



National Association of Marine Laboratories

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August 1, 2007

The Honorable Alan Mollohan
Chairman, Subcommittee on
Commerce, Justice and Science
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rodney Frelinghuysen
Ranking Minority Member, Subcommittee on
Commerce, Justice and Science
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Mollohan and Ranking Member Frelinghuysen:

On behalf of the National Association of Marine Laboratories (NAML), I am writing to congratulate you on the passage of H.R. 3093, the *Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008*. This bill demonstrates your dedication to preserving the ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes interests of this Nation. Your thoughtful legislation proposes substantial budget increases for three U.S. domestic research agencies—the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)—and would thereby significantly boost America's investment in ocean, coastal and Great Lakes research and education. NAML commends you for your bipartisan leadership in this regard.

As an organization representing over 120 coastal and Great Lakes laboratories from around the country, NAML recognizes the value of thorough and comprehensive knowledge of our oceans and its resources. Through its national and regional networks, NAML members are actively involved in ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes scientific research, taking full advantage of opportunities granted by the Federal government and leveraging those resources in order to achieve the very best results. Research and education activities conducted at marine labs is dependent on support from NSF, NOAA and NASA science and we are encouraged to see these agencies supported so strongly by the House of Representatives.

As the appropriations process moves forward, we hope you will continue to support the important ocean, coastal and Great Lakes research and education programs provided by NSF, NOAA and NASA. Thank you again for your leadership with respect to this appropriations bill. If at any time I can provide you with additional information about NAML or its priorities please do not hesitate to contact me at the information provided on this letterhead.

Sincerely,

Anthony F. Michaels
President, National Association of Marine Laboratories
Director, Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies
University of Southern California

The National Association of Marine Laboratories (NAML) is a nonprofit organization of over 120 member institutions representing coastal, marine, and Great Lakes laboratories in every coastal state, stretching from Guam to Bermuda and Alaska to Puerto Rico. Members serve as unique "windows on the sea," providing information on the rich environmental mosaic of coastal habitats as well as offshore oceanic regions and the Great Lakes. NAML member laboratories conduct research and provide a variety of academic, education and public service programs to enable local and regional communities to better understand and manage the ocean, coastal and Great Lake environments. NAML is comprised of three regional associations: the Northeastern Association of Marine and Great Lakes Laboratories (NEAMGLL); the Southern Association of Marine Laboratories (SAML); and the Western Association of Marine Laboratories (WAML).