

## A Bill to Ban Deep Sea Mining

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The practice of deep-sea mining is hereby prohibited within the United States (US)  
3 Territorial Waters and within the United States Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

4 **SECTION 2.** A. "Mining" shall be defined as any activity aimed at recovering mineral resources at a  
5 substantial rate for the purpose of commercially utilizing such resources to earn a profit,  
6 whether such profit is ultimately realized.

7 B. "Deep Sea" shall be defined as the seabed and subsoil at a depth of ten meters or  
8 greater, within the US Territorial Waters or the EEZ.).

9 **SECTION 3.** The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the US Coast Guard, and  
10 the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) shall be responsible for the enforcement  
11 of this Act.

12 A. Upon the first violation of this bill by an organization engaged in deep sea mining, a  
13 fine of ten million dollars shall be imposed, in addition to any costs required for  
14 environmental recovery.

15 B. Upon the second violation of this bill by the same organization, their license to operate  
16 within the United States shall be suspended, and their assets shall be seized for the  
17 purpose of funding environmental recovery efforts.

18 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect 30 days after passage. All laws in conflict with this legislation  
19 are hereby declared null and void.