

AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: In the nature of a substitute.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—113th Cong., 2d Sess.

S. 2030

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

Referred to the Committee on _____ and ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE intended to be proposed by _____

Viz:

1 Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the fol-
2 lowing:

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “National Sea Grant
5 College Program Amendments Act of 2014”.

6 **SEC. 2. REFERENCES TO THE NATIONAL SEA GRANT COL-
7 LEGE PROGRAM ACT.**

8 Except as otherwise expressly provided, wherever in
9 this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms
10 of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provi-
11 sion, the reference shall be considered to be made to a

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

3 **SEC. 3. SEA GRANT COLLEGES AND SEA GRANT INSTI-**
4 **TUTES; ANNUAL REPORT ON PROGRESS.**

5 Section 207 (33 U.S.C. 1126) is amended by striking
6 subsection (e).

7 **SEC. 4. DEAN JOHN A. KNAUSS MARINE POLICY FELLOW-**
8 **SHIP.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 208(b) (33 U.S.C.
10 1127(b)) is amended by striking “may” and inserting
11 “shall”.

12 (b) PLACEMENTS IN CONGRESS.—Section 208(b) (33
13 U.S.C. 1127(b)), as amended by subsection (a) of this sec-
14 tion, is further amended—

15 (1) in the first sentence, by striking “The Sec-
16 retary” and inserting the following:

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary”; and

18 (2) in paragraph (1), as designated by para-
19 graph (1), in the second sentence, by striking “A fel-
20 lowship” and inserting the following:

21 “(2) PLACEMENT PRIORITIES.—

22 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In each year in which
23 the Secretary awards a legislative fellowship
24 under this subsection, when considering the

1 placement of fellows, the Secretary shall
2 prioritize placement of fellows in the following:

3 “(i) Positions in offices of, or with
4 members on, committees of Congress that
5 have jurisdiction over the National Oceanic
6 and Atmospheric Administration.

7 “(ii) Positions in offices of members
8 of Congress that have a demonstrated in-
9 terest in ocean, coastal, or Great Lakes re-
10 sources.

11 “(B) **EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION.**—In plac-
12 ing fellows in offices described in subparagraph
13 (A), the Secretary shall ensure, to the degree
14 practicable, that placements are equitably dis-
15 tributed among the political parties.

16 “(3) **DURATION.**—A fellowship”.

17 (c) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by
18 subsection (b) shall apply with respect to the first calendar
19 year beginning after the date of enactment of this Act.

20 (d) **SENSE OF CONGRESS; ENCOURAGEMENT OF CA-
21 REER DEVELOPMENT.**—It is the sense of Congress that
22 in recognition of the competitive nature of the fellowship
23 under section 208(b) of the National Sea Grant College
24 Program Act (33 U.S.C. 1127(b)), and of the exceptional
25 qualifications of fellowship awardees, the Secretary of

1 Commerce, acting through the Under Secretary of Com-
2 merce for Oceans and Atmosphere, should encourage par-
3 ticipating Federal agencies to consider opportunities for
4 fellowship awardees at the conclusion of their fellowship
5 for workforce positions appropriate for their education and
6 experience.

7 **SEC. 5. DONATIONS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 204(c)(4)(E) (33 U.S.C.
9 1123(c)(4)(E)) is amended to read as follows:

10 “(E) accept donations of money and, not-
11 withstanding section 1342 of title 31, United
12 States Code, of voluntary and uncompensated
13 services;”.

14 (b) PRIORITIES.—The Secretary of Commerce, acting
15 through the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and
16 Atmosphere, shall establish priorities for the use of dona-
17 tions accepted under section 204(c)(4)(E) of the National
18 Sea Grant College Program Act (33 U.S.C.
19 1123(c)(4)(E)), and shall consider among those priorities
20 the possibility of expanding the Dean John A. Knauss Ma-
21 rine Policy Fellowship’s placement of additional fellows in
22 relevant legislative offices under section 208(b) of that Act
23 (33 U.S.C. 1127(b)), in accordance with the recommenda-
24 tions under subsection (c) of this section.

1 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date
2 of enactment of this Act, the National Sea Grant Office,
3 in consultation with the National Sea Grant Advisory
4 Board and the Sea Grant Association, shall—

5 (1) recommend the optimal use of any dona-
6 tions accepted under section 204(c)(4)(E) of the Na-
7 tional Sea Grant College Program Act (33 U.S.C.
8 1123(c)(4)(E)); and

9 (2) report the recommendations under para-
10 graph (1) to Congress.

11 (d) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be
12 construed to limit or otherwise affect any other amounts
13 available for marine policy fellowships under section
14 208(b) of the National Sea Grant College Program Act
15 (33 U.S.C. 1127(b)), including amounts accepted under
16 section 204(c)(4)(F) of that Act (33 U.S.C. 1123(c)(4)(F)
17 or appropriated under section 212 of that Act (33 U.S.C.
18 1131).

19 **SEC. 6. REPORT ON COORDINATION OF OCEANS AND**
20 **COASTAL RESEARCH ACTIVITIES.**

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

23 **SEC. 7. NATIONAL SEA GRANT ADVISORY BOARD REPORT.**

24 Section 209(b) (33 U.S.C. 1128(b)) is amended by
25 amending paragraph (2) to read as follows:

1 “(2) REPORT.—The Board shall report to the
2 Congress every 3 years on the state of the national
3 sea grant college program. The Board shall indicate
4 in each such report the progress made toward meet-
5 ing the priorities identified in the strategic plan in
6 effect under section 204(c). The Secretary shall
7 make available to the Board such information, per-
8 sonnel, and administrative services and assistance as
9 it may reasonably require to carry out its duties
10 under this title.”.

11 **SEC. 8. PROGRAM ELEMENTS.**

12 Section 204(b) (33 U.S.C. 1123(b)) is amended by
13 inserting “for research, education, extension, training,
14 technology transfer, and public service” after “financial
15 assistance”.

16 **SEC. 9. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 212(a) (33 U.S.C.
18 1131(a)) is amended—

19 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking subparagraphs
20 (A) through (F) and inserting the following:

21 “(A) \$72,000,000 for fiscal year 2015;

22 “(B) \$75,600,000 for fiscal year 2016;

23 “(C) \$79,380,000 for fiscal year 2017;

24 “(D) \$83,350,000 for fiscal year 2018;

25 “(E) \$87,520,000 for fiscal year 2019; and

1 “(F) \$91,900,000 for fiscal year 2020.”;

2 and

3 (2) by amending paragraph (2) to read as fol-
4 lows:

5 “(2) PRIORITY ACTIVITIES.—In addition to the
6 amounts authorized under paragraph (1), there is
7 authorized to be appropriated for each of fiscal years
8 2015 through 2020 \$6,000,000 for competitive
9 grants for the following:

10 “(A) University research on the biology,
11 prevention, and control of aquatic nonnative
12 species.

13 “(B) University research on oyster dis-
14 eases, oyster restoration, and oyster-related
15 human health risks.

16 “(C) University research on the biology,
17 prevention, and forecasting of harmful algal
18 blooms.

19 “(D) University research, education, train-
20 ing, and extension services and activities fo-
21 cused on coastal resilience and U.S. working
22 waterfronts and other regional or national pri-
23 ority issues identified in the strategic plan
24 under section 204(c)(1).

1 “(E) University research on sustainable
2 aquaculture techniques and technologies.

3 “(F) Fishery extension activities conducted
4 by sea grant colleges or sea grant institutes to
5 enhance, and not supplant, existing core pro-
6 gram funding.”.

7 (b) LIMITATIONS.—Section 212(b)(1) (33 U.S.C.
8 1131(b)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

9 “(1) ADMINISTRATION.—

10 “(A) IN GENERAL.—There may not be
11 used for administration of programs under this
12 title in a fiscal year more than 5.5 percent of
13 the lesser of—

14 “(i) the amount authorized to be ap-
15 propriated under this title for the fiscal
16 year; or

17 “(ii) the amount appropriated under
18 this title for the fiscal year.

19 “(B) CRITICAL STAFFING REQUIRE-
20 MENTS.—The Director shall use the authority
21 under subchapter VI of chapter 33 of title 5,
22 United States Code, to meet any critical staff-
23 ing requirement while implementing the activi-
24 ties authorized in this title. The costs associated
25 with that exercise of authority shall not be

1 counted toward the cap under subparagraph
2 (A).”.

3 (c) ALLOCATION OF FUNDING.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 204(d)(3) (33
5 U.S.C. 1123(d)(3) is amended—

6 (A) by striking “With respect to sea grant
7 colleges and sea grant institutes” and inserting
8 “With respect to sea grant colleges, sea grant
9 institutes, sea grant programs, and sea grant
10 projects,”; and

11 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking
12 “funding among sea grant colleges and sea
13 grant institutes” and inserting “funding among
14 sea grant colleges, sea grant institutes, sea
15 grant programs, and sea grant projects”.

16 (2) EXCESS AMOUNTS.—Section 212 (33
17 U.S.C. 1131) is amended—

18 (A) by striking subsection (c); and

19 (B) by redesignating subsections (d) and
20 (e) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively.