

S 39

National Ocean Exploration Program Act

**Congress:** 109 (2005–2007, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Public Lands and Natural Resources

**Introduced:** Jan 25, 2005

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Fisheries and Oceans.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Fisheries and Oceans. (Jul 15, 2005)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/109th-congress/senate-bill/39>

Sponsor

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

**Party:** Republican • **State:** AK • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (8 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Dodd, Christopher J. [D-CT]	D · CT		Jan 25, 2005
Sen. Inouye, Daniel K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Jan 25, 2005
Sen. Snowe, Olympia J. [R-ME]	R · ME		Jan 25, 2005
Sen. Kerry, John F. [D-MA]	D · MA		Feb 10, 2005
Sen. Lautenberg, Frank R. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Feb 10, 2005
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Mar 3, 2005
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Apr 25, 2005
Sen. Cochran, Thad [R-MS]	R · MS		Jul 1, 2005

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Reported By	Apr 14, 2005
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred to	Jul 15, 2005
Science, Space, and Technology Committee	House	Referred To	Jul 12, 2005

Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Public Lands and Natural Resources

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

**Title I: National Ocean Exploration Program** - National Ocean Exploration Program Act - (Sec. 102) Directs the Secretary of Commerce to establish within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) a coordinated national ocean exploration program that promotes collaboration with existing programs of NOAA, including those authorized under the Undersea Research Program.

(Sec. 103) Directs the Administrator of NOAA, in carrying out the program, to: (1) conduct interdisciplinary exploration voyages or other scientific activities to survey, inventory, observe, and assess little-known areas of the marine environment; (2) promote the development of oceanographic research; (3) accept donations for purposes of exploring or increasing knowledge of the oceans; and (4) avoid directing the programs towards activities relating to global warming, and instead focus on underwater regions of particular interest.

(Sec. 104) Requires the 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 capabilities) to the program; (3) develop a data management information processing system for information obtained under the program; (4) conduct public outreach activities to improve public understanding of ocean science, resources, and processes; and (5) encourage cost-sharing partnerships to assist in transferring exploration technology and technical expertise to the program.

(Sec. 105) Authorizes the NOAA, the National Science Foundation, and other federal agencies participating in the program to participate in interagency financing in carrying out program activities.

(Sec. 107) Authorizes appropriations for FY2006-FY2015.

**Title II: Undersea Research Program** - NOAA Undersea Research Program Act of 2005 - (Sec. 202) Directs the Administrator of NOAA to establish and maintain an undersea research program.

(Sec. 203) Requires the program to: (1) be conducted through a national headquarters, a network of regional undersea research centers, and a national technology institute; and (2) increase scientific knowledge for the informed management, use, and preservation of oceanic, coastal, and large lake resources through undersea research, exploration, education, and technology development.

(Sec. 207) Authorizes appropriations for FY2006-FY2015.

## Actions Timeline

---

- **Jul 15, 2005:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Fisheries and Oceans.
- **Jul 11, 2005:** Received in the House.
- **Jul 11, 2005:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Jul 11, 2005:** Referred to the Committee on Science, and in addition to the Committee on Resources, 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.
- **Jul 11, 2005:** Referred to the Committee on Science, and in addition to the Committee on Resources, 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.
- **Jul 11, 2005:** Referred to the Committee on Science, and in addition to the Committee on Resources, 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.
- **Jul 1, 2005:** Measure laid before Senate by unanimous consent. (consideration: CR S7929-7930)
- **Jul 1, 2005:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent.
- **Jul 1, 2005:** Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent.
- **Apr 13, 2005:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Reported by Senator Stevens without amendment. With written report No. 109-57.
- **Apr 13, 2005:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Reported by Senator Stevens without amendment. With written report No. 109-57.
- **Apr 13, 2005:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 71.
- **Mar 10, 2005:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.
- **Jan 25, 2005:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jan 25, 2005:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S452)
- **Jan 25, 2005:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (text of measure as introduced: CR S452-453)