

Public Law 99-307
99th Congress

An Act

May 19, 1986
[H.R. 739]

To make miscellaneous changes in laws affecting the United States Coast Guard, and for other purposes.

Uniformed
services.
Maritime
affairs.
46 USC 2101.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That subtitle II of title 46, United States Code, is amended as follows:

(1) In section 2101(14)(C), strike "Material" and substitute "Materials".

(2) Section 2101(21) is amended as follows:

(A) In subclause (A)(ii), strike "crewmember." and substitute "crewmember or other individual engaged in the business of the vessel who has not contributed consideration for carriage on board the vessel.".

(B) Strike subclause (B)(v)-(vii) and substitute the following:

"(v) a guest on board a vessel being operated only for pleasure who has not contributed consideration for carriage on board; or

"(vi) an individual on board a towing vessel of at least 50 gross tons who has not contributed consideration for carriage on board.".

(C) At the end, add the following new subclause:

"(F) on a sailing school vessel, means an individual carried on the vessel except—

"(i) the owner or representatives of the owner;

"(ii) the master or a crewmember engaged in the business of the vessel who has not contributed consideration for carriage and who is paid for services;

"(iii) an employee of the owner of the vessel engaged in the business of the owner, except when the vessel is operating under a demise charter;

"(iv) an employee of the demise charterer of the vessel engaged in the business of the demise charterer;

"(v) a guest on board the vessel who has not contributed consideration for carriage on board; or

"(vi) a sailing school instructor or sailing school student.".

(D) Strike "or a sailing school vessel," in clause (B).

(3) In section 3302(i)(5), strike "charter" and substitute "charterer".

(4) At the end of section 3302, add the following new subsection:

"(k) Only the boiler, engine, and other operating machinery of a steam vessel that is a recreational vessel of not more than 65 feet overall in length are subject to inspection under section 3301(9) of this title."

46 USC 3302.

46 USC 3304.

(5)(A) Section 3304 is amended as follows:

(i) In the section catchline, strike "Carrying" and substitute "Transporting".

(ii) In subsection (a), strike "carrying cargo that carries" and "vessel." and substitute "transporting cargo that transports" and "vessel if the vessel is otherwise subject to inspection under this chapter.", respectively.

(iii) In subsection (b), strike "Before an individual in addition to the crew is carried" and substitute "Except when subsection (e) of this section applies, before an individual in addition to the crew is transported".

(iv) In subsection (c), strike "The privilege" and substitute "A privilege".

(v) Add at the end the following new subsection:

"(e) The Secretary may by regulation allow individuals in addition to the crew to be transported in an emergency or under section 2304 of this title."

Regulations.

46 USC 2304.

(B) In item 3304 in the analysis of chapter 33, strike "Carrying" and substitute "Transporting".

46 USC 3318.

(6) In section 3318(f), before clause (1), strike "then" wherever it appears and substitute "than".

(7)(A) Section 3503 is amended as follows:

46 USC 3503.

(i) Insert "(a)" at the beginning of the section.

(ii) Strike the last sentence and substitute "Before November 1, 1993, this section does not apply to a vessel in operation before January 1, 1968, and operating only on the inland rivers.".

(iii) Add at the end the following:

"(b)(1) When a vessel is exempted from the fire-retardant standards of this section—

Safety.

"(A) the owner or managing operator of the vessel shall notify prospective passengers that the vessel does not comply with applicable fire safety standards due primarily to the wooden construction of passenger berthing areas;

"(B) the owner or managing operator of the vessel may not disclaim liability to a passenger for death, injury, or any other loss caused by fire due to the negligence of the owner or managing operator; and

"(C) the penalties provided in section 3504(c) of this title apply to a violation of this subsection.

"(2) The Secretary shall prescribe regulations under this subsection on the manner in which prospective passengers are to be notified."

Law enforcement and crime. Regulations.

(B) Until the regulations required by subclause (A) of this clause become effective, the owner or managing operator shall notify prospective passengers in all promotional literature and on each ticket that the vessel does not comply with those standards due primarily to the wooden construction of passenger berthing areas.

(8) In section 3714(a)(4), strike "charter" and substitute "charterer".

46 USC 3714.

(9) Section 4308 is amended by striking "operator" wherever it appears and substituting "individual in charge".

46 USC 4308.

(10) In section 7111, strike "Part" and substitute "part".

46 USC 7111.

(11) In section 7312(e), strike "able seaman-limited" and substitute "able seamen-limited".

46 USC 7312.

(12) Section 8104(k) is amended by striking "watchers" and substituting "watches".

46 USC 8104.

- 46 USC 8502. (13) In section 8502(a)(4)(A), strike "Part" and substitute "part".
- 46 USC 8901 *et seq.* (14) Chapter 89 is amended as follows:
- (A) In item 8903 in the chapter analysis, strike "Uninspected" and substitute "Self-propelled, uninspected".
 - (B) In the catchline of section 8903, strike "Uninspected" and substitute "Self-propelled, uninspected".
 - (C) In the text of section 8903, strike "An" and substitute "A self-propelled,".
- 46 USC 10709. (15) In section 10709(a)(1), before clause (A)—
- (A) strike "then \$1,500 in value, and" and substitute "than \$1,500 in value, the court,"; and
 - (B) strike "wages, the court" and substitute "wages,".
- 46 USC 12122. (16) Section 12122(a) is amended by adding at the end the following sentence: "Each day of continuing violation is a separate violation."
- 46 USC 13102. (17) In section 13102(a)(4), strike "coordinate carrying the State" and substitute "coordinate carrying out the State".
- 46 USC 13104. (18) Section 13104(b) is amended by inserting after "Secretary" the words "for State recreational boating safety programs".
- 46 USC 11101 *et seq.* (19) Chapter 111 is amended as follows:
- (A) At the end of the chapter analysis, add the following new item:
 - "11112. Master's lien for wages."
 - (B) At the end of the chapter, add the following new section:
- 46 USC 11112. **"§ 11112. Master's lien for wages"**
- "The master of a documented vessel has the same lien against the vessel for the master's wages and the same priority as any other seaman serving on the vessel."
- Contracts. SEC. 2. (a) The Coast Guard may enter into a lease in excess of 1
Massachusetts. fiscal year to acquire a site on the State pier in New Bedford, Massachusetts, for construction of maintenance assistance team and vessel support facilities on that pier.
- (b) Any lease under this section is effective only to the extent that amounts are provided for in appropriations laws.
- (c) Notwithstanding section 322 of the Act of June 30, 1932 (40 U.S.C. 278a), and beginning in fiscal year 1986, the Coast Guard may spend appropriated amounts for the construction of fixed facilities and improvements on that portion of the State pier leased from Massachusetts for the use of a maintenance assistance team and Coast Guard vessels.
- New Jersey. SEC. 3. The body of water known as Lawyer's Ditch located at
33 USC 59u. block 5,000 in the city of Newark, county of Essex, New Jersey, is declared to be a nonnavigable waterway of the United States within the meaning of the General Bridge Act of 1946 (33 U.S.C. 525 et seq.).
- Contracts. SEC. 4. The Coast Guard may enter into any agreement or letter of
Utilities. intent with a municipal utility within the Seventeenth Coast Guard District to provide electricity to a Coast Guard facility without complying with the provisions of section 4 of Public Law 98-557.
- 98 Stat. 2861.

SEC. 5. Bayou Lafourche, in the State of Louisiana, between Canal Boulevard, city of Thibodaux, parish of Lafourche and the Southern Pacific Railroad bridge crossing the bayou, city of Thibodaux, parish of Lafourche, is hereby declared to be a nonnavigable waterway of the United States within the meaning of the General Bridge Act of 1946 (33 U.S.C. 525 et seq.).

Louisiana.
33 USC 59e-1.

SEC. 6. Notwithstanding sections 12105, 12106, 12107, and 12108 of title 46, United States Code, and section 27 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1920 (46 U.S.C. App. 883), as applicable on the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating may issue a certificate of documentation for the following vessels: Marilyn, Maryland registration number MD 3533 AA; Royal Star, Michigan registration number MC 9707 J; Alaskan Shores, United States official number 603879; Shearwater, United States official number 260827; Gypsy Rose, California registration number CF 4291 HF; Eliminator, United States official number 507572; Puka Kai, United States official number 677462; Lobster House, Panama registration number 494-PEXT; Jane E., Bahamian registration number 315924; and Diane M., Bahamian official number 315925, except that such vessels Jane E. and Diane M. may be operated under such documentation only in the waters of the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico.

SEC. 7. Section 2(a) of the Act entitled "An Act to facilitate increased enforcement by the Coast Guard of laws relating to the importation of controlled substances, and for other purposes", approved September 15, 1980 (21 U.S.C. 955b(a)), is amended by inserting immediately before the period the following: ", except that an event otherwise qualifying as an arrangement under such section does not lose that qualification by the fact that consent to, or the terms of, such arrangement are communicated by radio, telephone, or other similar means, or by how specific such arrangement is as to the vessel to which such arrangement applies".

Imports.
Drugs and
drug abuse.

SEC. 8. The Coast Guard may enter into a cost-sharing arrangement with the city of Cape May, New Jersey, under which the city of Cape May will provide necessary roadway improvement on and along Pennsylvania Avenue between Pittsburg and Buffalo Avenues, as abutted by housing owned by the Coast Guard. For purposes of entering into such an arrangement, the Coast Guard may expend from previously-appropriated funds an amount not to exceed \$200,000 on a nonrecurring basis.

New Jersey.

SEC. 9. Section 2103 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking all after "subtitle" the third time it appears and substituting ". The Secretary may prescribe regulations to carry out the provisions of this subtitle.".

Regulations.

SEC. 10. Section 4370(a) of the Revised Statutes of the United States (46 U.S.C. App. 316(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking all from "a certificate of registry," through "the Act of June 7, 1918, as amended (U.S.C., 1934 edition, Supp. IV, title 46, sec. 288)," and substituting "a certificate of documentation issued under section 12106 or 12107 of title 46, United States Code,"; and

(2) by striking "a vessel of foreign registry, or a vessel in distress", and substituting "a vessel in distress".

SEC. 11. Section 3 of the Shipping Act of 1984 (46 U.S.C. App. 1702) is amended—

(1) in paragraph 6, (A) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (B) and substituting a comma, and (B) by adding

Transportation.

Commerce and
trade.

at the end thereof the following: "except that the term does not include a common carrier engaged in ocean transportation by ferry boat, ocean tramp, or chemical parcel-tanker. As used in this paragraph, 'chemical parcel-tanker' means a vessel whose cargo-carrying capability consists of individual cargo tanks for bulk chemicals that are a permanent part of the vessel, that have segregation capability with piping systems to permit simultaneous carriage of several bulk chemical cargoes with minimum risk of cross-contamination, and that has a valid certificate of fitness under the International Maritime Organization Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Dangerous Chemicals in Bulk.;" and

(2) in paragraph (18), by striking all from the semicolon and substituting a period.

SEC. 12. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Act entitled "An Act to authorize the Secretary of Commerce to sell two obsolete vessels to Coast Line Company and for other purposes", approved June 3, 1980 (Public Law 96-260; 94 Stat. 435), the Secretary of Transportation shall permit the vessels Pictor, United States official number 243529, Procyon, United States official number 244022, and Zelima, United States official number 248207, to be scrapped in the foreign market if—

(1) the purchaser of such vessels and the country in which such vessels are to be scrapped are acceptable to the Secretary of Transportation; and

(2) the seller of any such vessel agrees in writing to reimburse the United States a reasonable amount, acceptable to the Secretary of Transportation, of not less than one-half of the profits realized from such sale.

SEC. 13. Notwithstanding any other provision of law or any agreement with the United States Government, the vessels Paul Bunyan, United States official number 602272, and John Henry, United States official number 599294, may be sold to a foreign purchaser or purchasers if—

(1) the person desiring to sell the vessel submits to the Secretary of Transportation and the Secretary of the Navy a written offer under which the Secretary of Transportation may elect to acquire either or both vessels for the National Defense Reserve Fleet or the Secretary of the Navy may elect to acquire either or both vessels for the Ready Reserve Fleet, under the same terms and conditions as those offered by the foreign purchaser or purchasers; and

(2) neither Secretary elects to acquire the vessel within 60 days after the date on which a written offer is submitted to the Secretaries under paragraph (1) of this subsection.

Approved May 19, 1986.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 739:

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 99-389 (Comm. on Merchant Marine and Fisheries).
SENATE REPORTS: No. 99-284 (Comm. on Commerce, Science, and Transportation).
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Vol. 131 (1985): Dec. 3, considered and passed House.

Vol. 132 (1986): Apr. 24, considered and passed Senate, amended.

May 1, House concurred in Senate amendments.

WEEKLY COMPILATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS, Vol. 22 (1986):
May 19, Presidential statement.