SEC. 1002. REPEAL OF REQUIREMENT THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THE OCEAN RESEARCH ADVISORY PANEL.

Section 7903 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking subsection (c).

[Please note: The Changes to Existing Law section below sets out in "red line" format how the legislative text above would amend existing law]

Section-by-Section Analysis

In support of the Secretary of Defense's Efficiency Initiatives, the Department of Defense is recommending a realignment of agency responsibility for supporting the Ocean Research Advisory Panel (ORAP) by transferring responsibility for administration of that Panel from the Department of the Navy to another agency. The Administration believes that this change is consistent with the function of this advisory board and that the support responsibilities of ORAP are more appropriately aligned outside of the Department of the Navy.

This change would not affect or diminish the statutory authorities of the National Ocean Research Leadership Council (NORLC) or the National Oceanographic Partnership Program (NOPP), or their respective relationships with the ORAP. The changes made by this section would allow the functions of the ORAP to be aligned more appropriately to address the full range of ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes policy issues as they relate to the expanded Administrative responsibilities directed by the President in Executive Order 13547, "Stewardship of the Ocean, Our Coasts, and the Great Lakes."

Budgetary Implications: Transferring the functions of these committees to other organizations or other advisory boards would result in the following potential savings.

RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS ($MILLIONS)									
	FY 2016	**FY 2017**	**FY 2018**	**FY 2019**	**FY 2020**	**Appropriations From**	**Budget Activity**	**Dash-1 Line Item**	**Program Element**
Ocean Research	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2	Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Navy	02	10	0602435N
Ocean Research Efficiency	-.2	-.2	-.2	-.2	.2	Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Navy	02	10	0602435N
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	--	--	--	--

Changes to Existing Law: The proposal would make the following change to existing law:

TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE

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CHAPTER 665—NATIONAL OCEANOGRAPHIC PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

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§ 7903. Ocean Research Advisory Panel

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Council shall establish an Ocean Research Advisory Panel consisting of not less than 10 and not more than 18 members appointed by the chairman, including the following:

(1) One member who will represent the National Academy of Sciences.
(2) One member who will represent the National Academy of Engineering.
(3) One member who will represent the Institute of Medicine.
(4) Members selected from among individuals who will represent the views of ocean industries, State governments, academia, and such other views as the Council considers appropriate.
(5) Members selected from among individuals eminent in the fields of marine science or marine policy, or related fields.

(b) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Council shall assign the following responsibilities to the Advisory Panel:

(1) To advise the Council on policies and procedures to implement the National Oceanographic Partnership Program.
(2) To advise the Council on selection of partnership projects and allocation of funds for partnership projects for implementation under the program.
(3) To advise the Council on matters relating to national oceanographic data requirements.
(4) Any additional responsibilities that the Council considers appropriate.

~~(c) FUNDING.—The Secretary of the Navy annually shall make funds available to support the activities of the Advisory Panel.~~