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Ocean and Coastal Observation Systems Act

Congress: 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources

Introduced: Jul 14, 2003

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Projection Forces.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Projection Forces. (Jan 5, 2004)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/senate-bill/1400>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Snowe, Olympia J. [R-ME]

Party: Republican • State: ME • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (8 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Breaux, John B. [D-LA]	D · LA		Jul 14, 2003
Sen. Hollings, Ernest F. [D-SC]	D · SC		Jul 14, 2003
Sen. Inouye, Daniel K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Jul 14, 2003
Sen. Kerry, John F. [D-MA]	D · MA		Jul 14, 2003
Sen. McCain, John [R-AZ]	R · AZ		Jul 14, 2003
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		Jul 16, 2003
Sen. Boxer, Barbara [D-CA]	D · CA		Jul 21, 2003
Sen. Lott, Trent [R-MS]	R · MS		Jul 21, 2003

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Armed Services Committee	House	Referred to	Jan 5, 2004
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Reported By	Oct 23, 2003
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred to	Nov 13, 2003
Science, Space, and Technology Committee	House	Referred to	Nov 12, 2003
Science, Space, and Technology Committee	House	Referred to	Nov 12, 2003
Science, Space, and Technology Committee	House	Referred to	Nov 12, 2003
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Referred To	Nov 5, 2003

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

## Related Bills

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*No related bills are listed.*

## Summary (as of Oct 31, 2003)

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Ocean and Coastal Observation Systems Act - (Sec. 3) Directs the President, through the National Ocean Research Leadership Council (NORLC), to establish and maintain a national integrated ocean and coastal observing system (system) of marine monitoring, data communication and management, data analysis, and research to provide data and information for rapid and timely detection and prediction of changes occurring in the marine environment that impact the Nation's social, economic, and ecological systems.

Establishes an Interagency Planning Office (IPO) within NORLC with various functions. Directs the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to operate and maintain a Joint Operations Center (JOC) which reports to NORLC and which has specified authority. Directs NOAA, with respect to JOC operations, to consult with specified officers of departments and agencies represented on the NORLC.

Sets forth system elements and requires subsystem linkages. Requires the system to integrate the capabilities of the Coast Services Center and the National Coastal Data Development Center of NOAA, and other appropriate centers. Requires the research and development program for the system to be conducted under the National Oceanographic Partnership Program (NOPP) and consist of specified elements.

Directs NOAA Administrator, through JOC, to work with representatives of entities in each region that provide ocean data and information to users to form regional associations to develop and operate observing systems in the coastal regions extending to the seaward boundary of the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone, including the Great Lakes. Directs NOAA, through IPO, to initiate pilot projects, including infrastructure capital projects, through NOPP.

(Sec. 4) Authorizes the departments and agencies represented on the NORLC to participate in interagency financing, allowing them to share, transfer, receive, and spend funds appropriated to other members of the NORLC to carry out projects or activities under this Act or under the NOPP.

(Sec. 5) Authorizes appropriations for FY 2004 through 2008, to develop and implement the system, to the following departments and agencies represented on the NORLC: (1) NOAA; (2) the National Science Foundation; (3) the National Aeronautics and Space Administration; (4) the U.S. Coast Guard; (5) the Office of Naval Research; (6) the Office of the Oceanographer of the Navy; and (7) other Federal agencies engaged in ocean and coastal-related activities. Requires a reservation of at least 51 percent of the NOAA funds for grants to develop and implement regional coastal observing systems. Authorizes NOAA to make available a specified amount in FY 2004 to demonstrate the capabilities of shore-based high-frequency surface wave radar.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Jan 5, 2004:** Executive Comment Requested from DOD.
- **Jan 5, 2004:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Projection Forces.
- **Nov 13, 2003:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Fisheries Conservation, Wildlife and Oceans.
- **Nov 13, 2003:** Executive Comment Requested from Commerce.
- **Nov 12, 2003:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Environment, Technology, and Standards.
- **Nov 12, 2003:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Research.
- **Nov 12, 2003:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics.
- **Nov 4, 2003:** Received in the House.
- **Nov 4, 2003:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Nov 4, 2003:** Referred to the Committee on Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Science, Armed Services, and Transportation and Infrastructure, 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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- **Oct 31, 2003:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent.(consideration: CR S13735-13739; text of measure as reported in Senate: CR S13735-13738)
- **Oct 31, 2003:** Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S13735-13739; text of measure as reported in Senate: CR S13735-13738)
- **Oct 23, 2003:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Reported by Senator McCain with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report No. 108-171.
- **Oct 23, 2003:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Reported by Senator McCain with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report No. 108-171.
- **Oct 23, 2003:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 319.
- **Jul 17, 2003:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
- **Jul 14, 2003:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jul 14, 2003:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S9332)
- **Jul 14, 2003:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (text of measure as introduced: CR S9332-9334)