

108<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 4158

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## AN ACT

To provide for the conveyance to the Government of Mexico of a decommissioned National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration ship, and for other purposes.



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## AN ACT

To provide for the conveyance to the Government of Mexico of a decommissioned National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration ship, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. CONVEYANCE OF NOAA VESSEL WHITING.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Commerce shall  
3 convey to the Government of Mexico, without consider-  
4 ation, all right, title, and interest of the United States in  
5 and to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administra-  
6 tion vessel WHITING—

7 (1) for use as a hydrographic survey platform  
8 in support of activities of the United States-Mexico  
9 Charting Advisors Committee; and

10 (2) to enhance coordination and cooperation be-  
11 tween the United States and Mexico regarding hy-  
12 drographic surveying and nautical charting activities  
13 in the border waters of both countries in the Gulf  
14 of Mexico and in the Pacific Ocean.

15 (b) OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE.—The Govern-  
16 ment of the United States shall not be responsible or liable  
17 for any remediation, maintenance, or operation of a vessel  
18 conveyed under this section after the date of the delivery  
19 of the vessel to the Government of Mexico.

20 (c) DEADLINE.—The Secretary shall seek to complete  
21 the conveyance by as soon as practicable after the date  
22 of the enactment of this Act.

23 (d) DELIVERY OF VESSEL.—The Secretary shall de-  
24 liver the vessel WHITING pursuant to this section at the

- 1 vessel's homeport location of Norfolk, Virginia, at no addi-
- 2 tional cost to the United States.

Passed the House of Representatives July 19, 2004.

Attest:

*Clerk.*