

105<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

**H. R. 709**

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**AN ACT**

To reauthorize and amend the National Geologic  
Mapping Act of 1992, and for other purposes.

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## AN ACT

To reauthorize and amend the National Geologic Mapping  
Act of 1992, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “National Geologic  
3 Mapping Reauthorization Act of 1997”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 Congress finds that—

6 (1) in enacting the National Geologic Mapping  
7 Act of 1992 (43 U.S.C. 31a et seq.), Congress  
8 found, among other things, that—

9 (A) during the 2 decades preceding enact-  
10 ment of that Act, the production of geologic  
11 maps had been drastically curtailed;

12 (B) geologic maps are the primary data  
13 base for virtually all applied and basic earth-  
14 science investigations;

15 (C) Federal agencies, State and local gov-  
16 ernments, private industry, and the general  
17 public depend on the information provided by  
18 geologic maps to determine the extent of poten-  
19 tial environmental damage before embarking on  
20 projects that could lead to preventable, costly  
21 environmental problems or litigation;

22 (D) the lack of proper geologic maps has  
23 led to the poor design of such structures as  
24 dams and waste-disposal facilities;

1 (E) geologic maps have proven indispen-  
2 sable in the search for needed fossil fuel and  
3 mineral resources; and

4 (F) a comprehensive nationwide program  
5 of geologic mapping is required in order to sys-  
6 tematically build the Nation's geologic-map  
7 data base at a pace that responds to increasing  
8 demand;

9 (2) the geologic mapping program called for by  
10 that Act has not been fully implemented; and

11 (3) it is time for this important program to be  
12 fully implemented.

13 **SEC. 3. REAUTHORIZATION AND AMENDMENT.**

14 (a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 3 of the National Geo-  
15 logic Mapping Act of 1992 (43 U.S.C. 31b) is amended—

16 (1) by striking “As used in this Act:” and in-  
17 serting “In this Act:”;

18 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (2), (3), (4),  
19 and (5) as paragraphs (3), (4), (5), and (7), respec-  
20 tively;

21 (3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the follow-  
22 ing:

23 “(2) ASSOCIATION.—The term ‘Association’  
24 means the Association of American State Geolo-  
25 gists.”;

1           (4) by inserting after paragraph (5) (as redesignated by paragraph (2) of this subsection) the following new paragraph:

2           “(6) STATE.—The term ‘State’ includes the  
3           District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto  
4           Rico, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana  
5           Islands, American Samoa, Guam, and the Virgin Is-  
6           lands.”; and

7           (5) in each paragraph that does not have a  
8           heading, by inserting a heading, in the same style as  
9           the heading in paragraph (2), as added by para-  
10          graph (3), the text of which is comprised of the term  
11          defined in the paragraph.

12          (b) GEOLOGIC MAPPING PROGRAM.—Section 4 of the  
13          National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992 (43 U.S.C. 31c)  
14          is amended—

15           (1) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the  
16           following:

17           “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

18           “(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established a na-  
19           tional cooperative geologic mapping program be-  
20           tween the United States Geological Survey and the  
21           State geological surveys, acting through the Associa-  
22           tion.  
23           tion.  
24

1           “(2) DESIGN, DEVELOPMENT, AND ADMINIS-  
2           TRATION.—The cooperative geologic mapping pro-  
3           gram shall be—

4                   “(A) designed and administered to achieve  
5           the objectives set forth in subsection (c);

6                   “(B) developed in consultation with the ad-  
7           visory committee; and

8                   “(C) administered through the Survey.”;  
9           (2) in subsection (b)—

10                   (A) in the subsection heading by striking  
11           “USGS” and inserting “THE SURVEY”;

12                   (B) in paragraph (1)—

13                           (i) by single-indenting the paragraph,  
14                           double-indenting the subparagraphs, and  
15                           triple indenting the clauses;

16                           (ii) by inserting “LEAD AGENCY.—”  
17           before “The Survey”;

18                           (iii) in subparagraph (A)—

19                                   (I) by striking “Committee on  
20                                   Natural Resources” and inserting  
21                                   “Committee on Resources”; and

22                                   (II) by striking “date of enact-  
23                                   ment of this Act” and inserting “date  
24                                   of enactment of the National Geologic

1 Mapping Reauthorization Act of  
2 1997”;

3 (iv) in subparagraph (B)—

4 (I) by striking “State geological  
5 surveys” and inserting “Association”;  
6 and

7 (II) by striking “date of enact-  
8 ment of this Act” and inserting “date  
9 of enactment of the National Geologic  
10 Mapping Reauthorization Act of  
11 1997”; and

12 (v) in subparagraph (C)—

13 (I) by striking “date of enact-  
14 ment of this Act” and inserting “date  
15 of enactment of the National Geologic  
16 Mapping Reauthorization Act of  
17 1997”;

18 (II) by striking “Committee on  
19 Natural Resources” and inserting  
20 “Committee on Resources”;

21 (III) in clauses (i) and (ii) by in-  
22 sserting “and the Association” after  
23 “the Survey”;

24 (IV) by adding “and” at the end  
25 of clause (ii); and

1 (V) by striking “; and” at the  
2 end of clause (iii) and all that follows  
3 through the end of the subparagraph  
4 and inserting a period;

5 (C) in paragraph (2)—

6 (i) by inserting “RESPONSIBILITIES  
7 OF THE SECRETARY.—” before “In addi-  
8 tion to”; and

9 (ii) in subparagraph (A) by striking  
10 “State geological surveys” and inserting  
11 “Association”; and

12 (D) by single-indenting the paragraph and  
13 double-indenting the subparagraphs;

14 (3) in subsection (c)—

15 (A) in paragraph (2) by striking “interpre-  
16 tive” and inserting “interpretative”; and

17 (B) in paragraph (4) by striking “aware-  
18 ness for” and inserting “awareness of”; and

19 (4) in subsection (d)—

20 (A) in paragraph (1) by inserting “FED-  
21 ERAL COMPONENT.—” before “A Federal”;

22 (B) in paragraph (2)—

23 (i) by inserting “SUPPORT COMPO-  
24 NENT.—” before “A geologic”; and

1 (ii) by striking subparagraph (D) and  
2 inserting the following:

3 “(D) geochronologic and isotopic investiga-  
4 tions that—

5 “(i) provide radiometric age dates for  
6 geologic-map units; and

7 “(ii) fingerprint the geothermometry,  
8 geobarometry, and alteration history of  
9 geologic-map units,

10 which investigations shall be contributed to a  
11 national geochronologic data base;”;

12 (C) in paragraph (3) by inserting “STATE  
13 COMPONENT.—” before “A State”; and

14 (D) by striking paragraph (4) and insert-  
15 ing the following:

16 “(4) EDUCATION COMPONENT.—A geologic  
17 mapping education component—

18 “(A) the objectives of which shall be—

19 “(i) to develop the academic programs  
20 that teach earth-science students the fun-  
21 damental principles of geologic mapping  
22 and field analysis; and

23 “(ii) to provide for broad education in  
24 geologic mapping and field analysis  
25 through support of field studies;

1           “(B) investigations under which shall be  
2           integrated with the other mapping components  
3           of the geologic mapping program and shall re-  
4           spond to priorities identified for those compo-  
5           nents; and

6           “(C) Federal funding for which shall be  
7           matched by non-Federal sources on a 1-to-1  
8           basis.”.

9           (c) ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—Section 5 of the Na-  
10          tional Geologic Mapping Act of 1992 (43 U.S.C. 31d) is  
11          amended—

12           (1) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the  
13          following:

14          “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

15           “(1) IN GENERAL.—There shall be established  
16          a 10-member geologic mapping advisory committee  
17          to advise the Director on planning and implementa-  
18          tion of the geologic mapping program.

19           “(2) MEMBERS EX OFFICIO.—Federal agency  
20          members shall include the Administrator of the En-  
21          vironmental Protection Agency or a designee, the  
22          Secretary of Energy or a designee, the Secretary of  
23          Agriculture or a designee, and the Assistant to the  
24          President for Science and Technology or a designee.

1           “(3) APPOINTED MEMBERS.—Not later than 90  
2           days after the date of enactment of the National  
3           Geologic Mapping Reauthorization Act of 1997, in  
4           consultation with the Association, the Secretary shall  
5           appoint to the advisory committee 2 representatives  
6           from the Survey (including the Chief Geologist, as  
7           Chairman), 2 representatives from the State geologi-  
8           cal surveys, 1 representative from academia, and 1  
9           representative from the private sector.”; and

10           (2) in subsection (b)(3) by striking “and State”  
11           and inserting “, State, and university”.

12           (d) GEOLOGIC MAPPING PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION  
13           PLAN.—Section 6 of the National Geologic Mapping Act  
14           of 1992 (43 U.S.C. 31e) is amended—

15           (1) in paragraph (1) by inserting “cooperative”  
16           after “national”;

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

19                   “(C) for the State geologic mapping com-  
20                   ponent, a priority-setting mechanism that re-  
21                   sponds to—

22                           “(i) specific intrastate needs for geo-  
23                           logic-map information; and

1                   “(ii) interstate needs shared by adja-  
2                   cent entities that have common require-  
3                   ments; and”;

4                   (3) by striking paragraphs (4) and (5) and in-  
5                   serting the following:

6                   “(4) a mechanism for adopting scientific and  
7                   technical mapping standards for preparing and pub-  
8                   lishing general-purpose and special-purpose geologic  
9                   maps to—

10                   “(A) ensure uniformity of cartographic and  
11                   scientific conventions; and

12                   “(B) provide a basis for judgment as to  
13                   the comparability and quality of map products;  
14                   and”;

15                   (4) by redesignating paragraph (6) as para-  
16                   graph (5).

17                   (e) NATIONAL GEOLOGIC-MAP DATA BASE.—Section  
18 7 of the National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992 (43  
19 U.S.C. 31f) is amended by striking subsection (b) and in-  
20 serting the following:

21                   “(b) STANDARDIZATION.—

22                   “(1) IN GENERAL.—Geologic maps contributed  
23                   to the national archives shall have format, symbols,  
24                   and technical attributes that adhere to standards so

1 that archival information can be accessed, ex-  
2 changed, and compared efficiently and accurately, as  
3 required by Executive Order 12906 (59 Fed. Reg.  
4 17,671 (1994)), which established the National Spa-  
5 tial Data Infrastructure.

6 “(2) DEVELOPMENT OF STANDARDS.—Entities  
7 that contribute geologic maps to the national ar-  
8 chives shall develop the standards described in para-  
9 graph (1) in cooperation with the Federal Geo-  
10 graphic Data Committee, which is charged with  
11 standards development and other data coordination  
12 activities as described in Office of Management and  
13 Budget revised Circular A–16.”.

14 (f) ANNUAL REPORT.—Section 8 of the National  
15 Geologic Mapping Act of 1992 (43 U.S.C. 31g) is amend-  
16 ed in the first sentence—

17 (1) by striking “Committee on Natural Re-  
18 sources” and inserting “Committee on Resources”;  
19 and

20 (2) by striking “program, and describing and  
21 evaluating progress” and inserting “program and  
22 describing and evaluating the progress”.

23 (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section  
24 9 of the National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992 (43  
25 U.S.C. 31h) is amended to read as follows:

1 **“SEC. 9. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2       “(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be ap-  
3 propriated to carry out the national cooperative geologic  
4 mapping program under this Act—

5               “(1) \$26,000,000 for fiscal year 1998;

6               “(2) \$28,000,000 for fiscal year 1999; and

7               “(3) \$30,000,000 for fiscal year 2000.

8       “(b) ALLOCATION OF APPROPRIATED FUNDS.—

9               “(1) IN GENERAL.—Of the amount of funds  
10 that are appropriated under subsection (a) for any  
11 fiscal year up to the amount that is equal to the  
12 amount appropriated to carry out the national coop-  
13 erative geologic mapping program for fiscal year  
14 1996—

15                       “(A) not less than 20 percent shall be allo-  
16 cated to State mapping activities; and

17                       “(B) not less than 2 percent shall be allo-  
18 cated to educational mapping activities.

19       “(2) INCREASED APPROPRIATIONS.—Of the  
20 amount of funds that are appropriated under sub-  
21 section (a) for any fiscal year up to the amount that  
22 exceeds the amount appropriated to carry out the  
23 national cooperative geologic mapping program for  
24 fiscal year 1996—

25                       “(A) for fiscal year 1998—

1           “(i) 75 percent shall be allocated for  
2 Federal mapping and support mapping ac-  
3 tivities;

4           “(ii) 23 percent shall be allocated for  
5 State mapping activities; and

6           “(iii) 2 percent shall be allocated for  
7 educational mapping activities;

8           “(B) for fiscal year 1999—

9           “(i) 74 percent shall be allocated for  
10 Federal mapping and support mapping ac-  
11 tivities;

12           “(ii) 24 percent shall be allocated for  
13 State mapping activities; and

14           “(iii) 2 percent shall be allocated for  
15 educational mapping activities; and

16           “(C) for fiscal year 2000—

17           “(i) 73 percent shall be allocated for  
18 Federal mapping and support mapping ac-  
19 tivities;

20           “(ii) 25 percent shall be allocated for  
21 State mapping activities; and

1                   “(iii) 2 percent shall be allocated for  
2                   educational mapping activities.”.

Passed the House of Representatives March 11,  
1997.

Attest:

*Clerk.*