

is subtitle B (§§100251–100253) of title II of div. F of Pub. L. 112–141, which enacted this section, section 4057 of Title 42, the Public Health and Welfare, and provisions set out as a note under section 4001 of Title 42. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title of 2012 Amendment note set out under section 4001 of Title 42 and Tables.

CHAPTER 50—FEDERAL OCEAN ACIDIFICATION RESEARCH AND MONITORING

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§ 3701. Purposes

(a) Purposes

The purposes of this chapter are to provide for—

- (1) development and coordination of a comprehensive interagency plan to—
 - (A) monitor and conduct research on the processes and consequences of ocean acidification on marine organisms and ecosystems; and
 - (B) establish an interagency research and monitoring program on ocean acidification;
- (2) establishment of an ocean acidification program within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration;
- (3) assessment and consideration of regional and national ecosystem and socioeconomic impacts of increased ocean acidification; and
- (4) research adaptation strategies and techniques for effectively conserving marine ecosystems as they cope with increased ocean acidification.

(Pub. L. 111–11, title XII, §12402, Mar. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 1436.)

SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 111–11, title XII, §12401, Mar. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 1436, provided that: “This subtitle [subtitle D (§§12401–12409) of title XII of Pub. L. 111–11, enacting this chapter] may be cited as the ‘Federal Ocean Acidification Research And Monitoring Act of 2009’ or the ‘FOARAM Act’.”

§ 3702. Definitions

In this chapter:

(1) Ocean acidification

The term “ocean acidification” means the decrease in pH of the Earth’s oceans and changes in ocean chemistry caused by chemical inputs from the atmosphere, including carbon dioxide.

(2) Secretary

The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(3) Subcommittee

The term “Subcommittee” means the Joint Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Tech-

nology of the National Science and Technology Council.

(Pub. L. 111–11, title XII, §12403, Mar. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 1437.)

§ 3703. Interagency Subcommittee

(a) Designation

(1) In general

The Joint Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology of the National Science and Technology Council shall coordinate Federal activities on ocean acidification and establish an interagency working group.

(2) Membership

The interagency working group on ocean acidification shall be comprised of senior representatives from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the National Science Foundation, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the United States Geological Survey, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and such other Federal agencies as appropriate.

(3) Chairman

The interagency working group shall be chaired by the representative from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(b) Duties

The Subcommittee shall—

- (1) develop the strategic research and monitoring plan to guide Federal research on ocean acidification required under section 3704 of this title and oversee the implementation of the plan;
- (2) oversee the development of—
 - (A) an assessment of the potential impacts of ocean acidification on marine organisms and marine ecosystems; and
 - (B) adaptation and mitigation strategies to conserve marine organisms and ecosystems exposed to ocean acidification;
- (3) facilitate communication and outreach opportunities with nongovernmental organizations and members of the stakeholder community with interests in marine resources;
- (4) coordinate the United States Federal research and monitoring program with research and monitoring programs and scientists from other nations; and
- (5) establish or designate an Ocean Acidification Information Exchange to make information on ocean acidification developed through or utilized by the interagency ocean acidification program accessible through electronic means, including information which would be useful to policymakers, researchers, and other stakeholders in mitigating or adapting to the impacts of ocean acidification.

(c) Reports to Congress

(1) Initial report

Not later than 1 year after March 30, 2009, the Subcommittee shall transmit a report to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Science and Technology and the Com-