

I urge support for the legislation.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I have no requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I do not have any additional speakers as well, and I yield back the balance of time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3903, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 3903, the bill just passed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Alaska?

There was no objection.

OCEANS ACT OF 1998

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3445) to establish the Commission on Ocean Policy, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3445

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Oceans Act of 1998".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

As used in this Act:

(1) COMMISSION.—The term "Commission" means the Commission on Ocean Policy established under section 4.

(2) COASTAL STATE.—The term "coastal State" means a State in, or bordering on, the Atlantic, Pacific, or Arctic Ocean, the Gulf of Mexico, Long Island Sound, or one or more of the Great Lakes.

(3) MARINE ENVIRONMENT.—The term "marine environment" includes—

(A) the oceans, including coastal and offshore waters and nearshore saltwater estuaries;

(B) the continental shelf; and

(C) the Great Lakes.

(4) OCEAN AND COASTAL ACTIVITIES.—The term "ocean and coastal activities" includes activities consisting of, affecting, or otherwise related to oceanography, fisheries, or the management or use of any ocean and coastal resource. The term does not include military operations and training.

(5) OCEAN AND COASTAL RESOURCE.—The term "ocean and coastal resource" means any living or nonliving natural, historic, or cultural resource or mineral found in the marine environment.

(6) STATE.—The term "State" means any State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto

Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and any other territory or possession of the United States.

SEC. 3. EXECUTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES.

(a) NATIONAL OCEAN AND COASTAL POLICY.—The Congress and the President, after receiving and considering the report of the Commission under section 4, shall develop and propose a coordinated, comprehensive, and long-range national policy for the responsible use and stewardship of ocean and coastal resources for the benefit of the United States, including a plan to meet the resource monitoring and assessment facilities and equipment requirements of Federal ocean and coastal programs.

(b) BIENNIAL REPORT.—Beginning in January 1999, the President shall transmit to the Congress biennially a report that shall include a detailed listing of all existing Federal programs relating to ocean and coastal activities, including a description of each program, the current funding for the program, and a projection of the funding level for the program for each of the following 5 fiscal years.

(c) BUDGET COORDINATION.—Each agency or department involved in ocean and coastal activities shall include with its annual request for appropriations a report that identifies significant elements of the proposed agency or department budget relating to ocean and coastal activities.

(d) COOPERATION AND CONSULTATION.—In carrying out responsibilities under this Act, the President—

(1) may use such staff, interagency, and advisory arrangements as the President finds necessary and appropriate; and

(2) shall consult with State and local governments and non-Federal organizations and individuals involved in ocean and coastal activities.

SEC. 4. COMMISSION ON OCEAN POLICY.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There is hereby established the Commission on Ocean Policy.

(2) MEMBERSHIP.—(A) The Commission shall be composed of 16 members appointed by the President from among individuals who are knowledgeable in ocean and coastal activities, including individuals representing State and local governments, ocean-related industries, academic and technical institutions, and public interest organizations involved with scientific, regulatory, economic, and environmental ocean and coastal activities. The membership of the Commission shall be balanced geographically to the extent consistent with maintaining the highest level of expertise on the Commission.

(B) Of the members of the Commission appointed under this paragraph—

(i) 4 shall be appointed from a list of 8 individuals who shall be recommended by the majority leader of the Senate in consultation with the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation;

(ii) 4 shall be appointed from a list of 8 individuals who shall be recommended by the Speaker of the House of Representatives in consultation with the Chairmen of the Committees on Resources, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Science;

(iii) 2 shall be appointed from a list of 4 individuals who shall be recommended by the minority leader of the Senate in consultation with the ranking member of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation; and

(iv) 2 shall be appointed from a list of 4 individuals who shall be recommended by the minority leader of the House of Representatives in consultation with the ranking members of the Committees on Re-

sources, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Science.

(C) The members of the Commission shall be appointed for the life of the Commission by not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(3) FIRST MEETING.—The Commission shall hold its first meeting within 30 days after it is established.

(4) CHAIRMAN.—The Commission shall elect one of its members as Chair.

(b) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall submit to the Congress and the President, by not later than 18 months after the date of the establishment of the Commission, a final report of its findings and recommendations regarding United States ocean policy.

(2) PUBLIC AND STATE REVIEW.—Before submitting the final report to the Congress, the Commission shall—

(A) publish in the Federal Register a notice that the draft report is available for public review; and

(B) provide a copy of the draft report to the Governor of each coastal State, the Committees on Resources, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Science of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate.

(3) FINAL REPORT CONTENTS, GENERALLY.—Subject to paragraph (4), the final report of the Commission shall include recommendations for the responsible use and stewardship of ocean and coastal resources, including the following:

(A) Recommendations for any modifications to United States laws and regulations, and the administrative structure of the Executive agencies, that are necessary to improve the understanding, management, and conservation and use of, and access to, ocean and coastal resources.

(B) An assessment of the condition and adequacy of existing and planned facilities associated with ocean and coastal activities, including human resources, vessels, computers, satellites, and other appropriate platforms and technologies, and recommendations for investments and improvements in those facilities.

(C) A review of existing and planned ocean and coastal activities of Federal entities, and recommendations for changes in such activities necessary to reduce duplication of Federal efforts.

(D) A review of the cumulative effect of Federal laws and regulations on United States ocean policy, an examination of those laws and regulations for inconsistencies and contradictions that might adversely affect the conduct of ocean and coastal activities, and recommendations for resolving any such inconsistencies. In particular, this portion of the report shall include an examination of the relationship between the fisheries development and fisheries conservation responsibilities of the National Marine Fisheries Service.

(E) A review of the known and anticipated supply of and demand for ocean and coastal resources of the United States.

(F) A review of the relationship between Federal, State, and local governments and the private sector in planning and carrying out ocean and coastal activities, and recommendations for enhancing the role of State and local governments.

(G) A review of opportunities for the development of or investment in new products, technologies, or markets related to ocean and coastal activities.

(H) A review of previous and ongoing State efforts and Federal efforts to enhance the effectiveness and integration of ocean activities, including those occurring offshore and in nearshore saltwater estuaries.