

Opening Statement
Subcommittee on Energy & Environment Ranking Member Bob Inglis (R-SC)
MARKUP

H.R. 4174, Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring
H.R. 5618, National Sea Grant College Program Amendments Act
H.R. XXXX, Heavy Duty Plug-In Hybrid Vehicles Research Program

June 18, 2008

Thank you for holding this markup, Mr. Chairman.

Today we'll consider three bills before this Subcommittee. H.R. 4174, the Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring Act, would organize and coordinate federal agency efforts to address ocean acidification into a comprehensive research, monitoring and assessment program. Two weeks ago, this subcommittee held a hearing in which we received several recommended changes from the expert panel of witnesses. Rep. Baird and I will introduce an amendment that acts upon these recommendations. As we move forward to Full Committee, I hope that we can further improve the international components of this bill and encourage our scientists to work with their colleagues overseas.

Secondly, we'll consider H.R. 5618, the National Sea Grant College Program Amendments Act. Since its inception in 1966, the National Sea Grant program has been a successful collaborative effort of the federal government, state governments, and universities. Under the program, these groups work together to understand, develop, and conserve our coastal and ocean resources. As we markup H.R. 5618, our goal should be a reauthorization that equips the Sea Grant Program to continue providing sound science and management products that benefit our coastal regions and conserve our coastal resources.

Finally, we will consider draft legislation introduced by Mr. Sensenbrenner that would steer federal dollars toward research, development, and demonstration in the area of commercial truck hybrid technologies.

Thank you again, Mr. Chairman, and I look forward to working with you to advance this legislation.