

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6206

To direct the Commandant of the Coast Guard to establish a Blue Technology center of expertise, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 25, 2018

Mr. GARAMENDI (for himself and Mr. HUNTER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To direct the Commandant of the Coast Guard to establish a Blue Technology center of expertise, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Coast Guard Blue
5 Technology Center of Expertise Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. COAST GUARD BLUE TECHNOLOGY CENTER OF EX-**
7 **PERTISE.**

8 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than one year after
9 the date of the enactment of this Act and subject to the
10 availability of appropriations, the Commandant shall es-

1 tablish under section 58 of title 14, United States Code,
2 a Blue Technology center of expertise.

3 (b) MISSIONS.—In addition to the missions listed in
4 section 58(b) of title 14, United States Code, the Center—

5 (1) shall—

6 (A) promote awareness within the Coast
7 Guard of the range and diversity of Blue Tech-
8 nologies and their potential to enhance Coast
9 Guard mission readiness, operational perform-
10 ance, and regulation of such technologies;

11 (B) function as an interactive conduit to
12 enable the sharing and dissemination of Blue
13 Technology information between the Coast
14 Guard and representatives from the private sec-
15 tor, academia, nonprofit organizations, and
16 other Federal agencies;

17 (C) increase awareness among Blue Tech-
18 nology manufacturers, entrepreneurs, and ven-
19 dors of Coast Guard acquisition policies, proce-
20 dures, and business practices; and

21 (D) provide technical support, coordina-
22 tion, and assistance to Coast Guard districts
23 and the Coast Guard Research and Develop-
24 ment Center, as appropriate; and

1 (2) subject to the requirements of the Coast
2 Guard Academy, may coordinate with the Academy
3 to develop appropriate curricula regarding Blue
4 Technology to be offered in professional courses of
5 study to give Coast Guard cadets and officer can-
6 didates a greater background and understanding of
7 Blue Technologies.

8 (c) BLUE TECHNOLOGY EXPOSITION; BRIEFING.—
9 Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment
10 of this Act, the Commandant shall provide to the Com-
11 mittee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House
12 of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce,
13 Science, and Transportation of the Senate a briefing on
14 the costs and benefits of hosting a biennial Coast Guard
15 Blue Technology exposition to further interactions be-
16 tween representatives from the private sector, academia,
17 and nonprofit organizations, and the Coast Guard and ex-
18 amine emerging technologies and Coast Guard mission de-
19 mands.

20 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

21 (1) CENTER.—The term “Center” means the
22 Blue Technology center of expertise established
23 under this section.

24 (2) COMMANDANT.—The term “Commandant”
25 means the Commandant of the Coast Guard.

1 (3) BLUE TECHNOLOGY.—The term “Blue
2 Technology” means any technology, system, or plat-
3 form that—

4 (A) is designed for use or application
5 above, on, or below the sea surface or that is
6 otherwise applicable to Coast Guard operational
7 needs, including such a technology, system, or
8 platform that provides continuous or persistent
9 coverage; and

10 (B) supports or facilitates—

11 (i) maritime domain awareness, in-
12 cluding—

13 (I) surveillance and monitoring;

14 (II) observation, measurement,
15 and modeling; or

16 (III) information technology and
17 communications;

18 (ii) search and rescue;

19 (iii) emergency response;

20 (iv) maritime law enforcement;

21 (v) marine inspections and investiga-
22 tions; or

23 (vi) protection and conservation of the
24 marine environment.

○