Bill Fact Sheet – December 5, 2025 https://legilist.com Bill page: https://legilist.com/bill/108/s/1218

S 1218

Oceans and Human Health Act Congress: 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources

Introduced: Jun 10, 2003

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Environment, Technology, and Standards.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Environment, Technology, and Standards. (Apr 8, 2004)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/senate-bill/1218

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Hollings, Ernest F. [D-SC]

Party: Democratic • State: SC • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (10 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Stevens, Ted [R-AK]	$R \cdot AK$		Jun 10, 2003
Sen. Breaux, John B. [D-LA]	D · LA		Jun 20, 2003
Sen. Inouye, Daniel K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Jun 20, 2003
Sen. Kerry, John F. [D-MA]	$D\cdotMA$		Jun 24, 2003
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Jun 25, 2003
Sen. Lautenberg, Frank R. [D-NJ]	$D \cdot NJ$		Jun 25, 2003
Sen. Nelson, Bill [D-FL]	$D \cdot FL$		Jun 25, 2003
Sen. DeWine, Mike [R-OH]	R · OH		Oct 16, 2003
Sen. Levin, Carl [D-MI]	D · MI		Oct 16, 2003
Sen. Kennedy, Edward M. [D-MA]	D · MA		Jan 20, 2004

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Reported By	Nov 20, 2003
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 30, 2004
Science, Space, and Technology Committee	House	Referred to	Apr 8, 2004

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Oceans and Human Health Act - (Sec. 2) Provides for coordination and support of Federal interagency ocean science programs, including research on and monitoring of the role of oceans in human health.

(Sec. 3) Directs the President, through the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC), to coordinate and support a national interagency oceans in human health research program to improve understanding of the role of oceans in human health.

Directs the NSTC to submit to Congress a plan for coordinated action under the national research program. Requires the NSTC to report annually to the President and Congress on program activities.

(Sec. 4) Authorizes the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary), as part of the interagency program, to establish an Oceans and Human Health Initiative to coordinate and implement NOAA research and activities related to the role of the oceans, the coasts, and the Great Lakes in human health. Authorizes the Secretary to establish an advisory panel. Authorizes the Secretary to provide financial assistance to: (1) one or more national centers of excellence to strengthen NOAA's oceans and human health programs and activities; and (2) support distinguished scholars from academic institutions, industry, State governments, or other Federal agencies for collaborative work with NOAA scientists and facilities. Authorizes the Secretary to: (1) provide grants for critical research and projects on oceans and human health; and (2) establish an oceans in human health traineeship program for scientists at the beginning of their careers.

(Sec. 5) Directs the Secretary to design and implement a national information and outreach program on potential oceanrelated human health risks, including those associated with seafood.

(Sec. 6) Authorizes appropriations to the Secretary for: (1) FY 2005 through 2008, for the NOAA Oceans and Human Health Initiative; and (2) FY 2005 through 2007, for the public information and outreach program on potential ocean-related human health risks.

Actions Timeline

- Apr 8, 2004: Referred to the Subcommittee on Environment, Technology, and Standards.
- Mar 30, 2004: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Chairman.
- Mar 25, 2004: Received in the House.
- Mar 25, 2004: Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- Mar 25, 2004: Referred to the Committee on Science, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
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 the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
- Mar 25, 2004: Referred to the Committee on Science, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
- Mar 24, 2004: Measure laid before Senate by unanimous consent. (consideration: CR S3110-3115; text of measure as reported in Senate: CR S3110-3113)
- Mar 24, 2004: The committee substitute as amended agreed to by Unanimous Consent.
- Mar 24, 2004: Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent.
- Mar 24, 2004: Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent.
- Nov 19, 2003: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Reported by Senator McCain with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report No. 108-203.
- Nov 19, 2003: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Reported by Senator McCain with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report No. 108-203.
- Nov 19, 2003: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 403.
- Jun 26, 2003: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
- Jun 10, 2003: Introduced in Senate
- Jun 10, 2003: Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S7621-7623)
- Jun 10, 2003: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (text of measure as introduced: CR S7623-7625)