

105TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 709

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

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 12, 1997

Mrs. CUBIN (for herself and Mr. GIBBONS) introduced the following bill; which  
was referred to the Committee on Resources

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## A BILL

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,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

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

6       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7       Congress finds that—

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

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

4 (B) geologic maps are the primary data  
5 base for virtually all applied and basic earth-  
6 science investigations;

7 (C) Federal agencies, State and local gov-  
8 ernments, private industry, and the general  
9 public depend on the information provided by  
10 geologic maps to determine the extent of poten-  
11 tial environmental damage before embarking on  
12 projects that could lead to preventable, costly  
13 environmental problems or litigation;

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

17 (E) geologic maps have proven indispen-  
18 sable in the search for needed fossil fuel and  
19 mineral resources; and

20 (F) a comprehensive nationwide program  
21 of geologic mapping is required in order to sys-  
22 tematically build the Nation's geologic-map  
23 data base at a pace that responds to increasing  
24 demand;

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

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

5 **SEC. 3. REAUTHORIZATION AND AMENDMENT.**

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

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

10           (2) by redesignating paragraphs (2), (3), (4),  
11           and (5) as paragraphs (3), (4), (5), and (6), respec-  
12           tively;

13           (3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the follow-  
14           ing:

15           “(2) ASSOCIATION.—The term ‘Association’  
16           means the Association of American State Geolo-  
17           gists.”; and

18           (4) in each paragraph that does not have a  
19           heading, by inserting a heading, in the same style as  
20           the heading in paragraph (2), as added by para-  
21           graph (3), the text of which is comprised of the term  
22           defined in the paragraph.

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

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

3           “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

4                 “(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established a na-  
5 tional cooperative geologic mapping program be-  
6 tween the United States Geological Survey and the  
7 State geological surveys, acting through the Associa-  
8 tion.

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

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

14                     “(B) developed in consultation with the ad-  
15 visory committee; and

16                     “(C) administered through the Survey.”;

17           (2) in subsection (b)—

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

20                     (B) in paragraph (1)—

21                             (i) by single-indenting the paragraphs,  
22 double-indenting the subparagraphs, and  
23 triple indenting the clauses;

24                             (ii) by inserting “LEAD AGENCY.—”  
25 before “The Survey”;

1 (iii) in subparagraph (A)—

2 (I) by striking “Committee on  
3 Natural Resources” and inserting  
4 “Committee on Resources”; and

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

10 (iv) in subparagraph (B)—

11 (I) by striking “State geological  
12 surveys” and inserting “Association”;  
13 and

14 (II) by striking “date of enact-  
15 ment of this Act” and inserting “date  
16 of enactment of the National Geologic  
17 Mapping Reauthorization Act of  
18 1997”; and

19 (v) in subparagraph (C)—

20 (I) by striking “date of enact-  
21 ment of this Act” and inserting “date  
22 of enactment of the National Geologic  
23 Mapping Reauthorization Act of  
24 1997”;

1 (II) by striking “Committee on  
2 Natural Resources” and inserting  
3 “Committee on Resources”;

4 (III) in clauses (i) and (ii) by in-  
5 serting “and the Association” after  
6 “the Survey”;

7 (IV) by adding “and” at the end  
8 of clause (ii); and

9 (V) by striking “; and” at the  
10 end of clause (iii) and all that follows  
11 through the end of the subparagraph  
12 and inserting a period; and

13 (C) in paragraph (2)—

14 (i) by inserting “RESPONSIBILITIES  
15 OF THE SECRETARY.—” before “In addi-  
16 tion to”; and

17 (ii) in subparagraph (A) by striking  
18 “State geological surveys” and inserting  
19 “Association”;

20 (3) in subsection (c)—

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

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

25 (4) in subsection (d)—

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

3 (B) in paragraph (2)—

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

6 (ii) by striking subparagraph (D) and  
7 inserting the following:

8 “(D) geochronologic and isotopic investiga-  
9 tions that—

10 “(i) provide radiometric age dates for  
11 geologic-map units; and

12 “(ii) fingerprint the geothermometry,  
13 geobarometry, and alteration history of  
14 geologic-map units,

15 which investigations shall be contributed to a  
16 national geochronologic data base;”;

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

19 (D) by striking paragraph (4) and insert-  
20 ing the following:

21 “(4) EDUCATION COMPONENT.—A geologic  
22 mapping education component—

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

1 “(i) to develop the academic programs  
2 that teach earth-science students the fun-  
3 damental principles of geologic mapping  
4 and field analysis; and

5 “(ii) to provide for broad education in  
6 geologic mapping and field analysis  
7 through support of field studies;

8 “(B) investigations under which shall be  
9 integrated with the other mapping components  
10 of the geologic mapping program and shall re-  
11 spond to priorities identified for those compo-  
12 nents; and

13 “(C) Federal funding for which shall be  
14 matched by non-Federal sources on a 1-to-1  
15 basis.”.

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

19 (1) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the  
20 following:

21 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

22 “(1) IN GENERAL.—There shall be established  
23 a 10-member geologic mapping advisory committee  
24 to advise the Director on planning and implementa-  
25 tion of the geologic mapping program.

1           “(2) MEMBERS EX OFFICIO.—Federal agency  
2 members shall include the Administrator of the En-  
3 vironmental Protection Agency or a designee, the  
4 Secretary of Energy or a designee, the Secretary of  
5 Agriculture or a designee, and the Assistant to the  
6 President for Science and Technology or a designee.

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

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

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

21           (1) in paragraph (1) by inserting “cooperative”  
22 after “national”;

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

1           “(C) for the State geologic mapping com-  
2           ponent, a priority-setting mechanism that re-  
3           sponds to—

4                   “(i) specific intrastate needs for geo-  
5                   logic-map information; and

6                   “(ii) interstate needs shared by adja-  
7                   cent entities that have common require-  
8                   ments; and”;

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

11                   “(4) a mechanism for adopting scientific and  
12                   technical mapping standards for preparing and pub-  
13                   lishing general-purpose and special-purpose geologic  
14                   maps to—

15                   “(A) ensure uniformity of cartographic and  
16                   scientific conventions; and

17                   “(B) provide a basis for judgment as to  
18                   the comparability and quality of map products;  
19                   and”;

20           (4) by redesignating paragraph (6) as para-  
21          graph (5).

22          (e) NATIONAL GEOLOGIC-MAP DATA BASE.—Section  
23          7 of the National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992 (43  
24          U.S.C. 31f) is amended by striking subsection (b) and in-  
25          serting the following:

1 “(b) STANDARDIZATION.—

2 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Geologic maps contributed  
3 to the national archives shall have format, symbols,  
4 and technical attributes that adhere to standards so  
5 that archival information can be accessed, ex-  
6 changed, and compared efficiently and accurately, as  
7 required by Executive Order 12906 (59 Fed. Reg.  
8 17,671 (1994)), which established the National Spa-  
9 tial Data Infrastructure.

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

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

21 (1) by striking “Committee on Natural Re-  
22 sources” and inserting “Committee on Resources”;  
23 and

1           (2) by striking “program, and describing and  
2           evaluating progress” and inserting “program and  
3           describing and evaluating the progress”.

4           (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section  
5           9 of the National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992 (43  
6           U.S.C. 31h) is amended to read as follows:

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

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

11                  “(1) \$26,000,000 for fiscal year 1998;

12                  “(2) \$28,000,000 for fiscal year 1999; and

13                  “(3) \$30,000,000 for fiscal year 2000.

14          “(b) ALLOCATION OF APPROPRIATED FUNDS.—

15                  “(1) IN GENERAL.—Of the amount of funds  
16          that are appropriated under subsection (a) for any  
17          fiscal year up to the amount that is equal to the  
18          amount appropriated to carry out the national coop-  
19          erative geologic mapping program for fiscal year  
20          1996—

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

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

1           “(2) INCREASED APPROPRIATIONS.—Of the  
2 amount of funds that are appropriated under sub-  
3 section (a) for any fiscal year up to the amount that  
4 exceeds the amount appropriated to carry out the  
5 national cooperative geologic mapping program for  
6 fiscal year 1996—

7           “(A) for fiscal year 1998—

8           “(i) 75 percent shall be allocated for  
9 Federal mapping and support mapping ac-  
10 tivities;

11           “(ii) 23 percent shall be allocated for  
12 State mapping activities; and

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

15           “(B) for fiscal year 1999—

16           “(i) 74 percent shall be allocated for  
17 Federal mapping and support mapping ac-  
18 tivities;

19           “(ii) 24 percent shall be allocated for  
20 State mapping activities; and

21           “(iii) 2 percent shall be allocated for  
22 educational mapping activities; and

23           “(C) for fiscal year 2000—

1                   “(i) 73 percent shall be allocated for  
2                   Federal mapping and support mapping ac-  
3                   tivities;

4                   “(ii) 25 percent shall be allocated for  
5                   State mapping activities; and

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

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