

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 116-

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OFFERED BY MS. BONAMICI OF OREGON

At the end of title III, insert the following:

1 **SEC. 307. ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY-**
2 **OCEANS.**

3 (a) AGREEMENT.—Not later than 45 days after the
4 date of the enactment of this section, the Administrator
5 shall seek to enter into an agreement with the National
6 Academy of Sciences to conduct the comprehensive assess-
7 ment under subsection (b).

8 (b) COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—Under an agreement be-
10 tween the Administrator and the National Academy
11 of Sciences under this section, the National Acad-
12 emy of Sciences shall conduct a comprehensive as-
13 sessment of the need for and feasibility of estab-
14 lishing an Advanced Research Projects Agency-
15 Oceans (ARPA-O).

16 (2) ELEMENTS.—The comprehensive assess-
17 ment carried out pursuant to paragraph (1) shall in-
18 clude—

1 (A) an assessment of how an ARPA–O
2 could help overcome the long-term and high-risk
3 technological barriers in the development of
4 ocean technologies, with the goal of enhancing
5 the economic, ecological, and national security
6 of the United States through the rapid develop-
7 ment of technologies that result in—

8 (i) improved data collection, moni-
9 toring, and prediction of the ocean environ-
10 ment, including sea ice conditions;

11 (ii) overcoming barriers to the appli-
12 cation of new and improved technologies,
13 such as high costs and scale of operational
14 missions;

15 (iii) improved management practices
16 for protecting ecological sustainability;

17 (iv) improved national security capac-
18 ity;

19 (v) improved technology for fishery
20 population assessments;

21 (vi) expedited processes between and
22 among Federal agencies to successfully
23 identify, transition, and coordinate re-
24 search and development output to oper-

1 ations, applications, commercialization, and
2 other uses; and

3 (vii) ensuring that the United States
4 maintains a technological lead in devel-
5 oping and deploying advanced ocean tech-
6 nologies;

7 (B) an evaluation of the organizational
8 structures under which an ARPA-O could be
9 organized, which takes into account—

10 (i) best practices for new research
11 programs;

12 (ii) metrics and approaches for peri-
13 odic program evaluation;

14 (iii) capacity to fund and manage ex-
15 ternal research awards; and

16 (iv) options for oversight of the activ-
17 ity through a Federal agency, an inter-
18 agency organization, nongovernmental or-
19 ganization, or other institutional arrange-
20 ment; and

21 (C) an estimation of the scale of invest-
22 ment necessary to pursue high priority ocean
23 technology projects.

24 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the
25 date of the enactment of this section, the Administrator

1 shall submit to Congress a report on the comprehensive
2 assessment conducted under subsection (b).

3 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the term “Admin-
4 istrator” means the Under Secretary of Commerce for
5 Oceans and Atmosphere in the Under Secretary’s capacity
6 as Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmos-
7 pheric Administration.

