



H.RES. 1112 – Recognizing 2008 as the International Year of the Reef

FLOOR SITUATION

H.Res. 1112 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Brian Baird (D-WA) on April 16, 2008. The resolution was referred to the House Committee on the Science and Technology, but was never considered.

H.Res. 1112 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on April 22, 2008.

SUMMARY

H.Res. 1112 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- Recognizes the International Year of the Reef;
- Supports strong programs in environmental and marine research at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and other Federal agencies to better understand the threats faced by coral reef systems;
- Supports the efforts of the International Coral Reef Initiative to promote public awareness and encourage public stewardship of the world's coral reefs; and
- Encourages further research and development efforts to preserve coral reefs around the world.

BACKGROUND

The International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) was announced at the First Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity in December 1994 as outlined in the U.N. Charter. The ICRI is a partnership among governments, international organizations, and non-government organizations. The goal of the initiative is to preserve coral reefs and related ecosystems by implementing relevant international conventions and agreements.

According to the State Department, the U.S. government spends approximately \$20 million annually on programs that support improved management and protection of international coral reefs through bilateral assistance to over 25 countries. In addition, approximately \$2 million goes directly to ICRI or to ICRI-initiated coral programs such as the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network and local workshops on reef protection and management.

The ICRI has designated 2008 as the International Year of the Reef.

For more information please visit the ICRI's website on the International Year of the Reef at:

<http://www.iyor.org/>

STAFF CONTACT

For questions or further information contact Luke Hatzis at (202) 226-2302.



LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

HOUSE REPUBLICAN CONFERENCE | CHAIRMAN ADAM PUTNAM

1420 LONGWORTH HOB, WASHINGTON, DC 20515

www.GOP.gov

PHONE 202.225.5107

FAX 202.226.0154