

Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, H.R. 1987, With an Amendment

(The amendment strikes all after the enacting clause and inserts a new text)

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1987

To authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal years 2016 and 2017, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 23, 2015

Mr. HUNTER (for himself, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. SHUSTER, and Mr. DEFAZIO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal years 2016 and 2017, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Coast Guard Author-
5 ization Act of 2015”.

6 **SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

7 The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.

Sec. 2. Table of contents.

TITLE I—AUTHORIZATIONS

Sec. 101. Authorizations.

Sec. 102. Conforming amendments.

TITLE II—COAST GUARD

Sec. 201. Vice Commandant.

Sec. 202. Vice admirals.

Sec. 203. Coast Guard remission of indebtedness.

Sec. 204. Acquisition reform.

Sec. 205. Auxiliary jurisdiction.

Sec. 206. Long-term major acquisitions plan.

Sec. 207. Coast Guard communities.

Sec. 208. “Polar Sea” materiel condition assessment and service life extension decision.

Sec. 209. Repeal.

Sec. 210. Technical corrections to title 14.

Sec. 211. Digital boat profile pilot program.

Sec. 212. Discontinuance of an aid to navigation.

Sec. 213. Mission performance measures.

Sec. 214. Communications.

Sec. 215. Coast Guard graduate maritime operations education.

TITLE III—SHIPPING AND NAVIGATION

Sec. 301. Treatment of fishing permits.

Sec. 302. Survival craft.

Sec. 303. Enforcement.

Sec. 304. Model years for recreational vessels.

Sec. 305. Merchant mariner credential expiration harmonization.

Sec. 306. Marine event safety zones.

Sec. 307. Technical corrections.

Sec. 308. Recommendations for improvements of marine casualty reporting.

Sec. 309. Recreational vessel engine weights.

Sec. 310. Merchant mariner medical certification reform.

Sec. 311. Atlantic Coast port access route study.

Sec. 312. Certificates of documentation for recreational vessels.

Sec. 313. Program guidelines.

Sec. 314. Repeals.

TITLE IV—FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

Sec. 401. Authorization of appropriations.

Sec. 402. Duties of the Chairman.

Sec. 403. Prohibition on awards.

TITLE V—MISCELLANEOUS

Sec. 501. Conveyance of Coast Guard property in Marin County, California.

Sec. 502. Elimination of reports.

Sec. 503. Vessel documentation.

Sec. 504. Conveyance of Coast Guard property in Tok, Alaska.

Sec. 505. Safe vessel operation in the Great Lakes.

Sec. 506. Use of vessel sale proceeds.

Sec. 507. Fishing vessel and fish tender vessel certification.

Sec. 508. National Academy of Sciences cost comparison.

Sec. 509. Penalty wages.

Sec. 510. Recourse for noncitizens.

1 **TITLE I—AUTHORIZATIONS**

2 **SEC. 101. AUTHORIZATIONS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title 14, United States Code, is
4 amended by adding at the end the following:

5 **“PART III—COAST GUARD AUTHORIZATIONS AND**
6 **REPORTS TO CONGRESS**

“Chap.	Sec.
“27. Authorizations	2701
“29. Reports	2901.

7 **“CHAPTER 27—AUTHORIZATIONS**

“Sec.

“2702. Authorization of appropriations.

“2704. Authorized levels of military strength and training.

8 **“§ 2702. Authorization of appropriations**

9 “Funds are authorized to be appropriated for each
10 of fiscal years 2016 and 2017 for necessary expenses of
11 the Coast Guard as follows:

12 “(1) For the operation and maintenance of the
13 Coast Guard, not otherwise provided for—

14 “(A) \$6,981,036,000 for fiscal year 2016;

15 and

16 “(B) \$6,981,036,000 for fiscal year 2017.

17 “(2) For the acquisition, construction, renova-
18 tion, and improvement of aids to navigation, shore
19 facilities, vessels, and aircraft, including equipment

1 related thereto, and for maintenance, rehabilitation,
2 lease, and operation of facilities and equipment—

3 “(A) \$1,546,448,000 for fiscal year 2016;

4 and

5 “(B) \$1,546,448,000 for fiscal year 2017.

6 “(3) For the Coast Guard Reserve program, in-
7 cluding operations and maintenance of the program,
8 personnel and training costs, equipment, and serv-
9 ices—

10 “(A) \$140,016,000 for fiscal year 2016;

11 and

12 “(B) \$140,016,000 for fiscal year 2017.

13 “(4) For the environmental compliance and res-
14 toration functions of the Coast Guard under chapter
15 19 of this title—

16 “(A) \$16,701,000 for fiscal year 2016; and

17 “(B) \$16,701,000 for fiscal year 2017.

18 “(5) To the Commandant of the Coast Guard
19 for research, development, test, and evaluation of
20 technologies, materials, and human factors directly
21 related to improving the performance of the Coast
22 Guard’s mission with respect to search and rescue,
23 aids to navigation, marine safety, marine environ-
24 mental protection, enforcement of laws and treaties,
25 ice operations, oceanographic research, and defense

1 readiness, and for maintenance, rehabilitation, lease,
2 and operation of facilities and equipment—

3 “(A) \$19,890,000 for fiscal year 2016; and

4 “(B) \$19,890,000 for fiscal year 2017.

5 **“§ 2704. Authorized levels of military strength and**
6 **training**

7 “(a) ACTIVE DUTY STRENGTH.—The Coast Guard is
8 authorized an end-of-year strength for active duty per-
9 sonnel of 43,000 for each of fiscal years 2016 and 2017.

10 “(b) MILITARY TRAINING STUDENT LOADS.—The
11 Coast Guard is authorized average military training stu-
12 dent loads for each of fiscal years 2016 and 2017 as fol-
13 lows:

14 “(1) For recruit and special training, 2,500
15 student years.

16 “(2) For flight training, 165 student years.

17 “(3) For professional training in military and
18 civilian institutions, 350 student years.

19 “(4) For officer acquisition, 1,200 student
20 years.

21 **“CHAPTER 29—REPORTS**

“Sec.

“2904. Manpower requirements plan.

22 **“§ 2904. Manpower requirements plan**

23 “(a) IN GENERAL.—On the date on which the Presi-
24 dent submits to Congress a budget for fiscal year 2017

1 under section 1105 of title 31, on the date on which the
2 President submits to Congress a budget for fiscal year
3 2019 under such section, and every 4 years thereafter, the
4 Commandant shall submit to the Committee on Transpor-
5 tation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives
6 and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transpor-
7 tation of the Senate a manpower requirements plan.

8 “(b) SCOPE.—A manpower requirements plan sub-
9 mitted under subsection (a) shall include for each mission
10 of the Coast Guard—

11 “(1) an assessment of all projected mission re-
12 quirements for the upcoming fiscal year and for each
13 of the 3 fiscal years thereafter;

14 “(2) the number of active duty, reserve, and ci-
15 vilian personnel assigned or available to fulfill such
16 mission requirements—

17 “(A) currently; and

18 “(B) as projected for the upcoming fiscal
19 year and each of the 3 fiscal years thereafter;

20 “(3) the number of active duty, reserve, and ci-
21 vilian personnel required to fulfill such mission re-
22 quirements—

23 “(A) currently; and

24 “(B) as projected for the upcoming fiscal
25 year and each of the 3 fiscal years thereafter;

1 “(4) an identification of any capability gaps be-
2 tween mission requirements and mission perform-
3 ance caused by deficiencies in the numbers of per-
4 sonnel available—

5 “(A) currently; and

6 “(B) as projected for the upcoming fiscal
7 year and each of the 3 fiscal years thereafter;
8 and

9 “(5) an identification of the actions the Com-
10 mandant will take to address capability gaps identi-
11 fied under paragraph (4).

12 “(c) CONSIDERATION.—In composing a manpower
13 requirements plan for submission under subsection (a),
14 the Commandant shall consider—

15 “(1) the marine safety strategy required under
16 section 2116 of title 46;

17 “(2) information on the adequacy of the acqui-
18 sition workforce included in the most recent report
19 under section 2903 of this title; and

20 “(3) any other Federal strategic planning effort
21 the Commandant considers appropriate.”.

22 (b) REQUIREMENT FOR PRIOR AUTHORIZATION OF
23 APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 662 of title 14, United States
24 Code, is amended—

1 (1) by redesignating such section as section
2 2701;

3 (2) by transferring such section to appear be-
4 fore section 2702 of such title (as added by sub-
5 section (a) of this section); and

6 (3) by striking paragraphs (1) through (5) and
7 inserting the following:

8 “(1) For the operation and maintenance of the
9 Coast Guard, not otherwise provided for.

10 “(2) For the acquisition, construction, renova-
11 tion, and improvement of aids to navigation, shore
12 facilities, vessels, and aircraft, including equipment
13 related thereto, and for maintenance, rehabilitation,
14 lease, and operation of facilities and equipment.

15 “(3) For the Coast Guard Reserve program, in-
16 cluding operations and maintenance of the program,
17 personnel and training costs, equipment, and serv-
18 ices.

19 “(4) For the environmental compliance and res-
20 toration functions of the Coast Guard under chapter
21 19 of this title.

22 “(5) For research, development, test, and eval-
23 uation of technologies, materials, and human factors
24 directly related to improving the performance of the
25 Coast Guard.

1 “(6) For alteration or removal of bridges over
2 navigable waters of the United States constituting
3 obstructions to navigation, and for personnel and
4 administrative costs associated with the Alteration of
5 Bridges Program.”.

6 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF PERSONNEL END
7 STRENGTHS.—Section 661 of title 14, United States
8 Code, is amended—

9 (1) by redesignating such section as section
10 2703; and

11 (2) by transferring such section to appear be-
12 fore section 2704 of such title (as added by sub-
13 section (a) of this section).

14 (d) REPORTS.—

15 (1) TRANSMISSION OF ANNUAL COAST GUARD
16 AUTHORIZATION REQUEST.—Section 662a of title
17 14, United States Code, is amended—

18 (A) by redesignating such section as sec-
19 tion 2901;

20 (B) by transferring such section to appear
21 before section 2904 of such title (as added by
22 subsection (a) of this section); and

23 (C) in subsection (b)—

1 (i) in paragraph (1) by striking “de-
2 scribed in section 661” and inserting “de-
3 scribed in section 2703”; and

4 (ii) in paragraph (2) by striking “de-
5 scribed in section 662” and inserting “de-
6 scribed in section 2701”.

7 (2) CAPITAL INVESTMENT PLAN.—Section 663
8 of title 14, United States Code, is amended—

9 (A) by redesignating such section as sec-
10 tion 2902; and

11 (B) by transferring such section to appear
12 after section 2901 of such title (as so redesign-
13 ated and transferred by paragraph (1) of this
14 subsection).

15 (3) MAJOR ACQUISITIONS.—Section 569a of
16 title 14, United States Code, is amended—

17 (A) by redesignating such section as sec-
18 tion 2903;

19 (B) by transferring such section to appear
20 after section 2902 of such title (as so redesign-
21 ated and transferred by paragraph (2) of this
22 subsection); and

23 (C) in subsection (c)(2) by striking “of this
24 subchapter”.

1 (e) ICEBREAKING ON THE GREAT LAKES.—For fiscal
2 years 2016 and 2017, the Commandant of the Coast
3 Guard may use funds made available pursuant to section
4 2702(2) of title 14, United States Code (as added by sub-
5 section (a) of this section) for the selection of a design
6 for and the construction of an icebreaker that is capable
7 of buoy tending to enhance icebreaking capacity on the
8 Great Lakes.

9 (f) ADDITIONAL SUBMISSIONS.—The Commandant
10 of the Coast Guard shall submit to the Committee on
11 Homeland Security of the House of Representatives—

12 (1) each plan required under section 2904 of
13 title 14, United States Code, as added by subsection
14 (a) of this section;

15 (2) each plan required under section 2903(e) of
16 title 14, United States Code, as added by section
17 206 of this Act;

18 (3) each plan required under section 2902 of
19 title 14, United States Code, as redesignated by sub-
20 section (d) of this section; and

21 (4) each mission need statement required under
22 section 569 of title 14, United States Code.

1 **SEC. 102. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

2 (a) ANALYSIS FOR TITLE 14.—The analysis for title
3 14, United States Code, is amended by adding after the
4 item relating to part II the following:

**“III. Coast Guard Authorizations and Reports to Con-
gress 2701”.**

5 (b) ANALYSIS FOR CHAPTER 15.—The analysis for
6 chapter 15 of title 14, United States Code, is amended
7 by striking the item relating to section 569a.

8 (c) ANALYSIS FOR CHAPTER 17.—The analysis for
9 chapter 17 of title 14, United States Code, is amended
10 by striking the items relating to sections 661, 662, 662a,
11 and 663.

12 (d) ANALYSIS FOR CHAPTER 27.—The analysis for
13 chapter 27 of title 14, United States Code, as added by
14 section 101(a) of this Act, is amended by inserting—

15 (1) before the item relating to section 2702 the
16 following:

“2701. Requirement for prior authorization of appropriations.”;

17 and

18 (2) before the item relating to section 2704 the
19 following:

“2703. Authorization of personnel end strengths.”.

20 (e) ANALYSIS FOR CHAPTER 29.—The analysis for
21 chapter 29 of title 14, United States Code, as added by
22 section 101(a) of this Act, is amended by inserting before
23 the item relating to section 2904 the following:

“2901. Transmission of annual Coast Guard authorization request.

“2902. Capital investment plan.

“2903. Major acquisitions.”.

1 (f) MISSION NEED STATEMENT.—Section 569(b) of
2 title 14, United States Code, is amended—

3 (1) in paragraph (2) by striking “in section
4 569a(e)” and inserting “in section 2903”; and

5 (2) in paragraph (3) by striking “under section
6 663(a)(1)” and inserting “under section
7 2902(a)(1)”.

8 **TITLE II—COAST GUARD**

9 **SEC. 201. VICE COMMANDANT.**

10 (a) GRADES AND RATINGS.—Section 41 of title 14,
11 United States Code, is amended by striking “an admiral,”
12 and inserting “admirals (two);”.

13 (b) VICE COMMANDANT; APPOINTMENT.—Section 47
14 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking
15 “vice admiral” and inserting “admiral”.

16 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 51 of title
17 14, United States Code, is amended—

18 (1) in subsection (a) by inserting “admiral or”
19 before “vice admiral,”;

20 (2) in subsection (b) by inserting “admiral or”
21 before “vice admiral,” each place it appears; and

22 (3) in subsection (c) by inserting “admiral or”
23 before “vice admiral,”.

1 (d) APPLICATION.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
2 sion of law, the officer who, on the date of the enactment
3 of this Act, is serving as Vice Commandant of the Coast
4 Guard—

5 (1) shall have the grade of admiral, with the
6 pay and allowances of that grade; and

7 (2) shall not be required to be reappointed by
8 reason of the enactment of this Act, including the
9 amendments made by this Act.

10 **SEC. 202. VICE ADMIRALS.**

11 Section 50 of title 14, United States Code, is amend-
12 ed—

13 (1) in subsection (a)—

14 (A) by striking paragraph (1) and insert-
15 ing the following:

16 “(1) The President may—

17 “(A) designate, within the Coast Guard, no
18 more than 5 positions of importance and responsi-
19 bility that shall be held by officers who, while so
20 serving, shall have the grade of vice admiral, with
21 the pay and allowances of that grade, and shall per-
22 form such duties as the Commandant may prescribe
23 (if the President designates 5 such positions, 1 posi-
24 tion shall be a Chief of Staff); and

1 “(B) designate, within the executive branch,
2 other than within the Coast Guard or the National
3 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, positions
4 of importance and responsibility that shall be held
5 by officers who, while so serving, shall have the
6 grade of vice admiral, with the pay and allowances
7 of that grade.”; and

8 (B) in paragraph (3)(A) by striking
9 “under paragraph (1)” and inserting “under
10 paragraph (1)(A)”; and

11 (2) in subsection (b)(2)—

12 (A) in subparagraph (B) by striking “and”
13 at the end;

14 (B) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as
15 subparagraph (D); and

16 (C) by inserting after subparagraph (B)
17 the following:

18 “(C) at the discretion of the Secretary, while
19 awaiting orders after being relieved from the posi-
20 tion, beginning on the day the officer is relieved
21 from the position, but not for more than 60 days;
22 and”.

23 **SEC. 203. COAST GUARD REMISSION OF INDEBTEDNESS.**

24 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 461 of title 14, United
25 States Code, is amended to read as follows:

1 **“§ 461. Remission of indebtedness**

2 “The Secretary may have remitted or cancelled any
3 part of a person’s indebtedness to the United States or
4 any instrumentality of the United States if—

5 “(1) the indebtedness was incurred while the
6 person served on active duty as a member of the
7 Coast Guard; and

8 “(2) the Secretary determines that remitting or
9 cancelling the indebtedness is in the best interest of
10 the United States.”.

11 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
12 ter 13 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by
13 striking the item relating to section 461 and inserting the
14 following:

“461. Remission of indebtedness.”.

15 **SEC. 204. ACQUISITION REFORM.**

16 (a) MINIMUM PERFORMANCE STANDARDS.—Section
17 572(d)(3) of title 14, United States Code, is amended—

18 (1) by redesignating subparagraphs (C) through
19 (H) as subparagraphs (E) through (J), respectively;

20 (2) by redesignating subparagraph (B) as sub-
21 paragraph (C);

22 (3) by inserting after subparagraph (A) the fol-
23 lowing:

1 “(B) the performance data to be used to
2 determine whether the key performance param-
3 eters have been resolved;” and

4 (4) by inserting after subparagraph (C), as re-
5 designated by paragraph (2) of this subsection, the
6 following:

7 “(D) the results during test and evaluation
8 that will be required to demonstrate that a ca-
9 pability, asset, or subsystem meets performance
10 requirements;”.

11 (b) CAPITAL INVESTMENT PLAN.—Section
12 2902(a)(1) of title 14, United States Code, as redesign-
13 nated and otherwise amended by this Act, is further
14 amended—

15 (1) in subparagraph (B) by striking “comple-
16 tion;” and inserting “completion based on the pro-
17 posed appropriations included in the budget;” and

18 (2) in subparagraph (D) by striking “at the
19 projected funding levels;” and inserting “based on
20 the proposed appropriations included in the budg-
21 et;”.

22 (c) DAYS AWAY FROM HOMEPORT.—Not later than
23 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
24 Commandant of the Coast Guard shall—

1 (1) implement a standard for tracking oper-
2 ational days at sea for Coast Guard cutters that
3 does not include days during which such cutters are
4 undergoing maintenance or repair; and

5 (2) notify the Committee on Transportation
6 and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives
7 and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and
8 Transportation of the Senate of the standard imple-
9 mented under paragraph (1).

10 (d) **FIXED WING AIRCRAFT FLEET MIX ANALYSIS.**—

11 Not later than September 30, 2015, the Commandant of
12 the Coast Guard shall submit to the Committee on Trans-
13 portation and Infrastructure of the House of Representa-
14 tives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and
15 Transportation of the Senate a revised fleet mix analysis
16 of Coast Guard fixed wing aircraft.

17 **SEC. 205. AUXILIARY JURISDICTION.**

18 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 822 of title 14, United
19 States Code, is amended—

20 (1) by striking “The purpose” and inserting the
21 following:

22 “(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The purpose”; and

23 (2) by adding at the end the following:

24 “(b) **LIMITATION.**—The Auxiliary may conduct a pa-
25 trol of a waterway, or a portion thereof, only if—

1 “(1) the Commandant has determined such wa-
2 terway, or portion thereof, is navigable for purposes
3 of the jurisdiction of the Coast Guard; or

4 “(2) a State or other proper authority has re-
5 quested such patrol pursuant to section 141 of this
6 title or section 13109 of title 46.”.

7 (b) NOTIFICATION.—The Commandant of the Coast
8 Guard shall—

9 (1) review the waterways patrolled by the Coast
10 Guard Auxiliary in the most recently completed fis-
11 cal year to determine whether such waterways are
12 eligible or ineligible for patrol under section 822(b)
13 of title 14, United States Code (as added by sub-
14 section (a)); and

15 (2) not later than 180 days after the date of
16 the enactment of this Act, provide to the Committee
17 on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House
18 of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce,
19 Science, and Transportation of the Senate a written
20 notification of—

21 (A) any waterways determined ineligible
22 for patrol under paragraph (1); and

23 (B) the actions taken by the Commandant
24 to ensure Auxiliary patrols do not occur on such
25 waterways.

1 **SEC. 206. LONG-TERM MAJOR ACQUISITIONS PLAN.**

2 Section 2903 of title 14, United States Code, as re-
3 designated and otherwise amended by this Act, is further
4 amended—

5 (1) by redesignating subsection (e) as sub-
6 section (f); and

7 (2) by inserting after subsection (d) the fol-
8 lowing:

9 “(e) LONG-TERM MAJOR ACQUISITIONS PLAN.—
10 Each report under subsection (a) shall include a plan that
11 describes for the upcoming fiscal year, and for each of the
12 20 fiscal years thereafter—

13 “(1) the numbers and types of cutters and air-
14 craft to be decommissioned;

15 “(2) the numbers and types of cutters and air-
16 craft to be acquired to—

17 “(A) replace the cutters and aircraft iden-
18 tified under paragraph (1); or

19 “(B) address an identified capability gap;
20 and

21 “(3) the estimated level of funding in each fis-
22 cal year required to—

23 “(A) acquire the cutters and aircraft iden-
24 tified under paragraph (2);

1 “(B) acquire related command, control,
2 communications, computer, intelligence, surveil-
3 lance, and reconnaissance systems; and

4 “(C) acquire, construct, or renovate shore-
5 side infrastructure.”.

6 **SEC. 207. COAST GUARD COMMUNITIES.**

7 Section 409 of the Coast Guard Authorization Act
8 of 1998 (14 U.S.C. 639 note) is amended by striking the
9 second sentence and inserting the following: “The Com-
10 mandant may recognize any other community in a similar
11 manner if the Commandant determines that such commu-
12 nity has demonstrated enduring support of the Coast
13 Guard, Coast Guard personnel, and the dependents of
14 Coast Guard personnel.”.

15 **SEC. 208. “POLAR SEA” MATERIEL CONDITION ASSESSMENT**
16 **AND SERVICE LIFE EXTENSION DECISION.**

17 Section 222 of the Coast Guard and Maritime Trans-
18 portation Act of 2012 (Public Law 112–213; 126 Stat.
19 1560) is amended—

20 (1) by amending subsection (a) to read as fol-
21 lows:

22 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 270 days after
23 the date of the enactment of the Coast Guard Authoriza-
24 tion Act of 2015, the Secretary of the department in which
25 the Coast Guard is operating shall—

1 “(1) complete a materiel condition assessment
2 with respect to the Polar Sea;

3 “(2) make a determination of whether it is cost
4 effective to reactivate the Polar Sea compared with
5 other options to provide icebreaking services as part
6 of a strategy to maintain polar icebreaking services;
7 and

8 “(3) submit to the Committee on Transpor-
9 tation and Infrastructure of the House of Represent-
10 atives and the Committee on Commerce, Science,
11 and Transportation of the Senate—

12 “(A) the assessment required under para-
13 graph (1); and

14 “(B) written notification of the determina-
15 tion required under paragraph (2).”;

16 (2) in subsection (b) by striking “analysis” and
17 inserting “written notification”;

18 (3) by striking subsection (c);

19 (4) by redesignating subsections (d) through (h)
20 as subsections (c) through (g), respectively;

21 (5) in subsection (c) (as redesignated by para-
22 graph (4) of this section)—

23 (A) in paragraph (1)—

24 (i) in subparagraph (A) by striking
25 “based on the analysis required”; and

1 (ii) in subparagraph (C) by striking
2 “analysis” and inserting “written notifica-
3 tion”;

4 (B) by amending paragraph (2) to read as
5 follows:

6 “(2) DECOMMISSIONING.—If the Secretary
7 makes a determination under subsection (a) that it
8 is not cost effective to reactivate the Polar Sea,
9 then, not later than 180 days after written notifica-
10 tion of that determination is submitted under that
11 subsection, the Commandant of the Coast Guard
12 may decommission the Polar Sea.”; and

13 (C) by amending paragraph (3) to read as
14 follows:

15 “(3) RESULT OF NO DETERMINATION.—If the
16 Secretary does not make a determination under sub-
17 section (a) regarding whether it is cost effective to
18 reactivate the Polar Sea, then the Commandant of
19 the Coast Guard may decommission the Polar Sea.”;

20 (6) in subsection (d)(1) (as redesignated by
21 paragraph (4) of this section) by striking “analysis”
22 and inserting “written notification”; and

23 (7) in subsection (e) (as redesignated by para-
24 graph (4) of this section) by striking “in subsection
25 (d)” and inserting “in subsection (c)”.

1 **SEC. 209. REPEAL.**

2 Section 225(b)(2) of the Howard Coble Coast Guard
3 and Maritime Transportation Act of 2014 (Public Law
4 113–281; 128 Stat. 3039) is repealed.

5 **SEC. 210. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS TO TITLE 14.**

6 Title 14, United States Code, as amended by this Act,
7 is further amended—

8 (1) in the analysis for part I by striking the
9 item relating to chapter 19 and inserting the fol-
10 lowing:

**“19. Environmental Compliance and Restoration Pro-
gram 690”;**

11 (2) in section 46(a) by striking “subsection”
12 and inserting “section”;

13 (3) in section 47 in the section heading by
14 striking “**commandant**” and inserting “**Com-**
15 **mandant**”;

16 (4) in section 93(f) by striking paragraph (2)
17 and inserting the following:

18 “(2) **LIMITATION.**—The Commandant may
19 lease submerged lands and tidelands under para-
20 graph (1) only if—

21 “(A) the lease is for cash exclusively;

22 “(B) the lease amount is equal to the fair
23 market value of the use of the leased sub-
24 merged lands or tidelands for the period during

1 which such lands are leased, as determined by
2 the Commandant;

3 “(C) the lease does not provide authority
4 to or commit the Coast Guard to use or support
5 any improvements to such submerged lands and
6 tidelands, or obtain goods and services from the
7 lessee; and

8 “(D) proceeds from the lease are deposited
9 in the Coast Guard Housing Fund established
10 under section 687.”;

11 (5) in the analysis for chapter 9 by striking the
12 item relating to section 199 and inserting the fol-
13 lowing:

“199. Marine safety curriculum.”;

14 (6) in section 427(b)(2) by striking “this chap-
15 ter” and inserting “chapter 61 of title 10”;

16 (7) in the analysis for chapter 15 before the
17 item relating to section 571 by striking the fol-
18 lowing:

“Sec.”;

19 (8) in section 573(c)(3)(A) by inserting “and
20 shall maintain such cutter in class” before the pe-
21 riod at the end;

22 (9) in section 581(5)(B) by striking
23 “\$300,000,000,” and inserting “\$300,000,000,”;

1 (10) in section 637(c)(3) in the matter pre-
2 ceding subparagraph (A) by inserting “it is” before
3 “any”;

4 (11) in section 641(d)(3) by striking “Guard,
5 installation” and inserting “Guard installation”;

6 (12) in section 691(c)(3) by striking “state”
7 and inserting “State”;

8 (13) in the analysis for chapter 21—

9 (A) by striking the item relating to section
10 709 and inserting the following:

“709. Reserve student aviation pilots; Reserve aviation pilots; appointments in
commissioned grade.”;

11 and

12 (B) by striking the item relating to section
13 740 and inserting the following:

“740. Failure of selection and removal from an active status.”;

14 (14) in section 742(c) by striking “subsection”
15 and inserting “subsections”;

16 (15) in section 821(b)(1) by striking “Chapter
17 26” and inserting “Chapter 171”; and

18 (16) in section 823a(b)(1), by striking “Chap-
19 ter 26” and inserting “Chapter 171”.

20 **SEC. 211. DIGITAL BOAT PROFILE PILOT PROGRAM.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—If, during the 1-year period begin-
22 ning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
23 retary of the department in which the Coast Guard is op-

1 erating determines that there are at least 2 digital boat
2 profile technologies that are commercially available, the
3 Secretary shall establish a pilot program, in accordance
4 with this section, under which digital boat profiles are uti-
5 lized for—

6 (1) not less than 2 National Security Cutters;

7 (2) not less than 4 Fast Response Cutters; and

8 (3) not less than 4 Medium Endurance Cutters
9 (270 foot).

10 (b) TIMING.—With respect to the National Security
11 Cutters and Fast Response Cutters participating in the
12 pilot program, a digital boat profile shall be established
13 prior to the commissioning of the cutters.

14 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the estab-
15 lishment of the pilot program, and annually thereafter for
16 the succeeding 4 years, the Secretary of the department
17 in which the Coast Guard is operating shall submit to the
18 Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the
19 House of Representatives and the Committee on Com-
20 merce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report
21 describing—

22 (1) the implementation of the pilot program;
23 and

24 (2) the results of the use of digital boat profiles
25 under the pilot program with respect to—

1 (A) efficient maintenance of the cutters in-
2 volved; and

3 (B) the post-delivery warranty manage-
4 ment of equipment items, the repair and re-
5 placement of which are contractually obligated.

6 (d) DIGITAL BOAT PROFILE DEFINED.—In this sec-
7 tion, the term “digital boat profile” means a commercially
8 available off-the-shelf technology that creates an electronic
9 data source with respect to a vessel that—

10 (1) provides lifecycle management support, in-
11 cluding through the incorporation of systems manu-
12 als, schematics, and vessel documentation;

13 (2) incorporates all manufacturer recommenda-
14 tions and operator best practices;

15 (3) incorporates the use of real-time analytics
16 of deferred tasks, future tasks, readiness assess-
17 ments, and budgetary planners;

18 (4) provides advance electronic notification of
19 upcoming maintenance and inspections to multi-level
20 permission-based recipients on a daily, weekly, or
21 monthly basis;

22 (5) facilitates oversight for pre-delivery discrep-
23 ancy reporting and post-delivery warranty manage-
24 ment of equipment items, the repair and replace-
25 ment of which are contractually obligated; and

1 (6) is accessible by computing devices.

2 **SEC. 212. DISCONTINUANCE OF AN AID TO NAVIGATION.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
4 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the
5 department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall
6 establish a process for the discontinuance of an aid to
7 navigation established, maintained, or operated by the
8 Coast Guard.

9 (b) REQUIREMENT.—The process established under
10 subsection (a) shall include procedures to notify the public
11 of any discontinuance of an aid to navigation described
12 in that subsection.

13 (c) CONSULTATION.—In establishing a process under
14 subsection (a), the Secretary shall consult with and con-
15 sider any recommendations of the Navigation Safety Advi-
16 sory Council.

17 (d) NOTIFICATION.—Not later than 30 days after es-
18 tablishing a process under subsection (a), the Secretary
19 shall notify the Committee on Transportation and Infra-
20 structure of the House of Representatives and the Com-
21 mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the
22 Senate of the process established.

23 **SEC. 213. MISSION PERFORMANCE MEASURES.**

24 Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment
25 of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States

1 shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and In-
2 frastructure and the Committee on Homeland Security of
3 the House of Representatives and the Committee on Com-
4 merce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate an as-
5 sessment of the efficacy of the Coast Guard's Standard
6 Operational Planning Process with respect to annual mis-
7 sion performance measures.

8 **SEC. 214. COMMUNICATIONS.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the department
10 in which the Coast Guard is operating shall establish and
11 carry out a response capabilities pilot program to assess,
12 at not fewer than 2 Coast Guard command centers, the
13 effectiveness of a radio gateway that—

14 (1) provides for—

15 (A) multiagency collaboration and inter-
16 operability; and

17 (B) wide-area, secure, and peer-invitation-
18 and-acceptance-based multimedia communica-
19 tions;

20 (2) is certified by the Department of Defense
21 Joint Interoperability Test Center; and

22 (3) is composed of commercially available, off-
23 the-shelf technology.

24 (b) ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 1 year after the
25 date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter

1 for the succeeding 4 years, the Secretary shall submit to
2 the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of
3 the House of Representatives and the Committee on Com-
4 merce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate an as-
5 sessment of the pilot program, including the impacts of
6 the program with respect to interagency and Coast Guard
7 response capabilities.

8 **SEC. 215. COAST GUARD GRADUATE MARITIME OPER-**
9 **ATIONS EDUCATION.**

10 Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment
11 of this Act, the Secretary of the department in which the
12 Coast Guard is operating shall establish an education pro-
13 gram, for members and employees of the Coast Guard,
14 that—

15 (1) offers a master's degree in maritime oper-
16 ations;

17 (2) is relevant to the professional development
18 of such members and employees;

19 (3) provides resident and distant education op-
20 tions, including the ability to utilize both options;
21 and

22 (4) to the greatest extent practicable, is con-
23 ducted using existing academic programs at an ac-
24 credited public academic institution that—

1 (A) is located near a significant number of
2 Coast Guard, maritime, and other Department
3 of Homeland Security law enforcement per-
4 sonnel; and

5 (B) has an ability to simulate operations
6 normally conducted at a command center.

7 **TITLE III—SHIPPING AND** 8 **NAVIGATION**

9 **SEC. 301. TREATMENT OF FISHING PERMITS.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 313 of
11 title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the
12 end the following:

13 **“§ 31310. Treatment of fishing permits**

14 “(a) LIMITATION ON MARITIME LIENS.—This chap-
15 ter—

16 “(1) does not establish a maritime lien on a
17 fishing permit; and

18 “(2) does not authorize any civil action to en-
19 force a maritime lien on a fishing permit.

20 “(b) TREATMENT OF FISHING PERMITS UNDER
21 STATE AND FEDERAL LAW.—A fishing permit—

22 “(1) is governed solely by the State or Federal
23 law under which it is issued; and

1 “(2) shall not be treated as part of a vessel, or
2 as an appurtenance or intangible of a vessel, for any
3 purpose under Federal law.

4 “(c) **AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY OF COMMERCE NOT**
5 **AFFECTED.**—Nothing in this section shall be construed as
6 imposing any limitation upon the authority of the Sec-
7 retary of Commerce—

8 “(1) to modify, suspend, revoke, or impose a
9 sanction on any fishing permit issued by the Sec-
10 retary of Commerce; or

11 “(2) to bring a civil action to enforce such a
12 modification, suspension, revocation, or sanction.

13 “(d) **FISHING PERMIT DEFINED.**—In this section the
14 term ‘fishing permit’ means any authorization of a person
15 or vessel to engage in fishing that is issued under State
16 or Federal law.”.

17 (b) **CLERICAL AMENDMENT.**—The table of sections
18 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting
19 after the item relating to section 31309 the following:

“31310. Treatment of fishing permits.”.

20 **SEC. 302. SURVIVAL CRAFT.**

21 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 3104 of title 46, United
22 States Code, is amended to read as follows:

23 **“§ 3104. Survival craft**

24 “(a) **REQUIREMENT TO EQUIP.**—The Secretary shall
25 require that a passenger vessel be equipped with survival

1 craft that ensures that no part of an individual is im-
2 mersed in water, if—

3 “(1) such vessel is built or undergoes a major
4 conversion after January 1, 2016; and

5 “(2) operates in cold waters as determined by
6 the Secretary.

7 “(b) HIGHER STANDARD OF SAFETY.—The Sec-
8 retary may revise part 117 or part 180 of title 46, Code
9 of Federal Regulations, as in effect before January 1,
10 2016, if such revision provides a higher standard of safety
11 than is provided by the regulations in effect on or before
12 the date of the enactment of the Coast Guard Authoriza-
13 tion Act of 2015.

14 “(c) INNOVATIVE AND NOVEL DESIGNS.—The Sec-
15 retary may, in lieu of the requirements set out in part
16 117 or part 180 of title 46, Code of Federal Regulations,
17 as in effect on the date of the enactment of the Coast
18 Guard Authorization Act of 2015, allow a passenger vessel
19 to be equipped with a life saving appliance or arrangement
20 of an innovative or novel design that—

21 “(1) ensures no part of an individual is im-
22 mersed in water; and

23 “(2) provides an equal or higher standard of
24 safety than is provided by such requirements as in
25 effect before such date of the enactment.

1 “(d) BUILT DEFINED.—In this section, the term
2 ‘built’ has the meaning that term has under section
3 4503(e).”.

4 (b) REVIEW; REVISION OF REGULATIONS.—

5 (1) REVIEW.—Not later than December 31,
6 2015, the Secretary of the department in which the
7 Coast Guard is operating shall submit to the Com-
8 mittee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the
9 House of Representatives and the Committee on
10 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Sen-
11 ate a review of—

12 (A) the number of casualties for individ-
13 uals with disabilities, children, and the elderly
14 as a result of immersion in water, reported to
15 the Coast Guard over the preceding 30-year pe-
16 riod, by vessel type and area of operation;

17 (B) the risks to individuals with disabil-
18 ities, children, and the elderly as a result of im-
19 mersion in water, by passenger vessel type and
20 area of operation;

21 (C) the effect that carriage of survival
22 craft that ensure that no part of an individual
23 is immersed in water has on—

24 (i) passenger vessel safety, including
25 stability and safe navigation;

1 (ii) improving the survivability of indi-
2 viduals, including individuals with disabil-
3 ities, children, and the elderly; and

4 (iii) the costs, the incremental cost
5 difference to vessel operators, and the cost
6 effectiveness of requiring the carriage of
7 such survival craft to address the risks to
8 individuals with disabilities, children, and
9 the elderly;

10 (D) the efficacy of alternative safety sys-
11 tems, devices, or measures in improving surviv-
12 ability of individuals with disabilities, children,
13 and the elderly; and

14 (E) the number of small businesses and
15 nonprofit vessel operators that would be af-
16 fected by requiring the carriage of such survival
17 craft on passenger vessels to address the risks
18 to individuals with disabilities, children, and the
19 elderly.

20 (2) REVISION.—Based on the review conducted
21 under paragraph (1), the Secretary may revise regu-
22 lations concerning the carriage of survival craft pur-
23 suant to section 3104(c) of title 46, United States
24 Code.

1 **SEC. 303. ENFORCEMENT.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 55305(d) of title 46,
3 United States Code, is amended—

4 (1) by amending paragraph (1) to read as fol-
5 lows:

6 “(1) Each department or agency that has re-
7 sponsibility for a program under this section shall
8 administer that program consistent with this section
9 and any regulations promulgated pursuant to sub-
10 chapter II of chapter 5 of title 5, issued by the Sec-
11 retary of Transportation, and developed in consulta-
12 tion with each department and agency subject to
13 this section.”;

14 (2) by redesignating paragraph (2) as para-
15 graph (3), and by inserting after paragraph (1) the
16 following:

17 “(2)(A) The Secretary, after consulting with
18 the department, agency, organization, or person in-
19 volved, shall have sole responsibility for determining
20 the applicability of this section to a program of a
21 Federal department or agency, after consulting with
22 the department, agency, organization, or person in-
23 volved.

24 “(B) The head of a Federal department or
25 agency shall request the Secretary to determine the
26 applicability of this section to a program of such de-

1 department or agency if the department or agency is
2 uncertain of such applicability. Not later than 30
3 days after receiving such a request, the Secretary
4 shall make such determination.

5 “(C) Subparagraph (B) shall not be construed
6 to limit the authority of the Secretary to make a de-
7 termination regarding the applicability of this sec-
8 tion to a program administered by a Federal depart-
9 ment or agency.

10 “(D) A determination made by the Secretary
11 under this paragraph regarding a program shall re-
12 main in effect until the Secretary determines that
13 this section no longer applies to such program.”;

14 (3) in paragraph (3), as so redesignated, by
15 amending subparagraph (A) to read as follows:

16 “(A) shall conduct an annual review of the
17 administration of programs subject to the re-
18 quirements of this section to determine compli-
19 ance with the requirements of this section;”;
20 and

21 (4) by adding at the end the following:

22 “(4) On the date on which the President sub-
23 mits to Congress a budget pursuant to section 1105
24 of title 31, the Secretary shall make available on the

1 Internet website of the Department of Transpor-
2 tation a report that—

3 “(A) lists the programs that were subject
4 to determinations made by the Secretary under
5 paragraph (2) in the preceding year; and

6 “(B) describes the results of the most re-
7 cent annual review required by paragraph
8 (3)(A), including identification of the depart-
9 ments and agencies that transported cargo in
10 violation of this section and any action the Sec-
11 retary took under paragraph (3) with respect to
12 each violation.”.

13 (b) DEADLINE FOR FIRST REVIEW.—The Secretary
14 of Transportation shall complete the first review required
15 under the amendment made by subsection (a)(1)(C) by
16 not later than December 31, 2015.

17 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 3511(e) of
18 the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act
19 for Fiscal Year 2009 (46 U.S.C. 55305 note) is repealed.

20 **SEC. 304. MODEL YEARS FOR RECREATIONAL VESSELS.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4302 of title 46, United
22 States Code is amended by adding at the end the fol-
23 lowing:

24 “(e)(1) If in prescribing regulations under this sec-
25 tion the Secretary establishes a model year for recreational

1 vessels and associated equipment, such model year shall,
2 except as provided in paragraph (2)—

3 “(A) begin on June 1 of a year and end on July
4 31 of the following year; and

5 “(B) be designated by the year in which it ends.

6 “(2) Upon the request of a recreational vessel manu-
7 facturer to which this chapter applies, the Secretary may
8 alter a model year for a model of recreational vessel of
9 the manufacturer and associated equipment, by no more
10 than 6 months from the model year described in para-
11 graph (1).”.

12 (b) APPLICATION.—This section shall only apply with
13 respect to recreational vessels and associated equipment
14 constructed or manufactured, respectively, on or after
15 June 1, 2015.

16 (c) GUIDANCE.—Not later than 90 days after the
17 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the
18 department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall
19 publish guidance to implement section 4302(d)(2) of title
20 46, United States Code.

21 **SEC. 305. MERCHANT MARINER CREDENTIAL EXPIRATION**
22 **HARMONIZATION.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection
24 (c) and not later than 1 year after the date of the enact-
25 ment of this Act, the Secretary of the department in which

1 the Coast Guard is operating shall establish a process to
2 harmonize the expiration dates of merchant mariner cre-
3 dentials, mariner medical certificates, and radar observer
4 endorsements for individuals applying to the Secretary for
5 a new merchant mariner credential or for renewal of an
6 existing merchant mariner credential.

7 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall ensure
8 that the process established under subsection (a)—

9 (1) does not require an individual to renew a
10 merchant mariner credential earlier than the date on
11 which the individual's current credential expires; and

12 (2) results in harmonization of expiration dates
13 for merchant mariner credentials, mariner medical
14 certificates, and radar observer endorsements for all
15 individuals by not later than 6 years after the date
16 of the enactment of this Act.

17 (c) EXCEPTION.—The process established under sub-
18 section (a) does not apply to individuals—

19 (1) holding a merchant mariner credential
20 with—

21 (A) an active Standards of Training, Cer-
22 tification, and Watchkeeping endorsement; or

23 (B) Federal first-class pilot endorsement;

24 or

1 (2) who have been issued a time-restricted med-
2 ical certificate.

3 **SEC. 306. MARINE EVENT SAFETY ZONES.**

4 Section 6 of the Ports and Waterways Safety Act (33
5 U.S.C. 1225) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
6 lowing:

7 “(c) MARINE EVENT SAFETY ZONES.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
9 graph (2), the Secretary shall recover all costs the
10 Coast Guard incurs to enforce a safety zone under
11 this section if such safety zone is established for a
12 marine event conducted under a permit or other au-
13 thorization by the Coast Guard.

14 “(2) EXCEPTION.—The Secretary may not re-
15 cover costs under paragraph (1) from a State or
16 local government.

17 “(3) TREATMENT OF RECOVERED COSTS.—
18 Costs recovered by the Secretary under this sub-
19 section shall be credited to the appropriation for op-
20 erating expenses of the Coast Guard.

21 “(4) MARINE EVENT DEFINED.—In this section
22 the term ‘marine event’ means a planned activity of
23 limited duration that by its nature, circumstances,
24 or location, will introduce extra or unusual hazards

1 to the safety of life on the navigable waters of the
2 United States.”.

3 **SEC. 307. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.**

4 (a) TITLE 46.—Title 46, United States Code, is
5 amended—

6 (1) in section 103, by striking “(33 U.S.C.
7 151).” and inserting “(33 U.S.C. 151(b)).”;

8 (2) in section 2118—

9 (A) in subsection (a), in the matter pre-
10 ceeding paragraph (1), by striking “title,” and
11 inserting “subtitle,”; and

12 (B) in subsection (b), by striking “title”
13 and inserting “subtitle”;

14 (3) in the analysis for chapter 35—

15 (A) by adding a period at the end of the
16 item relating to section 3507; and

17 (B) by adding a period at the end of the
18 item relating to section 3508;

19 (4) in section 3715(a)(2), by striking “; and”
20 and inserting a semicolon;

21 (5) in section 8103(b)(1)(A)(iii), by striking
22 “Academy.” and inserting “Academy; and”; and

23 (6) in section 11113(e)(1)(A)(i), by striking
24 “under this Act”.

25 (b) GENERAL BRIDGE STATUTES.—

1 (1) ACT OF MARCH 3, 1899.—The Act of March
2 3, 1899, popularly known as the Rivers and Harbors
3 Appropriations Act of 1899, is amended—

4 (A) in section 9 (33 U.S.C. 401), by strik-
5 ing “Secretary of Transportation” each place it
6 appears and inserting “Secretary of the depart-
7 ment in which the Coast Guard is operating”;
8 and

9 (B) in section 18 (33 U.S.C. 502), by
10 striking “Secretary of Transportation” each
11 place it appears and inserting “Secretary of the
12 department in which the Coast Guard is oper-
13 ating”.

14 (2) ACT OF MARCH 23, 1906.—The Act of March
15 23, 1906, popularly known as the Bridge Act of
16 1906, is amended—

17 (A) in the first section (33 U.S.C. 491), by
18 striking “Secretary of Transportation” and in-
19 serting “Secretary of the department in which
20 the Coast Guard is operating”;

21 (B) in section 4 (33 U.S.C. 494), by strik-
22 ing “Secretary of Homeland Security” each
23 place it appears and inserting “Secretary of the
24 department in which the Coast Guard is oper-
25 ating”; and

1 (C) in section 5 (33 U.S.C. 495), by strik-
2 ing “Secretary of Transportation” each place it
3 appears and inserting “Secretary of the depart-
4 ment in which the Coast Guard is operating”.

5 (3) ACT OF AUGUST 18, 1894.—Section 5 of the
6 Act entitled “An Act making appropriations for the
7 construction, repair, and preservation of certain pub-
8 lic works on rivers and harbors, and for other pur-
9 poses”, approved August 18, 1894 (33 U.S.C. 499)
10 is amended by striking “Secretary of Transpor-
11 tation” each place it appears and inserting “Sec-
12 retary of the department in which the Coast Guard
13 is operating”.

14 (4) ACT OF JUNE 21, 1940.—The Act of June
15 21, 1940, popularly known as the Truman-Hobbs
16 Act, is amended—

17 (A) in the first section (33 U.S.C. 511), by
18 striking “Secretary of Transportation” and in-
19 serting “Secretary of the department in which
20 the Coast Guard is operating”;

21 (B) in section 4 (33 U.S.C. 514), by strik-
22 ing “Secretary of Transportation” and inserting
23 “Secretary of the department in which the
24 Coast Guard is operating”;

1 (C) in section 7 (33 U.S.C. 517), by strik-
2 ing “Secretary of Transportation” each place it
3 appears and inserting “Secretary of the depart-
4 ment in which the Coast Guard is operating”;
5 and

6 (D) in section 13 (33 U.S.C. 523), by
7 striking “Secretary of Transportation” and in-
8 serting “Secretary of the department in which
9 the Coast Guard is operating”.

10 (5) GENERAL BRIDGE ACT OF 1946.—The Gen-
11 eral Bridge Act of 1946 is amended—

12 (A) in section 502(b) (33 U.S.C. 525(b)),
13 by striking “Secretary of Transportation” and
14 inserting “Secretary of the department in which
15 the Coast Guard is operating”; and

16 (B) in section 510 (33 U.S.C. 533), by
17 striking “Secretary of Transportation” each
18 place it appears and inserting “Secretary of the
19 department in which the Coast Guard is oper-
20 ating”.

21 (6) INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE ACT OF 1972.—The
22 International Bridge Act of 1972 is amended—

23 (A) in section 5 (33 U.S.C. 535c), by
24 striking “Secretary of Transportation” and in-

1 serting “Secretary of the department in which
2 the Coast Guard is operating”; and

3 (B) in section 8 (33 U.S.C. 535e), by
4 striking “Secretary of Transportation” each
5 place it appears and inserting “Secretary of the
6 department in which the Coast Guard is oper-
7 ating”.

8 **SEC. 308. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENTS OF MA-**
9 **RINE CASUALTY REPORTING.**

10 Not later than 180 days after the date of the enact-
11 ment of this Act, the Commandant of the Coast Guard
12 shall notify the Committee on Transportation and Infra-
13 structure of the House of Representatives and the Com-
14 mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the
15 Senate of the actions the Commandant will take to imple-
16 ment recommendations on improvements to the Coast
17 Guard’s marine casualty reporting requirements and pro-
18 cedures included in—

19 (1) the Department of Homeland Security Of-
20 fice of Inspector General report entitled “Marine Ac-
21 cident Reporting, Investigations, and Enforcement
22 in the United States Coast Guard”, released on May
23 23, 2013; and

24 (2) the Towing Safety Advisory Committee re-
25 port entitled “Recommendations for Improvement of

1 Marine Casualty Reporting”, released on March 26,
2 2015.

3 **SEC. 309. RECREATIONAL VESSEL ENGINE WEIGHTS.**

4 Not later than 180 days after the date of the enact-
5 ment of this Act, the Secretary of the department in which
6 the Coast Guard is operating shall issue regulations
7 amending Table 4 to Subpart H of Part 183—Weights
8 (Pounds) of Outboard Motor and Related Equipment for
9 Various Boat Horsepower Ratings (33 C.F.R. 183) as ap-
10 propriate to reflect “Standard 30—Outboard Engine and
11 Related Equipment Weights” published by the American
12 Boat and Yacht Council, as in effect on the date of the
13 enactment of this Act.

14 **SEC. 310. MERCHANT MARINER MEDICAL CERTIFICATION**
15 **REFORM.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 75 of title 46, United
17 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
18 lowing:

19 **“§ 7509. Medical certification by trusted agents**

20 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other pro-
21 vision of law and pursuant to regulations prescribed by
22 the Secretary, a trusted agent may issue a medical certifi-
23 cate to an individual who—

24 “(1) must hold such certificate to qualify for a
25 license, certificate of registry, or merchant mariner’s

1 document, or endorsement thereto under this part;
2 and

3 “(2) is qualified as to sight, hearing, and phys-
4 ical condition to perform the duties of such license,
5 certificate, document, or endorsement, as determined
6 by the trusted agent.

7 “(b) TRUSTED AGENT DEFINED.—In this section the
8 term ‘trusted agent’ means a medical practitioner certified
9 by the Secretary to perform physical examinations of an
10 individual for purposes of a license, certificate of registry,
11 or merchant mariner’s document under this part.”.

12 (b) DEADLINE.—Not later than 3 years after the
13 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the
14 department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall
15 issue a final rule implementing section 7509 of title 46,
16 United States Code, as added by this section.

17 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for such
18 chapter is amended by adding at the end the following:
“7509. Medical certification by trusted agents.”.

19 **SEC. 311. ATLANTIC COAST PORT ACCESS ROUTE STUDY.**

20 Not later than April 1, 2016, the Commandant of the
21 Coast Guard shall conclude the Atlantic Coast Port Access
22 Route Study and submit the results of such study to the
23 Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the
24 House of Representatives and the Committee on Com-
25 merce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate.

1 **SEC. 312. CERTIFICATES OF DOCUMENTATION FOR REC-**
2 **REATIONAL VESSELS.**

3 Not later than 180 days after the date of the enact-
4 ment of this Act, the Secretary of the Department in
5 which the Coast Guard is operating shall issue regulations
6 that—

7 (1) make certificates of documentation for rec-
8 reational vessels effective for 5 years; and

9 (2) require the owner of such a vessel—

10 (A) to notify the Coast Guard of each
11 change in the information on which the
12 issuance of the certificate of documentation is
13 based, that occurs before the expiration of the
14 certificate; and

15 (B) apply for a new certificates of docu-
16 mentation for such a vessel if there is any such
17 change.

18 **SEC. 313. PROGRAM GUIDELINES.**

19 Not later than 180 days after the date of the enact-
20 ment this Act, the Secretary of Transportation shall—

21 (1) develop guidelines to implement the pro-
22 gram authorized under section 304(a) of the Coast
23 Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2006
24 (Public Law 109–241), including specific actions to
25 ensure the future availability of able and

1 credentialed United States licensed and unlicensed
2 seafarers including—

3 (A) incentives to encourage partnership
4 agreements with operators of foreign-flag ves-
5 sels that carry liquified natural gas, that pro-
6 vide no less than one training billet per vessel
7 for United States merchant mariners in order
8 to meet minimum mandatory sea service re-
9 quirements;

10 (B) development of appropriate training
11 curricula for use by public and private maritime
12 training institutions to meet all United States
13 merchant mariner license, certification, and
14 document laws and requirements under the
15 International Convention on Standards of
16 Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for
17 Seafarers, 1978; and

18 (C) steps to promote greater outreach and
19 awareness of additional job opportunities for
20 sea service veterans of the United States Armed
21 Forces; and

22 (2) submit such guidelines to the Committee
23 Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of
24 Representatives and the Committee on Commerce,
25 Science, and Transportation of the Senate.

1 **SEC. 314. REPEALS.**

2 (a) REPEALS, MERCHANT MARINE ACT, 1936.—Sec-
3 tions 601 through 606, 608 through 611, 613 through
4 616, 802, and 809 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936 (46
5 U.S.C. 53101 note) are repealed.

6 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Chapter 575 of
7 title 46, United States Code, is amended—

8 (1) in section 57501, by striking “titles V and
9 VI” and inserting “title V” ; and

10 (2) in section 57531(a), by striking “titles V
11 and VI” and inserting “title V”.

12 (c) TRANSFER FROM MERCHANT MARINE ACT,
13 1936.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 801 of the Merchant
15 Marine Act, 1936 (46 U.S.C. 53101 note) is—

16 (A) redesignated as section 57522 of title
17 46, United States Code, and transferred to ap-
18 pear after section 57521 of such title; and

19 (B) as so redesignated and transferred, is
20 amended—

21 (i) by striking so much as precedes
22 the first sentence and inserting the fol-
23 lowing:

1 **“§ 57522. Books and records, balance sheets, and in-**
2 **spection and auditing”;**

3 (ii) by striking “the provision of title
4 VI or VII of this Act” and inserting “this
5 chapter”;

6 (iii) by striking “That the provisions”
7 and all that follows through “Commission;
8 (2)” ; and

9 (iv) by redesignating clauses (3) and
10 (4) as clauses (2) and (3), respectively.

11 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for
12 chapter 575, of title 46, United States Code, is
13 amended by inserting after the item relating to sec-
14 tion 57521 the following:

“57522. Books and records, balance sheets, and inspection and auditing.”.

15 (d) REPEALS, TITLE 46, U.S.C.—Section 8103 of
16 title 46, United States Code, is amended in subsections
17 (c) and (d) by striking “or operating” each place it ap-
18 pears.

19 **TITLE IV—FEDERAL MARITIME** 20 **COMMISSION**

21 **SEC. 401. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 3 of title 46, United
23 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
24 lowing:

1 **“§ 308. Authorization of appropriations**

2 “There is authorized to be appropriated to the Fed-
3 eral Maritime Commission \$24,700,000 for each of fiscal
4 years 2016 and 2017 for the activities of the Commission
5 authorized under this chapter and subtitle IV.”.

6 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
7 ter 3 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by add-
8 ing at the end the following:

“308. Authorization of appropriations.”.

9 **SEC. 402. DUTIES OF THE CHAIRMAN.**

10 Section 301(c)(3)(A) of title 46, United States Code,
11 is amended—

12 (1) in clause (ii) by striking “units, but only
13 after consultation with the other Commissioners;”
14 and inserting “units (with such appointments sub-
15 ject to the approval of the Commission);”;

16 (2) in clause (iv) by striking “and” at the end;

17 (3) in clause (v) by striking the period at the
18 end and inserting “; and”; and

19 (4) by adding at the end the following:

20 “(vi) prepare and submit to the Presi-
21 dent and Congress requests for appropria-
22 tions for the Commission (with such re-
23 quests subject to the approval of the Com-
24 mission).”.

1 **SEC. 403. PROHIBITION ON AWARDS.**

2 Section 307 of title 46, United States Code, is
3 amended—

4 (1) by striking “The Federal Maritime Commis-
5 sion” and inserting the following:

6 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Federal Maritime Commis-
7 sion”; and

8 (2) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(b) PROHIBITION.—Notwithstanding subsection (a),
10 the Federal Maritime Commission may not expend any
11 funds appropriated or otherwise made available to it to
12 issue an award, prize, commendation, or other honor to
13 a non-Federal entity.”.

14 **TITLE V—MISCELLANEOUS**

15 **SEC. 501. CONVEYANCE OF COAST GUARD PROPERTY IN**
16 **MARIN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA.**

17 (a) CONVEYANCE AUTHORIZED.—The Commandant
18 of the Coast Guard may convey all right, title, and interest
19 of the United States in and to the covered property, upon
20 payment to the United States of the fair market value of
21 the covered property.

22 (b) RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL.—The County of
23 Marin, California shall have the right of first refusal with
24 respect to purchase of the covered property under this sec-
25 tion.

1 (c) SURVEY.—The exact acreage and legal descrip-
2 tion of the covered property shall be determined by a sur-
3 vey satisfactory to the Commandant.

4 (d) FAIR MARKET VALUE.—The fair market value
5 of the covered property shall—

6 (1) be determined by appraisal; and

7 (2) be subject to the approval of the Com-
8 mandant.

9 (e) COSTS OF CONVEYANCE.—The responsibility for
10 all reasonable and necessary costs, including real estate
11 transaction and environmental documentation costs, asso-
12 ciated with a conveyance under this section shall be deter-
13 mined by the Commandant and the purchaser.

14 (f) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The
15 Commandant may require such additional terms and con-
16 ditions in connection with a conveyance under this section
17 as the Commandant considers appropriate and reasonable
18 to protect the interests of the United States.

19 (g) DEPOSIT OF PROCEEDS.—Any proceeds received
20 by the United States in a conveyance under this section
21 shall be deposited in the Coast Guard Housing Fund es-
22 tablished by section 687 of title 14, United States Code.

23 (h) COVERED PROPERTY DEFINED.—In this section,
24 the term “covered property” means the approximately 32

1 acres of real property (including all improvements located
2 on the property) that are—

3 (1) located at Station Point Reyes in Marin
4 County, California;

5 (2) under the administrative control of the
6 Coast Guard; and

7 (3) described as “Parcel A, Tract 1”, “Parcel
8 B, Tract 2”, “Parcel C”, and “Parcel D” in the
9 Declaration of Taking (Civil No. C-71-1245 SC)
10 filed June 28, 1971, in the United States District
11 Court for the Northern District of California.

12 **SEC. 502. ELIMINATION OF REPORTS.**

13 (a) DISTANT WATER TUNA FLEET.—Section 421 of
14 the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of
15 2006 (46 U.S.C. 8103 note) is amended by striking sub-
16 section (d).

17 (b) ANNUAL UPDATES ON LIMITS TO LIABILITY.—
18 Section 603(c)(3) of the Coast Guard and Maritime
19 Transportation Act of 2006 (33 U.S.C. 2704 note) is
20 amended by striking “on an annual basis.” and inserting
21 “not later than January 30 of the year following each year
22 in which occurs an oil discharge from a vessel or nonvessel
23 source that results or is likely to result in removal costs
24 and damages (as those terms are defined in section 1001
25 of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2701)) that

1 exceed liability limits established under section 1004 of the
2 Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2704).”.

3 (c) INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE ACT OF 1972.—The
4 International Bridge Act of 1972 is amended by striking
5 section 11 (33 U.S.C. 535h).

6 **SEC. 503. VESSEL DOCUMENTATION.**

7 Not later than 180 days after the date of the enact-
8 ment this Act, the Comptroller General of the United
9 States shall submit to the Committee on Transportation
10 and infrastructure of the House and the Committee on
11 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, a
12 description of actions that could be taken to—

13 (1) improve the efficiency of performance of the
14 functions currently carried out by the National Ves-
15 sel Documentation Center, including by—

16 (A) transferring such functions to Coast
17 Guard headquarters; and

18 (B) reassigning Coast Guard personnel to
19 better meet the Coast Guard’s vessel docu-
20 mentation mission; and

21 (2) strengthen the review of compliance with
22 United States ownership requirements for vessels
23 documented under the laws of the United States.

1 **SEC. 504. CONVEYANCE OF COAST GUARD PROPERTY IN**
2 **TOK, ALASKA.**

3 (a) CONVEYANCE AUTHORIZED.—The Commandant
4 of the Coast Guard may convey all right, title, and interest
5 of the United States in and to the covered property, upon
6 payment to the United States of the fair market value of
7 the covered property.

8 (b) RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL.—The Tanana Chiefs'
9 Conference shall have the right of first refusal with respect
10 to purchase of the covered property under this section.

11 (c) SURVEY.—The exact acreage and legal descrip-
12 tion of the covered property shall be determined by a sur-
13 vey satisfactory to the Commandant.

14 (d) FAIR MARKET VALUE.—The fair market value
15 of the covered property shall be—

16 (1) determined by appraisal; and

17 (2) subject to the approval of the Commandant.

18 (e) COSTS OF CONVEYANCE.—The responsibility for
19 all reasonable and necessary costs, including real estate
20 transaction and environmental documentation costs, asso-
21 ciated with a conveyance under this section shall be deter-
22 mined by the Commandant and the purchaser.

23 (f) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The
24 Commandant may require such additional terms and con-
25 ditions in connection with a conveyance under this section

1 as the Commandant considers appropriate and reasonable
2 to protect the interests of the United States.

3 (g) DEPOSIT OF PROCEEDS.—Any proceeds received
4 by the United States from a conveyance under this section
5 shall be deposited in the Coast Guard Housing Fund es-
6 tablished under section 687 of title 14, United States
7 Code.

8 (h) COVERED PROPERTY DEFINED.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—In this section, the term
10 “covered property” means the approximately 3.25
11 acres of real property (including all improvements
12 located on the property) that are—

13 (A) located in Tok, Alaska;

14 (B) under the administrative control of the
15 Coast Guard; and

16 (C) described in paragraph (2).

17 (2) DESCRIPTION.—The property described in
18 this paragraph is the following:

19 (A) Lots 11, 12 and 13, block “G”, Sec-
20 ond Addition to Hartsell Subdivision, Section
21 20, Township 18 North, Range 13 East, Cop-
22 per River Meridian, Alaska as appears by Plat
23 No. 72-39 filed in the Office of the Recorder
24 for the Fairbanks Recording District of Alaska,
25 bearing seal dated 25 September 1972, all con-

1 taining approximately 1.25 Acres and com-
2 monly known as 2-PLEX – Jackie Circle, Units
3 A and B.

4 (B) Beginning at a point being the SE cor-
5 ner of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 24,
6 Township 18 North, Range 12 East, Copper
7 River Meridian, Alaska; thence running west-
8 erly along the south line of said SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the
9 NE $\frac{1}{4}$ 260 feet; thence northerly parallel to the
10 east line of said SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ 335 feet;
11 thence easterly parallel to the south line 260
12 feet; then south 335 feet along the east bound-
13 ary of Section 24 to the point of beginning; all
14 containing approximately 2.0 acres and com-
15 monly known as 4-PLEX – West “C” and Wil-
16 low, Units A, B, C and D.

17 **SEC. 505. SAFE VESSEL OPERATION IN THE GREAT LAKES.**

18 The Howard Coble Coast Guard and Maritime Trans-
19 portation Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–281) is amend-
20 ed—

21 (1) in section 610, by—

22 (A) striking the section enumerator and
23 heading and inserting the following:

1 **“SEC. 610. SAFE VESSEL OPERATION IN THE GREAT**
2 **LAKES.”;**

3 (B) striking “existing boundaries and any
4 future expanded boundaries of the Thunder
5 Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Under-
6 water Preserve” and inserting “boundaries of
7 any national marine sanctuary that preserves
8 shipwrecks or maritime heritage in the Great
9 Lakes”; and

10 (C) by inserting before the period at the
11 end the following: “, unless the designation doc-
12 uments for such sanctuary do not allow taking
13 up or discharging ballast water in such sanc-
14 tuary”; and

15 (2) in the table of contents in section 2, by
16 striking the item relating to such section and insert-
17 ing the following:

“Sec. 610. Safe vessel operation in the Great Lakes.”.

18 **SEC. 506. USE OF VESSEL SALE PROCEEDS.**

19 (a) **AUDIT.**—The Comptroller General of the United
20 States shall conduct an audit of funds credited in each
21 fiscal year after fiscal year 2004 to the Vessel Operations
22 Revolving Fund that are attributable to the sale of obso-
23 lete vessels in the National Defense Reserve Fleet that
24 were scrapped or sold under sections 57102, 57103, and
25 57104 of title 46, United States Code, including—

1 (1) a complete accounting of all vessel sale pro-
2 ceeds attributable to the sale of obsolete vessels in
3 the National Defense Reserve Fleet that were
4 scrapped or sold under sections 57102, 57103 and
5 57104 of title 46, United States Code, in each fiscal
6 year after fiscal year 2004;

7 (2) the annual apportionment of proceeds ac-
8 counted for under paragraph (1) among the uses au-
9 thorized under section 308704 of title 54, United
10 States Code, in each fiscal year after fiscal year
11 2004, including—

12 (A) for National Maritime Heritage
13 Grants, including a list of all annual National
14 Maritime Heritage Grant grant and subgrant
15 awards that identifies the respective grant and
16 subgrant recipients and grant and subgrant
17 amounts;

18 (B) for the preservation and presentation
19 to the public of maritime heritage property of
20 the Maritime Administration;

21 (C) to the United States Merchant Marine
22 Academy and State maritime academies, includ-
23 ing a list of annual awards; and

1 (D) for the acquisition, repair, recondi-
2 tioning, or improvement of vessels in the Na-
3 tional Defense Reserve Fleet; and

4 (3) an accounting of proceeds, if any, attrib-
5 utable to the sale of obsolete vessels in the National
6 Defense Reserve Fleet that were scrapped or sold
7 under sections 57102, 57103, and 57104 of title 46,
8 United States Code, in each fiscal year after fiscal
9 year 2004, that were expended for uses not author-
10 ized under section 308704 of title 54, United States
11 Code.

12 (b) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 180
13 days after the date of enactment this Act, the Comptroller
14 General shall submit the audit conducted in subsection (a)
15 to the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on
16 Natural Resources, and the Committee on Transportation
17 and Infrastructure of the House and the Committee on
18 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate.

19 **SEC. 507. FISHING VESSEL AND FISH TENDER VESSEL CER-**
20 **TIFICATION.**

21 Section 4503 of title 46, United States Code, is
22 amended—

23 (1) in subsection (c), by adding at the end the
24 following: “Subsection (a) does not apply to a fish-
25 ing vessel or fish tender vessel described in sub-

1 section (d)(6), if the vessel complies with an alter-
2 native safety compliance program established under
3 that subsection for such a vessel.”; and

4 (2) in subsection (d), by adding at the end the
5 following:

6 “(6) The Secretary shall establish an alternative safe-
7 ty compliance program for fishing vessels or fish tender
8 vessels (or both) that are at least 50 feet overall in length,
9 and not more than 79 feet overall in length, and built after
10 July 1, 2013.”.

11 **SEC. 508. NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES COST COM-**
12 **PARISON.**

13 (a) COST COMPARISON.—The Secretary of the de-
14 partment in which the Coast Guard is operating shall seek
15 to enter into an arrangement with the National Academy
16 of Sciences under which the Academy, by no later than
17 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, shall
18 submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infra-
19 structure of the House of Representatives and the Com-
20 mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the
21 Senate a comparison of the costs incurred by the Federal
22 Government for each of the following alternatives:

23 (1) Transferring the *Polar Sea* to a non-govern-
24 mental entity at no cost, and leasing back the vessel
25 beginning on the date on which the Coast Guard

1 certifies that the vessel is capable of the breaking
2 out and missions described in subsection (c)(1).

3 (2) The reactivation and operation by the Coast
4 Guard of the *Polar Sea* to an operational level at
5 which the vessel is capable of such breaking out and
6 missions.

7 (3) Acquiring and operating a new icebreaker
8 through the Coast Guard's acquisition process that
9 is capable of such breaking out and missions.

10 (4) Construction by a non-Federal entity of an
11 icebreaker capable of such breaking out and mis-
12 sions, that will be leased by the Federal Government
13 and operated using a Coast Guard crew.

14 (5) Construction by a non-Federal entity of an
15 icebreaker capable of such breaking out and mis-
16 sions, that will be leased by the Federal Government
17 and operated by a crew of non-Federal employees.

18 (6) The acquisition of services from a non-Fed-
19 eral entity to perform such breaking out and mis-
20 sions.

21 (b) INCLUDED COSTS.—For purposes of subsection
22 (a), the cost of each alternative includes costs incurred by
23 the Federal Government for—

24 (1) the lease or operation and maintenance of
25 the vessel concerned;

1 (2) disposal of such vessel at the end of the
2 useful life of the vessel;

3 (3) retirement and other benefits for Federal
4 employees who operate such vessel; and

5 (4) interest payments assumed to be incurred
6 for Federal capital expenditures.

7 (c) ASSUMPTIONS.—For purposes of comparing the
8 costs of such alternatives, the Academy shall assume
9 that—

10 (1) each vessel under consideration is—

11 (A) capable of breaking out of McMurdo
12 Station, and conducting Coast Guard missions
13 in the United States territory in the Arctic (as
14 that term is defined in section 112 of the Arctic
15 Research and Policy Act of 1984 (15 U.S.C.
16 4111)); and

17 (B) operated for a period of 20 years;

18 (2) the acquisition of services and the operation
19 of each vessel begin on the same date; and

20 (3) the periods for conducting Coast Guard
21 missions in the Arctic are of equal lengths.

22 **SEC. 509. PENALTY WAGES.**

23 (a) FOREIGN AND INTERCOASTAL VOYAGES.—Sec-
24 tion 10313(g) of title 46, United States Code, is amend-
25 ed—

1 (1) in paragraph (2)—

2 (A) by striking “all claims in a class action
3 suit by seamen” and inserting “each claim by
4 a seaman”; and

5 (B) by striking “the seamen” and inserting
6 “the seaman”; and

7 (2) in paragraph (3)—

8 (A) by striking “class action”; and

9 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking “, by
10 a seaman who is a claimant in the suit,” and
11 inserting “by the seaman”.

12 (b) COASTWISE VOYAGES.—Section 10504(c) of such
13 title is amended—

14 (1) in paragraph (2)—

15 (A) by striking “all claims in a class action
16 suit by seamen” and inserting “each claim by
17 a seaman”; and

18 (B) by striking “the seamen” and inserting
19 “the seaman”; and

20 (2) in paragraph (3)—

21 (A) by striking “class action”; and

22 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking “, by
23 a seaman who is a claimant in the suit,” and
24 inserting “by the seaman”.

1 **SEC. 510. RECOURSE FOR NONCITIZENS.**

2 Section 30104 of title 46, United States Code, is
3 amended—

4 (1) by inserting “(a) IN GENERAL.—” before
5 the first sentence; and

6 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
7 section:

8 “(b) RESTRICTION ON RECOVERY FOR NON-
9 RESIDENT ALIENS EMPLOYED ON FOREIGN PASSENGER
10 VESSELS.—A claim for damages or expenses relating to
11 personal injury, illness, or death of a seaman who is a
12 citizen of a foreign nation, arising during or from the en-
13 gagement of the seaman by or for a passenger vessel duly
14 registered under the laws of a foreign nation, may not be
15 brought under the laws of the United States if—

16 “(1) such seaman was not a permanent resident
17 alien of the United States at the time the claim
18 arose;

19 “(2) the injury, illness, or death arose outside
20 the territorial waters of the United States; and

21 “(3) the seaman or the seaman’s personal rep-
22 resentative has or had a right to seek compensation
23 for the injury, illness, or death in, or under the laws
24 of—

25 “(A) the nation in which the vessel was
26 registered at the time the claim arose; or

1 “(B) the nation in which the seaman main-
2 tained citizenship or residency at the time the
3 claim arose.”.