

WAIS Document Retrieval

[Congressional Record: December 4, 2007 (House)]

[Page H14089-H14091]

From the Congressional Record Online via GPO Access [wais.access.gpo.gov]

[DOCID:cr04de07-125]

RECOGNIZING 200 YEARS OF RESEARCH, SERVICE, AND STEWARDSHIP BY NOAA AND ITS PREDECESSOR AGENCIES

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 147) recognizing 200 years of research, service to the people of the United States, and stewardship of the marine environment by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and its predecessor agencies, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. Con. Res. 147

Whereas the Act of February 10, 1807 (chapter VIII; 2 Stat. 413), signed by President Thomas Jefferson, authorized and requested the President ``to cause a survey to be taken of the coast of the United States . . . together

[[Page H14090]]

with such other matters as he may deem proper for completing an accurate chart of every part of the coasts";

Whereas the Coast Survey was established to carry out the duties established under such Act, and was the first Federal science agency of the United States;

Whereas over time additional duties were granted to such agency, including geodetic surveying and tide and current monitoring and predictions, and such agency was later renamed the Coast and Geodetic Survey;

Whereas in addition to providing charts and information vital to our young Nation's economic and commercial success, such pioneering agency led some of the Nation's earliest oceanographic research, undertaking surveys of the Gulf Stream to determine temperatures, depths, direction, and velocity, as well as the character of the seafloor and forms of vegetation and marine life;

Whereas the early technicians and scientists of such agency invented and supported the development of many innovative tools that led to advances in hydrographic, shoreline, and geodetic surveying and cartographic methods, the first real-time water level stations, and deep-sea anchoring;

Whereas during the 20th century such agency, by then renamed the Coast and Geodetic Survey, advanced the development and marine applications of electronics and acoustics, including the development of Radar Acoustic Ranging, radio sono-buoys, and the Roberts Radio Current Meter Buoy;

Whereas throughout their history these programs have

provided services in support of the Nation's commerce and defense, serving in all theaters of the Civil War and in World Wars I and II as hydrographers, cartographers, topographers, and scouts, including the production of more than 100 million maps and charts for United States and Allied forces;

Whereas as our Nation's interests and economy became increasingly interwoven with the marine and atmospheric environment, a number of Federal science agencies with complimentary functions, including the Weather Bureau and the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, were combined with the Coast Survey to create the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA);

Whereas today these mapping and charting, geodesy, and tide and current data programs are located in the National Ocean Service of NOAA in the Coast Survey, the National Geodetic Survey, and the Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services;

Whereas these programs promote NOAA's commerce and transportation goals and continue to support the research, development, and application of state-of-the-art surveying, mapping, charting, ocean observing, modeling, and Internet-based product delivery services to promote safe and efficient commerce and transportation and contributing to the advancement of integrated ocean and earth observing systems;

Whereas these programs continue to demonstrate relevance, value, importance, and service promoting and employing innovative partnerships with other agencies, State and local authorities, academia, and the private sector;

Whereas these programs work internationally as the United States representative to the International Hydrographic Organization and through other organizations to promote integrated and uniform standards, protocols, formats, and services;

Whereas in addition to commerce and transportation these programs also advance NOAA's weather and water, climate, and ecosystem missions including marine resource conservation, coastal management, and the protection of life and property from coastal storms and other hazards, as most recently demonstrated in responding to and facilitating the recovery of communities and commerce in the hurricane stricken Gulf Coast; and

Whereas the devotion, industry, efficiency, and enterprise of these people and programs over their 200-year history have set an enviable record of public service: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress--

(1) recognizes that for over 200 years, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and its predecessor agencies have been providing to the Nation research to improve human understanding of the oceans and atmosphere, service, and stewardship of the marine environment, through products and services that protect lives and property, strengthen the economy, and support and sustain our coastal and marine resources;

(2) recognizes the vision of President Thomas Jefferson in supporting the advancement of science, and the survey of the coast in particular, to the welfare and commercial success of the Nation;

(3) recognizes the contributions made over the last 200 years by the past and current employees and officers of the Coast Survey, the National Geodetic Survey, and the Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; and

(4) encourages the people of the United States to salute and share in the planned celebrations of these historic programs during 2007 with ceremonies designed to give appropriate recognition to one of our oldest and most

respected Federal agencies on the occasion of its bicentennial anniversary.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. Bordallo) and the gentleman from Washington (Mrs. McMorris Rodgers) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

General Leave

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the concurrent resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Guam?

There was no objection.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

House Concurrent Resolution 147 recognizes the contributions that the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the agencies which preceded it, together with their employees, have made in improving our understanding of the oceans and the marine environment. The resolution also recognizes the vision of Thomas Jefferson when he recognized that the survey of our Nation's coast is critical to our welfare and commercial success.

This month represents the culmination of ceremonies and commemorative events that have occurred across the country during 2007 recognizing 200 years of invaluable research, service, and stewardship of the marine environment provided by NOAA and its predecessor agencies.

As the chairwoman of the Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans, I too recognize the work of NOAA's dedicated civil servants, the NOAA Corps, and NOAA's partners in fulfilling the NOAA mission. The agency benefits from the strong and able leadership of Vice Admiral Conrad Lautenbacher, the current NOAA Administrator.

Lastly, I want to thank my colleague and good friend from South Carolina, the ranking member of the committee (Mr. Brown), for his work in sponsoring this resolution. I am honored to join him in recognizing NOAA on this occasion, and I have enjoyed working with him this past year and am looking forward to our work together on the subcommittee in the next session.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of House Concurrent Resolution 147, sponsored by Congressman Henry Brown.

President Thomas Jefferson had the foresight in 1807 to initiate surveys of our Nation's coasts to promote the safe transport of vessels into American ports and along our Nation's coastlines. Since the mid 1960s, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, NOAA, has been responsible for conducting coastal and hydrographic surveys.

House Concurrent Resolution 147 acknowledges the vision of President Thomas Jefferson and recognizes NOAA and its predecessor agencies for 200 years of research, service to the people of the United States, and their stewardship of the marine environment.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I would like to yield 3 minutes to my colleague, the gentleman from South Carolina, the author of this legislation (Mr. Brown).

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. I appreciate the gentlewoman from Washington for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Concurrent Resolution 147. I am pleased we are considering this measure today on the House floor. I would like to thank my friend and the chairwoman of the Fisheries, Ocean and Wildlife Subcommittee, Congresswoman Madeleine Bordallo, for her hard work on cosponsorship of this resolution.

And what a real pleasure it is to work along with you as your ranking member.

And I would also like to thank Chairman Nick Rahall and Ranking Member Don Young of the Natural Resources Committee as well as my colleagues on the House Science Committee for their support of this

resolution.

House Concurrent Resolution 147 recognizes NOAA and its predecessor agencies for 200 years of research and service to the people of the United

[[Page H14091]]

States and its stewardship of the marine environment.

It was the foresight of the third President, Thomas Jefferson, that started us down this path of surveying our coastal areas for the benefit of the Nation and laid the blueprint for what we now all know as the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

My district is home to several outstanding NOAA facilities including the Hollings Marine Laboratory and the Coastal Services Center, both of which are located in Charleston. These facilities and their work are an important part of the coastal South Carolina community.

NOAA has shown its dedication to our Nation's ocean and coastal resources. NOAA's management and conservation actions have allowed all of us to continue to enjoy our Nation's oceans and coastal resources.

I urge my colleagues to vote ``yes" on this important resolution, and I congratulate NOAA for their 200 years.

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. Bordallo) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 147.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

WAIS Document Retrieval

[Congressional Record: December 4, 2007 (Extensions)]
[Page E2484-E2485]
From the Congressional Record Online via GPO Access [wais.access.gpo.gov]
[DOCID:cr04de07-91]

COMMEMORATING THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND
ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

of maryland

in the house of representatives

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate two centuries of service by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), for NOAA's continued efforts to improve our understanding of the environment and for its dedicated stewardship of the Nation's coast, waterways and wildlife.

Originally founded in 1807 to survey the early American coast, the predecessor of today's NOAA marked the creation of the Nation's first science agency. From its humble beginnings, NOAA's contribution to American history evolved to reflect the needs and expectations of a growing Nation. Even a brief selection from the catalogue of NOAA's contribution to the American experience offers an illustration of the impressive contribution NOAA and its predecessor agencies have made to American history over the years.

[[Page E2485]]

In 1911, after decades of offshore, open water sealing by other nations decimated the herd, the North Pacific Fur Seal Treaty was signed--the first international treaty for wildlife conservation. The agreement gave NOAA's predecessor responsibility for protecting wildlife along the American coast and was the forerunner and inspiration for laws such as the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972.

After World War II, what would become NOAA joined the U.S. in another great leap forward when the technological, geographic, and social landscape of NOAA's two legacy agencies--the Survey of the Coast and the Weather Bureau--were merged and their resources combined to usher in a new era of weather observations from space with the launch of the first meteorological satellite.

And, NOAA grew yet again in response to the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill in 1989. The spill led to the passage of the Oil Pollution Control Act of 1990 which strengthened and enhanced NOAA's capacity to respond to and help reduce impacts from hazardous material spills.

For 200 years, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and its predecessor agencies have served this great Nation by providing

research to improve our understanding of the oceans and the atmosphere and has faithfully fulfilled its mandate as a steward of the environment. I am happy to add my voice to those of my colleagues as we honor today this important American institution.

© Copyright GalleryWatch.com, Inc. (1999 - 2007), provided under license.
NO CLAIM TO ORIGINAL U.S. OR STATE GOVERNMENT WORKS

WAIS Document Retrieval

[Congressional Record: December 6, 2007 (Extensions)]

[Page E2513]

From the Congressional Record Online via GPO Access [wais.access.gpo.gov]

[DOCID:cr06de07-26]

RECOGNIZING 200 YEARS OF RESEARCH, SERVICE, AND STEWARDSHIP BY NOAA AND
ITS PREDECESSOR AGENCIES

speech of

HON. HEATH SHULER

of north carolina

in the house of representatives

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. SHULER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). NOAA has been the leader in national research on oceans and the atmosphere, and their effect on the human environment.

NOAA evolved from the Survey of the Coast, established in 1807, to an organization that provides daily forecasts, storm warnings, and climate monitoring to a variety of organizations that support marine commerce. NOAA has a presence in each of the 50 States and countries worldwide. NOAA takes part in the most advanced, cutting-edge research, using new and innovative technologies to ensure this country's economic future.

I am very proud that Western North Carolina is home to the National Climate Data Center, the largest archive of weather and global climate related data, including that data collected by NOAA. The center holds data as old as 150 years old, and as recent as a few hours ago.

NOAA, and NCDC, are integral to our Nation's success as a global economy. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the contributions of NOAA.
