

Bill Fact Sheet - December 5, 2025 https://legilist.com Bill page: https://legilist.com/bill/108/s/2280

S 2280

National Ocean Exploration Program Act

Congress: 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources

Introduced: Apr 5, 2004

Current Status: Held at the desk.

Latest Action: Held at the desk. (Nov 16, 2004)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/senate-bill/2280

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Stevens, Ted [R-AK]

Party: Republican • State: AK • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Hollings, Ernest F. [D-SC]	D · SC		Apr 5, 2004
Sen. Inouye, Daniel K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Apr 5, 2004
Sen. Dodd, Christopher J. [D-CT]	D · CT		Apr 8, 2004
Sen. Breaux, John B. [D-LA]	D · LA		Jul 16, 2004

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Reported By	Oct 11, 2004

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

(This measure has not been amended since it was introduced. The expanded summary of the Senate reported version is repeated here.)

National Ocean Exploration Program Act - (Sec. 2) Directs the Secretary of Commerce to establish within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) a coordinated national ocean exploration program.

(Sec. 4) Directs the Administrator of NOAA, in carrying out the program, to: (1) conduct interdisciplinary exploration voyages; (2) give priority attention to deep ocean regions, with a focus on surveying deep water marine systems; (3) promote development of oceanographic research, communication, and data collections systems; (4) conduct public education and outreach activities that improve public understanding of ocean science; and (5) establish an ocean exploration forum.

(Sec. 5) Requires NOAA to convene an ocean technology and infrastructure task force to develop and implement a strategy to: (1) facilitate the transfer of new exploration technology to the program; (2) improve the availability of communications infrastructure (including satellite) to the program; (3) develop a data management information processing system for information obtained under the program; and (4) encourage cost-sharing partnerships with governmental and non-governmental entities to assist in transferring exploration technology and technical expertise to the program.

(Sec. 6) Authorizes NOAA, the National Science Foundation, and other Federal agencies involved in the program to participate in interagency financing in carrying out program activities.

(Sec. 7) Authorizes appropriations from FY 2005 through 2016.

Actions Timeline

- Nov 16, 2004: Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent.(consideration: CR S11389-11390; text as passed Senate: CR S11389-11390)
- Nov 16, 2004: Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S11389-11390; text as passed Senate: CR S11389-11390)
- Nov 16, 2004: Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- Nov 16, 2004: Received in the House.
- Nov 16, 2004: Held at the desk.
- Oct 11, 2004: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Reported by Senator McCain without amendment. With written report No. 108-400.
- Oct 11, 2004: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Reported by Senator McCain without amendment. With written report No. 108-400.
- Oct 11, 2004: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 791.
- Jul 22, 2004: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.
- Apr 5, 2004: Introduced in Senate
- Apr 5, 2004: Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S3632-3633)
- Apr 5, 2004: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.