AMPENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 116–19
OFFERED BY MR. PANETTA OF CALIFORNIA

At the end of subtitle H of title X, insert the following:

SEC. 10. REAUTHORIZATION OF NATIONAL OCEANOGRAPHIC PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM.

(a) ADDITIONAL PURPOSE.—Section 8931(b)(2) of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) by redesignating subparagraph (B) as subparagraph (C); and

(3) by inserting after subparagraph (A) the following new subparagraph (B):

“(B) soliciting, accepting, and executing oceanographic research and education projects funded by private grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements that contribute to assuring national security, advancing economic development, protecting quality of life, and strengthening science education and communication though improved knowledge of the ocean; and’.”
(b) NATIONAL OCEAN RESEARCH LEADERSHIP

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP.—Subsection (b) of section 8932 of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

1. by striking “is” and inserting “shall be”;

2. by striking paragraph (10);

3. by redesignating paragraphs (11) through (14) as paragraphs (12) through (15), respectively; and

4. by inserting after paragraph (9) the following new paragraphs (10) and (11):


“(11) The Director of the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement of the Department of the Interior.”.

(e) CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN.—Subsection (e) of section 8932 of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

1. in paragraph (1) by striking “two” and inserting “five”; and

2. in paragraph (2) by inserting “appointed after the date of the enactment of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020” after “first chairman”.
(d) RESPONSIBILITIES.—Subsection (d) of section 8932 of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) by striking “critical” and inserting “important”; and

(ii) by striking “, such as” and all that follows through “communication”; 

(B) in subparagraph (B) by inserting “of public, academic, commercial, and private participation or support” before the period;

(C) in subparagraph (E) by inserting “, as appropriate” after “review”; and

(D) by inserting after subparagraph (E) the following new subparagraph:

“(F) Preexisting facilities, such as regional data centers operated by the Integrated Ocean Observing System, and expertise.”; and

(2) by striking paragraph (3).

(e) ANNUAL REPORT.—Subsection (e) of such section is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “Congress” and inserting “the appropriate committees of Congress”; 

(2) in paragraph (1)—
(A) by striking “description of activities of the program carried out during the fiscal year before the fiscal year in which the report is prepared, together with a”; and

(B) by striking “Ocean Research Advisory Panel” and inserting “Council”;

(3) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

“(2) A description of activities of the program carried out during the fiscal year before the fiscal year in which the report is prepared, including the following—

“(A) an analysis of the extent to which those activities advanced the purpose of the National Oceanographic Partnership Program as described in section 8931(b) of this title;

“(B) a report on the total budget requirement of each project carried out as part of the project; and

“(C) a report on the sources of funding of each completed project, including contributions from Federal partners or through private grants or contracts from non-federal entities and a description of the efforts with non-federal ocean science entities.”;
(4) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by striking “projects expected” and inserting “known projects planned”;

(B) by striking “year.” and inserting “year, including—”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new subparagraphs:

“(A) a statement of objectives for each such project and a description of how such projects will advance the purpose of the National Oceanographic Partnership Program as described in section 8931(b) of this title;

“(B) an estimated budget for planned projects; and

“(C) a description of any funds committed to support such projects, either by Federal partners or through private grants or contracts with non-Federal entities.”; and

(5) in paragraph (5), by inserting “to execute the National Oceanographic Partnership Program” before the period.

(f) PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM OFFICE.—Subsection (f) of such section is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—
(A) by striking “establish a” and inserting “oversee the”; and

(B) by striking the second sentence;

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by redesignating subparagraphs (C) and (D) as subparagraphs (D) and (E), respectively; and

(B) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following new subparagraph (C):

“(C) To solicit, accept, and execute oceanographic research and education projects aligned with the purpose of the program and funded by private contracts, grants, cooperative agreements, and donations, on behalf of, and in consultation with the Council in accordance with subsection (g).”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(4) Any member of the Council may detail government employees to the partnership program office to support management of the program.”.

(g) GRANT AND CONTRACT AUTHORITY.—Such section is further amended by striking subsection (g) and inserting the following new subsection (g):

“(g) GRANT AND CONTRACT AUTHORITY.—To carry out the purpose of the National Oceanographic Partnership Program, under section 8921(b) of this title, the Council shall have, in addition to other powers otherwise given it under this section, the following authorities:

“(1) The authority to authorize one or more of the departments or agencies represented on the Council to enter into contracts and cooperative agreements and make grants, and establish and manage new collaborative programs as determined necessary to address emerging science priorities using funds both appropriated pursuant to an authorization or appropriations for the National Oceanographic Partnership Program and donated by non-Federal entities, for the purpose of implementing the program and carrying out the responsibilities of the Council.

“(2) The authority to authorize the Program Office, on behalf of the Council, to accept funds, subject to appropriations from other Federal departments and agencies, and to enter into contracts and award grants.

“(3) The authority to authorize the Program Office, on behalf of the Council, to solicit, accept and execute oceanographic research projects funded
by private contracts, grants, and donations and to secure interagency partners.”.

(h) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DEFINED.—Such section is further amended by adding at the end the following new subsections:

“(i) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—In this section, the term ‘appropriate committees of Congress’ means—

“(1) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives; and

“(2) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate.

“(j) TERMINATION.—The authority for the National Ocean Research Leadership Council under this section shall terminate on the date that is five years after the date of the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2020.”.

(j) REPORT.—Not later than four months after the date of the enactment of this Act, or by March 1, 2020, whichever comes first, the Secretary of the Navy shall submit to Congress a report that includes—
(1) the status of the appointment of each mem-
ner of the Council required under paragraph (b) of
section 8932 of title 10, United States Code, as
amended by this section;

(2) the selection of the Chairman and Vice
Chairman required under subsection (c) of such sec-

tion, as amended;

(3) an update on progress toward developing
policy guidance required under subsection (d) of
such section, as amended; and

(4) any additional activities undertaken by the
Council and the National Oceanographic Partnership
Program during the period beginning on the date of
the enactment of this Act and ending on the date of
the submittal of the report under this subsection.