long  
15           range”;

16           (2) in paragraph (3)(A)—

17           (A) by striking “(A)(i) evaluate” and in-  
18           serting “(A) evaluate and assess”;

19           (B) by striking “activities; and” and in-  
20           serting “activities;”; and

21           (C) by striking clause (ii); and

22           (3) in paragraph (3)(B)—

23           (A) by redesignating clauses (ii) through  
24           (iv) as clauses (iii) through (v), respectively,  
25           and by inserting after clause (i) the following:

1                   “(ii) encourage collaborations among  
2                   sea grant colleges and sea grant institutes  
3                   to address regional and national priorities  
4                   established under subsection (c)(1);” and  
5                   (B) in clause (iii) (as so redesignated) by  
6                   striking “encourage” and inserting “ensure”.

7 **SEC. 6. PROGRAM OR PROJECT GRANTS AND CONTRACTS.**

8                   Section 205 (33 U.S.C. 1124) is amended—

9                   (1) by striking “States or regions.” in sub-  
10                  section (a)(2) and inserting “States, regions, or the  
11                  Nation.”; and

12                  (2) by striking the matter following paragraph

13                  (3) in subsection (b) and inserting the following:

14                  “The total amount that may be provided for grants under  
15                  this subsection and subsection 208(b) during any fiscal  
16                  year shall not exceed an amount equal to 5 percent of the  
17                  total funds appropriated for such year under section  
18                  212.”.

19 **SEC. 7. EXTENSION SERVICES BY SEA GRANT COLLEGES**  
20 **AND SEA GRANT INSTITUTES.**

21                  Section 207(a) (33 U.S.C. 1126(a)) is amended in  
22                  each of paragraphs (2)(B) and (3)(B) by striking “advi-  
23                  sory services” and inserting “extension services”.

24 **SEC. 8. FELLOWSHIPS.**

25                  Section 208(a) (33 U.S.C. 1127) is amended—

1           (1) by striking “Not later than 1 year after the  
2           date of the enactment of the National Sea Grant  
3           College Program Act Amendments of 2002, and  
4           every 2 years thereafter,” in subsection (a) and in-  
5           serting “Every 2 years,”; and

6           (2) by striking “year.” in subsection (b) and in-  
7           serting “year and is not subject to Federal cost  
8           share requirements.”.

9   **SEC. 9. NATIONAL SEA GRANT ADVISORY BOARD.**

10          (a) REDESIGNATION OF SEA GRANT REVIEW PANEL  
11 AS BOARD.—

12           (1) REDESIGNATION.—The sea grant review  
13           panel established by section 209 of the National Sea  
14           Grant College Program Act (33 U.S.C. 1128), as in  
15           effect before the date of the enactment of this Act,  
16           is redesignated as the National Sea Grant Advisory  
17           Board.

18           (2) MEMBERSHIP NOT AFFECTED.—An indi-  
19           vidual serving as a member of the sea grant review  
20           panel immediately before the enactment of this Act  
21           may continue to serve as a member of the National  
22           Sea Grant Advisory Board until the expiration of  
23           such member’s term under section 209(e) of such  
24           Act (33 U.S.C. 1128(e)).

1           (3) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law,  
2           map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of  
3           the United States to such sea grant review panel is  
4           deemed to be a reference to the National Sea Grant  
5           Advisory Board.

6           (4) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

7           (A) IN GENERAL.—Section 209 (33 U.S.C.  
8           1128) is amended by striking so much as pre-  
9           cedes subsection (b) and inserting the following:

10       **“SEC. 209. NATIONAL SEA GRANT ADVISORY BOARD.**

11       “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There shall be an inde-  
12       pendent committee to be known as the National Sea Grant  
13       Advisory Board.”.

14       (B) DEFINITION.—Section 203(9) (33  
15       U.S.C. 1122(9)) is amended to read as follows:

16       “(9) The term ‘Board’ means the National Sea  
17       Grant Advisory Board established under section  
18       209.”;

19       (C) OTHER PROVISIONS.—The following  
20       provisions are each amended by striking  
21       “panel” each place it appears and inserting  
22       “Board”:

23               (i) Section 204 (33 U.S.C. 1123).

24               (ii) Section 207 (33 U.S.C. 1126).

25               (iii) Section 209 (33 U.S.C. 1128).

1 (b) DUTIES.—Section 209(b) (33 U.S.C. 1128(b)) is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 “(b) DUTIES.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Board shall advise the  
5 Secretary and the Director concerning—

6 “(A) strategies for utilizing the sea grant  
7 college program to address the Nation’s highest  
8 priorities regarding the understanding, assess-  
9 ment, development, management, and conserva-  
10 tion of ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes re-  
11 sources;

12 “(B) the designation of sea grant colleges  
13 and sea grant institutes; and

14 “(C) such other matters as the Secretary  
15 refers to the Board for review and advice.

16 “(2) BIENNIAL REPORT.—The Board shall re-  
17 port to the Congress every two years on the state of  
18 the national sea grant college program. The Board  
19 shall indicate in each such report the progress made  
20 toward meeting the priorities identified in the stra-  
21 tegic plan in effect under section 204(c). The Sec-  
22 retary shall make available to the Board such infor-  
23 mation, personnel, and administrative services and  
24 assistance as it may reasonably require to carry out  
25 its duties under this title.”.

1 (c) MEMBERSHIP, TERMS, AND POWERS.—Section  
2 209(c)(1) (33 U.S.C. 1128(c)(1)) is amended—

3 (1) by inserting “coastal management,” after  
4 “resources management,”; and

5 (2) by striking “utilization,” and inserting  
6 “management,”.

7 (d) EXTENSION OF TERM.—Section 209(c)(2) (33  
8 U.S.C. 1128(c)(2)) is amended to read as follows:

9 “(2) The term of office of a voting member of  
10 the Board shall be 4 years. The Director may extend  
11 the term of office of a voting member of the Board  
12 once by up to 1 year.”.

13 (e) ESTABLISHMENT OF SUBCOMMITTEES.—Section  
14 209(c) (33 U.S.C. 1128(c)) is amended by adding at the  
15 end the following:

16 “(8) The Board may establish such subcommittees as  
17 are reasonably necessary to carry out its duties under sub-  
18 section (b). Such subcommittees may include individuals  
19 who are not Board members.”.

20 **SEC. 10. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

21 Section 212 of the National Sea Grant College Pro-  
22 gram Act (33 U.S.C. 1131) is amended—

23 (1) by striking subsection (a)(1) and inserting  
24 the following: “(1) IN GENERAL.—There are author-

1        ized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out  
2        this title—

3            “(A) \$100,000,000 for fiscal year 2009;

4            “(B) \$105,000,000 for fiscal year 2010;

5            “(C) \$110,000,000 for fiscal year 2011;

6            “(D) \$115,000,000 for fiscal year 2012;

7            “(E) \$120,000,000 for fiscal year 2013; and

8            “(F) \$125,000,000 for fiscal year 2014.”;

9            (2) in subsection (a)(2)—

10            (A) by striking “biology and control of  
11            zebra mussels and other important aquatic” in  
12            subparagraph (A) and inserting “biology, pre-  
13            vention, and control of aquatic”; and

14            (B) by striking “blooms, including  
15            *Pfiesteria piscicida*; and” in subparagraph (C)  
16            and inserting “blooms; and”;

17            (3) in subsection (c)(1) by striking “rating  
18            under section 204(d)(3)(A)” and inserting “perform-  
19            ance assessments”; and

20            (4) by striking subsection (c)(2) and inserting  
21            the following:

22            “(2) regional or national strategic investments au-  
23            thorized under section 204(b)(4);”.

1 **SEC. 11. REPEAL OF ANNUAL COORDINATION REPORT RE-**  
2 **QUIREMENT.**

3 Section 9 of the National Sea Grant College Program  
4 Act Amendments of 2002 (33 U.S.C. 857–20) is repealed.

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