

mospheric Administration’s research mission and programs.

(3) Undersea science-based education and outreach programs to enrich ocean science education and public awareness of the oceans and Great Lakes.

(4) Development, testing, and transition of advanced undersea technology associated with ocean observatories, submersibles, advanced diving technologies, remotely operated vehicles, autonomous underwater vehicles, and new sampling and sensing technologies.

(5) Discovery, study, and development of natural resources and products from ocean, coastal, and aquatic systems.

**(b) Operations**

The Director of the program, through operation of the extramural regional centers and the National Institute for Undersea Science and Technology, shall leverage partnerships and cooperative research with academia and private industry.

(Pub. L. 111–11, title XII, § 12105, Mar. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 1420.)

**§ 3425. Competitiveness**

**(a) Discretionary fund**

The Program shall allocate no more than 10 percent of its annual budget to a discretionary fund that may be used only for program administration and priority undersea research projects identified by the Director but not covered by funding available from centers.

**(b) Competitive selection**

The Administrator shall conduct an initial competition to select the regional centers that will participate in the program 90 days after the publication of the final program direction under section 3423 of this title and every 5 years thereafter. Funding for projects conducted through the regional centers shall be awarded through a competitive, merit-reviewed process on the basis of their relevance to the goals of the program and their technical feasibility.

(Pub. L. 111–11, title XII, § 12106, Mar. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 1420.)

**§ 3426. Authorization of appropriations**

There are authorized to be appropriated to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration—

(1) for fiscal year 2009—

(A) \$13,750,000 for the regional centers, of which 50 percent shall be for West Coast regional centers and 50 percent shall be for East Coast regional centers; and

(B) \$5,500,000 for the National Technology Institute;

(2) for fiscal year 2010—

(A) \$15,125,000 for the regional centers, of which 50 percent shall be for West Coast regional centers and 50 percent shall be for East Coast regional centers; and

(B) \$6,050,000 for the National Technology Institute;

(3) for fiscal year 2011—

(A) \$16,638,000 for the regional centers, of which 50 percent shall be for West Coast re-

gional centers and 50 percent shall be for East Coast regional centers; and

(B) \$6,655,000 for the National Technology Institute;

(4) for fiscal year 2012—

(A) \$18,301,000 for the regional centers, of which 50 percent shall be for West Coast regional centers and 50 percent shall be for East Coast regional centers; and

(B) \$7,321,000 for the National Technology Institute;

(5) for fiscal year 2013—

(A) \$20,131,000 for the regional centers, of which 50 percent shall be for West Coast regional centers and 50 percent shall be for East Coast regional centers; and

(B) \$8,053,000 for the National Technology Institute;

(6) for fiscal year 2014—

(A) \$22,145,000 for the regional centers, of which 50 percent shall be for West Coast regional centers and 50 percent shall be for East Coast regional centers; and

(B) \$8,859,000 for the National Technology Institute; and

(7) for fiscal year 2015—

(A) \$24,359,000 for the regional centers, of which 50 percent shall be for West Coast regional centers and 50 percent shall be for East Coast regional centers; and

(B) \$9,744,000 for the National Technology Institute.

(Pub. L. 111–11, title XII, § 12107, Mar. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 1420.)

**CHAPTER 48—OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING INTEGRATION**

|       |   |
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| Sec.  |   |
| 3501. | Establishment of program.                           |
| 3502. | Interagency committee on ocean and coastal mapping. |
| 3503. | Biennial reports.                                   |
| 3504. | Plan.   |
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| 3506. | Authorization of appropriations.                    |
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**§ 3501. Establishment of program**

**(a) In general**

The President, in coordination with the Interagency Committee on Ocean and Coastal Mapping and affected coastal states, shall establish a program to develop a coordinated and comprehensive Federal ocean and coastal mapping plan for the Great Lakes and coastal state waters, the territorial sea, the exclusive economic zone, and the continental shelf of the United States that enhances ecosystem approaches in decision-making for conservation and management of marine resources and habitats, establishes research and mapping priorities, supports the siting of research and other platforms, and advances ocean and coastal science.

**(b) Membership**

The Committee shall be comprised of high-level representatives of the Department of Commerce, through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Department of