

CONTACT:

Laura Cantral, 202-354-6444

Bipartisan Joint Ocean Commission Initiative Announces New Members

*Influential Ocean Leaders Join Effort to Catalyze Change in the
Way We Manage the Nation's Oceans and Coasts*

February 14, 2014 (Washington, DC) – The Joint Ocean Commission Initiative is pleased to announce the addition of five new members to its distinguished Leadership Council. The Joint Initiative Leadership Council is co-chaired by the Honorable William Ruckelshaus and the Honorable Norman Mineta, with current members including former government officials, ocean industry leaders, and representatives from ocean-focused scientific organizations and environmental nongovernmental organizations.

The ocean leaders who have joined the highly-respected, bipartisan Leadership Council include:

- Frances Beinecke – President, Natural Resources Defense Council
- Dr. Margaret Leinen – Director, Scripps Institution of Oceanography and Vice Chancellor for Marine Sciences, University of California, San Diego
- Christopher Lischewski – President and Chief Executive Officer, Bumble Bee Foods, LLC
- The Honorable Leon Panetta – Co-founder, Panetta Institute for Public Policy; Chair, Pew Oceans Commission
- Randy Repass – Founder and Chairman of the Board of Directors, West Marine, Inc.

The Joint Initiative was created in 2005 as a collaborative effort between the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy and the Pew Oceans Commission. Since its formation, the Joint Initiative has sustained a broad-based, bipartisan effort to catalyze meaningful ocean policy reform and action at the national, regional, and state levels. These reforms are grounded in the recommendations embodied in the two commissions' reports, with the Joint Initiative regularly updating the recommendations for continued relevance in the face of changing challenges and political circumstances.

The Joint Initiative looks forward to working closely with national, regional, and state leaders as well as with the private sector to advance positive and lasting changes in the way we manage our nation's oceans and coasts.

For more information on the Joint Initiative Leadership Council, please visit www.jointoceancommission.org and follow us on Twitter @JointOceanCI.