

Public Law 95-153
95th Congress

An Act

To amend the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 to authorize appropriations to carry out the provisions of such Act for fiscal year 1978.

Nov. 4, 1977

[H.R. 4297]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 111 of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 (33 U.S.C. 1420) is amended—

(1) by striking out “and” immediately after “September 30, 1976,”; and

(2) by adding immediately after “fiscal year 1977,” the following: “and not to exceed \$4,800,000 for fiscal year 1978.”

SEC. 2. Section 204 of such Act (33 U.S.C. 1444) is amended—

(1) by striking out “and” immediately after “September 30, 1976,”; and

(2) by adding immediately after “fiscal year 1977” the following: “, and not to exceed \$6,500,000 for fiscal year 1978”.

SEC. 3. Section 304 of such Act (16 U.S.C. 1434) is amended—

(1) by striking out “and” immediately after “September 30, 1976,”; and

(2) by adding immediately after “fiscal year 1977” the following: “, and not to exceed \$500,000 for fiscal year 1978”.

SEC. 4. (a) The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (hereinafter referred to in this section as the “Administrator”) shall end the dumping of sewage sludge into ocean waters, or into waters described in section 101(b) of Public Law 92-532, as soon as possible after the date of enactment of this section, but in no case may the Administrator issue any permit, or any renewal thereof (under title I of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972) which authorizes any such dumping after December 31, 1981.

(b) For purposes of this section, the term “sewage sludge” means any solid, semisolid, or liquid waste generated by a municipal wastewater treatment plant the ocean dumping of which may unreasonably degrade or endanger human health, welfare, amenities, or the marine environment, ecological systems, or economic potentialities.

Approved November 4, 1977.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

HOUSE REPORTS No. 95-325, pt. 1 (Comm. on Merchant Marine and Fisheries) and No. 95-325, pt. 2 (Comm. on Science and Technology).

SENATE REPORTS No. 95-216 accompanying S. 1425 (Comm. on Commerce, Science, and Transportation) and No. 95-189 accompanying S. 1527 (Comm. on Environment and Public Works).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 123 (1977):

Oct. 6, 11, 14, considered and passed House.

Oct. 20, considered and passed Senate.

WEEKLY COMPILATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS, Vol. 13, No. 45:

Nov. 4, Presidential statement.

Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972, amendment. Appropriation authorization.

Sewage sludge, ocean dumping, cessation. 33 USC 1412a. 33 USC 1411.

“Sewage sludge.”