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Union Calendar No. 317

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 2830

[Report No. 110–338, Parts I, II, and III]

To authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal year 2008, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 22, 2007

Mr. OBERSTAR (for himself, Mr. CUMMINGS, and Mr. LATOURETTE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

SEPTEMBER 20, 2007

Reported with an amendment and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security for a period ending not later than October 1, 2007, for consideration of such provisions of the bill and the amendment as fall within the jurisdiction of that committee pursuant to clause 1(i), rule X

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

OCTOBER 1, 2007

Reported from the Committee on Homeland Security with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in boldface roman]

OCTOBER 1, 2007

Referred to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and the Judiciary for a period ending not later than October 15, 2007, for consideration of such provisions of the bill and the amendment as fall within the jurisdiction of those committees pursuant to clauses 1(f) and 1(k) respectively, rule X

OCTOBER 15, 2007

Referral to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and the Judiciary extended for a period ending not later than October 29, 2007

OCTOBER 29, 2007

Referral to the Committee on the Judiciary extended for a period ending not later than October 30, 2007

OCTOBER 29, 2007

Referral to the Committee on Energy and Commerce extended for a period ending not later than November 16, 2007

OCTOBER 30, 2007

Reported from the Committee on the Judiciary with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in boldface italic]

NOVEMBER 15, 2007

Referral to the Committee on Energy and Commerce extended for a period ending not later than December 7, 2007

DECEMBER 7, 2007

Referral to the Committee on Energy and Commerce extended for a period ending not later than December 14, 2007

DECEMBER 14, 2007

Referral to the Committee on Energy and Commerce extended for a period ending not later than January 12, 2008

DECEMBER 18, 2007

Referral to the Committee on Energy and Commerce extended for a period ending not later than January 15, 2008

JANUARY 15, 2008

Referral to the Committee on Energy and Commerce extended for a period ending not later than January 23, 2008

JANUARY 23, 2008

Referral to the Committee on Energy and Commerce extended for a period ending not later than January 29, 2008

JANUARY 29, 2008

Committee on Energy and Commerce discharged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on June 22, 2007]

A BILL

To authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal year 2008, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2007".

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.
Sec. 2. Table of contents.

TITLE I—AUTHORIZATION

Sec. 101. Authorization of appropriations.
Sec. 102. Authorized levels of military strength and training.
Sec. 103. Transfer of bridge administration program authority and functions.

TITLE II—COAST GUARD

Sec. 201. Appointment of civilian Coast Guard judges.
Sec. 202. Industrial activities.
Sec. 203. Reimbursement for medical-related travel expenses.
Sec. 204. Commissioned officers.
Sec. 205. Coast Guard participation in the Armed Forces Retirement Home (AFRH) system.
Sec. 206. Grants to international maritime organizations.
Sec. 207. Emergency leave retention authority.
Sec. 208. Enforcement authority.
Sec. 209. Repeal.
Sec. 210. Admirals and Vice Admirals.
Sec. 211. Merchant Mariner Medical Advisory Committee.
Sec. 212. Reserve commissioned warrant officer to lieutenant program.
Sec. 213. Enhanced status quo officer promotion system.
Sec. 214. Laser Training System.
Sec. 215. Coast Guard vessels and aircraft.
Sec. 216. Coast Guard District Ombudsmen.

TITLE III—SHIPPING AND NAVIGATION

Sec. 301. Vessel size limits.
Sec. 302. Goods and services.
Sec. 303. Seaward extension of anchorage grounds jurisdiction.
Sec. 304. Maritime Drug Law Enforcement Act amendment-simple possession.
Sec. 305. Technical amendments to tonnage measurement law.
Sec. 306. Seamen's shoreside access.
Sec. 307. Fishing vessel safety.
Sec. 308. Mariner records.
Sec. 309. Deletion of exemption of license requirement for operators of certain towing vessels.

Sec. 310. Adjustment of liability limits for natural gas deepwater ports.
Sec. 311. Period of limitations for claims against Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund.
Sec. 312. Log books.
Sec. 313. Unsafe operation.
Sec. 314. Approval of survival craft.
Sec. 315. Safety management.
Sec. 316. Protection against discrimination.
Sec. 317. Dry bulk cargo residue.
Sec. 318. Clarification of delegation of authority to classification societies.
Sec. 319. Registry endorsement for LNG vessels.
Sec. 320. Oaths.
Sec. 321. Duration of credentials.
Sec. 322. Fingerprinting.
Sec. 323. Authorization to extend the duration of licenses, certificates of registry, and merchant mariners' documents.
Sec. 324. Merchant mariner documentation.
Sec. 325. Merchant mariner assistance report.
Sec. 326. Merchant mariner shortage report.
Sec. 327. Merchant mariner document standards.
Sec. 328. Waterside security around liquefied natural gas terminals and liquefied natural gas tankers.

TITLE IV—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Sec. 401. Certificate of documentation for GALLANT LADY.
Sec. 402. Waiver.
Sec. 403. Great Lakes Maritime Research Institute.
Sec. 404. Conveyance.
Sec. 405. Crew wages on passenger vessels.
Sec. 406. Technical corrections.
Sec. 407. Conveyance of decommissioned Coast Guard Cutter STORIS.
Sec. 408. Repeal of requirement of license for employment in the business of salvaging on the coast of Florida.
Sec. 409. Right-of-first-refusal for Coast Guard property on Jupiter Island, Florida.
Sec. 410. Conveyance of Coast Guard HU–25 Falcon Jet aircraft.
Sec. 411. Decommissioned Coast Guard vessels for Haiti.
Sec. 412. Extension of period of operation of vessel for setting, relocation, or recovery of anchors or other mooring equipment.
Sec. 413. Vessel traffic risk assessments.
Sec. 414. Vessel MARYLAND INDEPENDENCE.
Sec. 415. Study of relocation of Coast Guard Sector Buffalo facilities.

TITLE V—BALLAST WATER TREATMENT

Sec. 501. Short title.
Sec. 502. Declaration of goals and purposes.
Sec. 503. Ballast water management.
Sec. 504. National ballast water management information.
Sec. 505. Ballast water management evaluation and demonstration program.
Sec. 506. Rapid response plan.
Sec. 507. Authorization of appropriations.

TITLE VI—ALIEN SMUGGLING

Sec. 601. Short title.
Sec. 602. Maritime law enforcement.

TITLE I—AUTHORIZATION

SEC. 101. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Funds are authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2008 for necessary expenses of the Coast Guard as follows:

(1) For the operation and maintenance of the Coast Guard, $5,965,742,000, of which—

(A) $24,500,000 is authorized to be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to carry out the purposes of section 1012(a)(5) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2712(a)(5));

(B) $631,000,000 shall be available only for paying for search and rescue programs;

(C) $527,000,000 shall be available only for paying for marine safety programs; and

(D) $80,500,000 shall be available only for paying for operating expenses of the Integrated Deepwater System program.

(2) For the acquisition, construction, rebuilding, and improvement of aids to navigation, shore and offshore facilities, vessels, and aircraft, including equipment related thereto, $1,005,768,000, of which—

(A) $20,000,000 shall be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to carry out the

purposes of section 1012(a)(5) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, to remain available until expended;

(B) $836,866,000 is authorized for the Integrated Deepwater System Program; and

(C) $44,597,000 is authorized for shore facilities and aids to navigation.

(3) To the Commandant of the Coast Guard for research, development, test, and evaluation of technologies, materials, and human factors directly relating to improving the performance of the Coast Guard's mission in search and rescue, aids to navigation, marine safety, marine environmental protection, enforcement of laws and treaties, ice operations, oceanographic research, and defense readiness, $18,583,000, to remain available until expended, of which $2,000,000 shall be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to carry out the purposes of section 1012(a)(5) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990.

(4) For retired pay (including the payment of obligations otherwise chargeable to lapsed appropriations for this purpose), payments under the Retired Serviceman's Family Protection and Survivor Benefit Plans, and payments for medical care of retired personnel and their dependents under chapter 55 of title

10, United States Code, $1,184,720,000, to remain available until expended.

(5) For alteration or removal of bridges over navigable waters of the United States constituting obstructions to navigation, and for personnel and administrative costs associated with the Bridge Alteration Program, $16,000,000.

(6) For environmental compliance and restoration at Coast Guard facilities (other than parts and equipment associated with operation and maintenance), $12,079,000, to remain available until expended.

(7) For the Coast Guard Reserve program, including personnel and training costs, equipment, and services, $126,883,000.

SEC. 102. AUTHORIZED LEVELS OF MILITARY STRENGTH AND TRAINING.

(a) ACTIVE DUTY STRENGTH.—The Coast Guard is authorized an end-of-year strength for active duty personnel of 45,500 for the fiscal year ending on September 30, 2008.

(b) MILITARY TRAINING STUDENT LOADS.—For fiscal year 2008, the Coast Guard is authorized average military training student loads as follows:

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

(2) For flight training, 165 student years.

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

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

SEC. 103. TRANSFER OF BRIDGE ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM AUTHORITY AND FUNCTIONS.

(a) TRANSFER.—

(1) AUTHORITY AND FUNCTIONS.—Notwithstanding section 888(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 468(b)) or any other provision of law, the authorities of the Secretary of Homeland Security to approve the construction, alteration, or operation of a bridge, drawbridge, or causeway across or over the navigable waters of the United States and to require the alteration, repair, or removal of that bridge, drawbridge, or causeway, pursuant to the Bridge Act of 1906 (34 Stat. 84; 33 U.S.C. 491 et seq.), the General Bridge Act of 1946 (60 Stat. 847, 33 U.S.C. 525 note), the Truman-Hobbs Act (54 Stat. 497; 33 U.S.C. 511 et seq.), and the International Bridge Act of 1972 (60 Stat. 847; 33 U.S.C. 525 et seq.), and the functions related thereto, are hereby transferred to the Secretary of Transportation.

(2) TRANSFER AND ADMINISTRATION OF BALANCES.—Any unobligated balances of prior appro-

priations provided for the alteration of bridges are transferred and shall be available to the Secretary of Transportation to carry out the functions and authorities transferred by subsection (a).

TITLE II—COAST GUARD

SEC. 201. APPOINTMENT OF CIVILIAN COAST GUARD JUDGES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 7 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 153. Appointment of judges

"The Secretary may appoint civilian employees of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating as appellate military judges, available for assignment to the Coast Guard Court of Criminal Appeals as provided for in section 866(a) of title 10.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following:

"153. Appointment of judges.".

SEC. 202. INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES.

Section 151 of title 14, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting "(a) IN GENERAL.—" before "All orders"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(b) ORDERS AND AGREEMENTS FOR INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES.—Under this section, the Coast Guard industrial

activities may accept orders and enter into reimbursable agreements with establishments, agencies, and departments of the Department of Defense.".

SEC. 203. REIMBURSEMENT FOR MEDICAL-RELATED TRAVEL EXPENSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 13 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 518. Reimbursement for medical-related travel expenses for certain persons residing on islands in the continental United States

"In any case in which a covered beneficiary (as defined in section 1072(5) of title 10) resides on an island that is located in the 48 contiguous States and the District of Columbia and that lacks public access roads to the mainland and is referred by a primary care physician to a specialty care provider (as defined in section 1074i(b) of title 10) on the mainland who provides services less than 100 miles from the location where the beneficiary resides, the Secretary shall reimburse the reasonable travel expenses of the covered beneficiary and, when accompaniment by an adult is necessary, for a parent or guardian of the covered beneficiary or another member of the covered beneficiary's family who is at least 21 years of age.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following:

"518. Reimbursement for medical-related travel expenses for certain persons residing on islands in the continental United States.".

SEC. 204. COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

(a) ACTIVE DUTY PROMOTION LIST.—Section 42 of title 14, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"§ 42. Number and distribution of commissioned officers on active duty promotion list

"(a) MAXIMUM TOTAL NUMBER.—The total number of Coast Guard commissioned officers on the active duty promotion list, excluding warrant officers, shall not exceed 6,700; except that the Commandant may temporarily increase that number by up to 2 percent for no more than 60 days following the date of the commissioning of a Coast Guard Academy class.

"(b) DISTRIBUTION PERCENTAGES BY GRADE.—

"(1) REQUIRED.—The total number of commissioned officers authorized by this section shall be distributed in grade in the following percentages: 0.375 percent for rear admiral; 0.375 percent for rear admiral (lower half); 6.0 percent for captain; 15.0 percent for commander; and 22.0 percent for lieutenant commander.

"(2) DISCRETIONARY.—The Secretary shall prescribe the percentages applicable to the grades of lieutenant, lieutenant (junior grade), and ensign.

"(3) AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY TO REDUCE PERCENTAGE.—The Secretary—

"(A) may reduce, as the needs of the Coast Guard require, any of the percentages set forth in paragraph (1); and

"(B) shall apply that total percentage reduction to any other lower grade or combination of lower grades.

"(c) COMPUTATIONS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall compute, at least once each year, the total number of commissioned officers authorized to serve in each grade by applying the grade distribution percentages established by or under this section to the total number of commissioned officers listed on the current active duty promotion list.

"(2) ROUNDING FRACTIONS.—Subject to subsection (a), in making the computations under paragraph (1), any fraction shall be rounded to the nearest whole number.

"(3) TREATMENT OF OFFICERS SERVING OUTSIDE COAST GUARD.—The number of commissioned officers on the active duty promotion list below the rank of rear admiral (lower half) serving with other Federal departments or agencies on a reimbursable

basis or excluded under section 324(d) of title 49 shall not be counted against the total number of commissioned officers authorized to serve in each grade.

"(d) USE OF NUMBERS; TEMPORARY INCREASES.—The numbers resulting from computations under subsection (c) shall be, for all purposes, the authorized number in each grade; except that the authorized number for a grade is temporarily increased during the period between one computation and the next by the number of officers originally appointed in that grade during that period and the number of officers of that grade for whom vacancies exist in the next higher grade but whose promotion has been delayed for any reason.

"(e) OFFICERS SERVING COAST GUARD ACADEMY AND RESERVE.—The number of officers authorized to be serving on active duty in each grade of the permanent commissioned teaching staff of the Coast Guard Academy and of the Reserve serving in connection with organizing, administering, recruiting, instructing, or training the reserve components shall be prescribed by the Secretary.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 3 of such title is amended by striking the item relating to section 42 and inserting the following:

"42. Number and distribution of commissioned officers on active duty promotion list.".

SEC. 205. COAST GUARD PARTICIPATION IN THE ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOME (AFRH) SYSTEM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1502 of the Armed Forces Retirement Home Act of 1991 (24 U.S.C. 401) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (4);

(2) in paragraph (5)—

(A) by striking "and" at the end of subparagraph (C);

(B) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (D) and inserting "; and"; and

(C) by inserting at the end the following:

"(E) the Assistant Commandant of the Coast Guard for Human Resources."; and

(3) by adding at the end of paragraph (6) the following:

"(E) The Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard.".

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—(1) Section 2772 of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in subsection (a) by inserting "or, in the case of the Coast Guard, the Commandant" after "concerned"; and

(B) by striking subsection (c).

(2) Section 1007(i) of title 37, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in paragraph (3) by inserting "or, in the case of the Coast Guard, the Commandant" after "Secretary of Defense";

(B) by striking paragraph (4); and

(C) by redesignating paragraph (5) as paragraph (4).

SEC. 206. GRANTS TO INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATIONS.

Section 149 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(c) GRANTS TO INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATIONS.—After consultation with the Secretary of State, the Commandant may make grants to, or enter into cooperative agreements, contracts, or other agreements with, international maritime organizations for the purpose of acquiring information or data about merchant vessel inspections, security, safety, classification, and port state or flag state law enforcement or oversight.".

SEC. 207. EMERGENCY LEAVE RETENTION AUTHORITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 11 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 425 the following:

"§ 426. Emergency leave retention authority

"With regard to a member of the Coast Guard who serves on active duty, a duty assignment in support of a

declaration of a major disaster or emergency by the President under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) shall be treated, for the purpose of section 701(f)(2) of title 10, a duty assignment in support of a contingency operation.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for such chapter is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 425 the following new item:

"426. Emergency leave retention authority.".

SEC. 208. ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 5 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 99. Enforcement authority

"Subject to guidelines approved by the Secretary, members of the Coast Guard, in the performance of official duties, may—

"(1) carry a firearm; and

"(2) while at a facility (as defined in section 70101 of title 46)—

"(A) make an arrest without warrant for any offense against the United States; and

"(B) seize property as otherwise provided by law.".

(b) CONFORMING REPEAL.—The first section added to title 46, United States Code, by the amendment made by subsection (a) of section 801 of the Coast Guard and Mari-

time Transportation Act of 2004 (118 Stat. 1078), and the item relating to such first section enacted by the amendment made by subsection (b) of such section 801, are repealed.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following:

"99. Enforcement authority.".

SEC. 209. REPEAL.

Section 216 of title 14, United States Code, and the item relating to such section in the analysis for chapter 11 of such title, are repealed.

SEC. 210. ADMIRALS AND VICE ADMIRALS.

(a) VICE COMMANDANT.—Section 47 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking "vice admiral" and inserting "admiral".

(b) VICE ADMIRALS.—Section 50 of title 14, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"§ 50. Vice admirals

"(a)(1) The President may designate 4 positions of importance and responsibility that shall be held by officers who—

"(A) while so serving, shall have the grade of vice admiral, with the pay and allowances of that grade; and

"(B) shall perform any duties as the Commandant may prescribe.

"(2) The 4 vice admiral positions authorized under paragraph (1) are, respectively, the following:

"(A) The Deputy Commandant for Mission Support.

"(B) The Deputy Commandant for National Operations and Policy.

"(C) The Commander, Force Readiness Command.

"(D) The Commander, Operations Command.

"(3) The President may appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and reappoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to each of the positions designated under paragraph (1) an officer of the Coast Guard who is serving on active duty above the grade of captain. The Commandant shall make recommendations for those appointments.

"(b)(1) The appointment and the grade of vice admiral under this section shall be effective on the date the officer assumes that duty and, except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection or in section 51(d) of this title, shall terminate on the date the officer is detached from that duty.

"(2) An officer who is appointed to a position designated under subsection (a) shall continue to hold the grade of vice admiral—

"(A) while under orders transferring the officer to another position designated under subsection (a), beginning on the date the officer is detached from duty and terminating on the date before the day the officer assumes the subsequent duty, but not for more than 60 days;

"(B) while hospitalized, beginning on the day of the hospitalization and ending on the day the officer is discharged from the hospital, but not for more than 180 days; and

"(C) while awaiting retirement, beginning on the date the officer is detached from duty and ending on the day before the officer's retirement, but not for more than 60 days.

"(c)(1) An appointment of an officer under subsection (a) does not vacate the permanent grade held by the officer.

"(2) An officer serving in a grade above rear admiral who holds the permanent grade of rear admiral (lower half) shall be considered for promotion to the permanent grade of rear admiral as if the officer was serving in the officer's permanent grade.

"(d) Whenever a vacancy occurs in a position designated under subsection (a), the Commandant shall inform the President of the qualifications needed by an officer serv-

ing in that position to carry out effectively the duties and responsibilities of that position.".

(c) REPEAL.—Section 50a of title 14, United States Code, is repealed.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 51(d)(2) of that title is amended by striking "Area Commander, or Chief of Staff" and inserting "or Vice Admirals".

(e) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

*(1) The heading for section 47 of that title is amended by striking "**assignment**" and inserting "**appointment**".*

(2) The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 3 of that title is amended—

(A) by striking the item relating to section 47 and inserting the following:

"47. Vice Commandant; appointment.";

(B) by striking the item relating to section 50 and inserting the following:

"50. Vice admirals.";

and

(C) by striking the item relating to section 50a.

(f) TECHNICAL CORRECTION.—Section 47 of that title is further amended in the fifth sentence by striking "subsection" and inserting "section".

SEC. 211. MERCHANT MARINER MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 71 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"§ 7115. Merchant Mariner Medical Advisory Committee

"(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established a Merchant Mariner Medical Advisory Committee (in this section referred to as the 'Committee').

"(2) FUNCTIONS.—The Committee shall advise the Secretary on matters relating to—

"(A) medical certification determinations for issuance of merchant mariner credentials;

"(B) medical standards and guidelines for the physical qualifications of operators of commercial vessels;

"(C) medical examiner education; and

"(D) medical research.

"(b) MEMBERSHIP.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Committee shall consist of twelve members, none of whom is a Federal employee, and shall include—

"(A) ten who are health-care professionals with particular expertise, knowledge, or experi-

ence regarding the medical examinations of merchant mariners or occupational medicine; and

"(B) two who are professional mariners with knowledge and experience in mariner occupational requirements.

"(2) STATUS OF MEMBERS.—Members of the Committee shall not be considered Federal employees or otherwise in the service or the employment of the Federal Government, except that members shall be considered special Government employees, as defined in section 202(a) of title 18, United States Code, and shall be subject to any administrative standards of conduct applicable to the employees of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating.

"(c) APPOINTMENTS; TERMS; VACANCIES.—

"(1) APPOINTMENTS.—The Secretary shall appoint the members of the Committee, and each member shall serve at the pleasure of the Secretary.

"(2) TERMS.—Each member shall be appointed for a term of three years, except that, of the members first appointed, three members shall be appointed for a term of two years and three members shall be appointed for a term of one year.

"(3) VACANCIES.—Any member appointed to fill the vacancy prior to the expiration of the term for

which that member's predecessor was appointed shall be appointed for the remainder of that term.

"(d) CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN.—The Secretary shall designate one member of the Committee as the Chairman and one member as the Vice Chairman. The Vice Chairman shall act as Chairman in the absence or incapacity of, or in the event of a vacancy in the office of, the Chairman.

"(e) COMPENSATION; REIMBURSEMENT.—Members of the Committee shall serve without compensation, except that, while engaged in the performance of duties away from their homes or regular places of business of the member, the member of the Committee may be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by section 5703 of title 5.

"(f) STAFF; SERVICES.—The Secretary shall furnish to the Committee the personnel and services as are considered necessary for the conduct of its business.".

(b) FIRST MEETING.—No later than six months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Merchant Mariner Medical Advisory Committee established by the amendment made by this section shall hold its first meeting.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 71 of that title is amended by adding at the end the following:

"7115. Merchant Mariner Medical Advisory Committee.".

SEC. 212. RESERVE COMMISSIONED WARRANT OFFICER TO LIEUTENANT PROGRAM.

Section 214(a) of title 14, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"(a) The president may appoint temporary commissioned officers—

"(1) in the Regular Coast Guard in a grade, not above lieutenant, appropriate to their qualifications, experience, and length of service, as the needs of the Coast Guard may require, from among the commissioned warrant officers, warrant officers, and enlisted members of the Coast Guard, and from holders of licenses issued under chapter 71 of title 46; and

"(2) in the Coast Guard Reserve in a grade, not above lieutenant, appropriate to their qualifications, experience, and length of service, as the needs of the Coast Guard may require, from among the commissioned warrant officers of the Coast Guard Reserve.".

SEC. 213. ENHANCED STATUS QUO OFFICER PROMOTION SYSTEM.

Chapter 11 of title 14, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 253(a)—

(A) by inserting "and" after "considered,"; and

(B) by striking ", and the number of officers the board may recommend for promotion";

(2) in section 258—

(A) by inserting "(a) IN GENERAL.—" before the existing text;

(B) in subsection (a) (as so designated) by striking the colon at the end of the material preceding paragraph (1) and inserting "—"; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

"(b) PROVISION OF DIRECTION AND GUIDANCE.—

"(1) In addition to the information provided pursuant to subsection (a), the Secretary may furnish the selection board—

"(A) specific direction relating to the needs of the Coast Guard for officers having particular skills, including direction relating to the need for a minimum number of officers with particular skills within a specialty; and

"(B) any other guidance that the Secretary believes may be necessary to enable the board to properly perform its functions.

"(2) Selections made based on the direction and guidance provided under this subsection shall not exceed the maximum percentage of officers who may be selected from below the announced promotion zone at

any given selection board convened under section 251 of this title.";

(3) in section 259(a), by inserting after "whom the board" the following: ", giving due consideration to the needs of the Coast Guard for officers with particular skills so noted in specific direction furnished to the board by the Secretary under section 258 of this title,"; and

(4) in section 260(b), by inserting after "qualified for promotion" the following: "to meet the needs of the service (as noted in specific direction furnished the board by the Secretary under section 258 of this title)".

SEC. 214. LASER TRAINING SYSTEM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Within one year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard shall test an integrated laser engagement system for the training of members of the Coast Guard assigned to small vessels in the use of individual weapons and machine guns on those vessels. The test shall be conducted on vessels on the Great Lakes using similar laser equipment used by other Federal agencies. However, that equipment shall be adapted for use in the marine environment.

(b) REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit a report to Congress within 6 months after the conclusions of the test required under subsection (a) on the costs and benefits of using the system regionally and nationwide to train members of the Coast Guard in the use of individual weapons and machine guns.

SEC. 215. COAST GUARD VESSELS AND AIRCRAFT.

(a) AUTHORITY TO FIRE AT OR INTO A VESSEL.—Section 637(c) of title 14, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking "; or" and inserting a semicolon;

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; or"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(3) any other vessel or aircraft owned by a government and used for noncommercial service when—

"(A) the vessel or aircraft is under the tactical control of the Coast Guard; and

"(B) at least one member of the Coast Guard is assigned and conducting a Coast Guard mission on the vessel or aircraft.".

(b) AUTHORITY TO DISPLAY COAST GUARD ENSIGNS AND PENNANTS.—Section 638(a) of title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking "Coast Guard vessels and air-

craft" and inserting "Vessels and aircraft authorized by the Secretary".

SEC. 216. COAST GUARD DISTRICT OMBUDSMEN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 3 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"§ 55. District Ombudsmen

"(a) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant shall appoint in each Coast Guard District a District Ombudsman to serve as a liaison between ports, terminal operators, shipowners, and labor representatives and the Coast Guard.

"(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the District Ombudsman shall be the following:

"(1) To support the operations of the Coast Guard in each port in the District for which the District Ombudsman is appointed.

"(2) To seek to resolve disputes between the Coast Guard and all petitioners regarding requirements imposed or services provided by the Coast Guard.

"(c) FUNCTIONS.—

"(1) INVESTIGATIONS.—The District Ombudsman may investigate complaints brought to the attention of the District Ombudsman by a petitioner operating in a port or by Coast Guard personnel.

"(2) GUIDELINES FOR DISPUTES.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The District Ombudsman shall develop guidelines regarding the types of disputes with respect to which the District Ombudsman will provide assistance.

"(B) LIMITATION.—The District Ombudsman shall not provide assistance with respect to a dispute unless it involves the impact of Coast Guard requirements on port business and the flow of commerce.

"(C) PRIORITY.—In providing such assistance, the District Ombudsman shall give priority to complaints brought by petitioners who believe they will suffer a significant hardship as the result of implementing a Coast Guard requirement or being denied a Coast Guard service.

"(3) CONSULTATION.—The District Ombudsman may consult with any Coast Guard personnel who can aid in the investigation of a complaint.

"(4) ACCESS TO INFORMATION.—The District Ombudsman shall have access to any document, including any record or report, that will aid the District Ombudsman in obtaining the information needed to conduct an investigation of a compliant.

"(5) REPORTS.—At the conclusion of an investigation, the District Ombudsman shall submit a re-

port on the findings and recommendations of the District Ombudsman, to the Commander of the District in which the petitioner who brought the complaint is operating.

"(6) DEADLINE.—The District Ombudsman shall seek to resolve each complaint brought in accordance with the guidelines—

"(A) in a timely fashion; and

"(B) not later than 4 months after the complaint is officially accepted by the District Ombudsman.

"(d) APPOINTMENT.—The Commandant shall appoint as the District Ombudsman a civilian who has experience in port and transportation systems and knowledge of port operations or of maritime commerce (or both).

"(e) ANNUAL REPORTS.—The Secretary shall report annually to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate on the matters brought before the District Ombudsmen, including—

"(1) the number of matters brought before each District Ombudsman;

"(2) a brief summary of each such matter; and

"(3) the eventual resolution of each such matter.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis at the beginning of that chapter is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

"55. District Ombudsmen.".

TITLE III—SHIPPING AND NAVIGATION

SEC. 301. VESSEL SIZE LIMITS.

(a) LENGTH, TONNAGE, AND HORSEPOWER.—Section 12113(d)(2) of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting "and" after the semicolon at the end of subparagraph (A)(i);

(2) by striking "and" at the end of subparagraph (A)(ii);

(3) by striking subparagraph (A)(iii);

(4) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (B) and inserting "; or"; and

(5) by inserting at the end the following:

"(C) the vessel is either a rebuilt vessel or a replacement vessel under section 208(g) of the American Fisheries Act (title II of division C of Public Law 105–277; 112 Stat. 2681–627) and is eligible for a fishery endorsement under this section.".

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) VESSEL REBUILDING AND REPLACEMENT.—Section 208(g) of the American Fisheries Act (title II of division C of Public Law 105–277; 112 Stat. 2681–627) is amended to read as follows:

"(g) VESSEL REBUILDING AND REPLACEMENT.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—

"(A) REBUILD OR REPLACE.—Notwithstanding any limitation to the contrary on replacing, rebuilding, or lengthening vessels or transferring permits or licenses to a replacement vessel contained in sections 679.2 and 679.4 of title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on the date of enactment of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2007 and except as provided in paragraph (4), the owner of a vessel eligible under subsection (a), (b), (c), (d), or (e) (other than paragraph (21)), in order to improve vessel safety and operational efficiencies (including fuel efficiency), may rebuild or replace that vessel (including fuel efficiency) with a vessel documented with a fishery endorsement under section 12113 of title 46, United States Code.

"(B) SAME REQUIREMENTS.—The rebuilt or replacement vessel shall be eligible in the same manner and subject to the same restrictions and

limitations under such subsection as the vessel being rebuilt or replaced.

"(C) TRANSFER OF PERMITS AND LICENSES.—Each fishing permit and license held by the owner of a vessel or vessels to be rebuilt or replaced under subparagraph (A) shall be transferred to the rebuilt or replacement vessel.

"(2) RECOMMENDATIONS OF NORTH PACIFIC COUNCIL.—The North Pacific Council may recommend for approval by the Secretary such conservation and management measures, including size limits and measures to control fishing capacity, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Act as it considers necessary to ensure that this subsection does not diminish the effectiveness of fishery management plans of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area or the Gulf of Alaska.

"(3) SPECIAL RULE FOR REPLACEMENT OF CERTAIN VESSELS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the requirements of subsections (b)(2), (c)(1), and (c)(2) of section 12113 of title 46, United States Code, a vessel that is eligible under subsection (a), (b), (c), (d), or (e) (other than paragraph (21)) and that qualifies to be documented with

a fishery endorsement pursuant to section 203(g) or 213(g) may be replaced with a replacement vessel under paragraph (1) if the vessel that is replaced is validly documented with a fishery endorsement pursuant to section 203(g) or 213(g) before the replacement vessel is documented with a fishery endorsement under section 12113 of title 46, United States Code.

"(B) APPLICABILITY.—A replacement vessel under subparagraph (A) and its owner and mortgagee are subject to the same limitations under section 203(g) or 213(g) that are applicable to the vessel that has been replaced and its owner and mortgagee.

"(4) SPECIAL RULES FOR CERTAIN CATCHER VESSELS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—A replacement for a covered vessel described in subparagraph (B) is prohibited from harvesting fish in any fishery (except for the Pacific whiting fishery) managed under the authority of any regional fishery management council (other than the North Pacific Council) established under section 302(a) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

"(B) COVERED VESSELS.—A covered vessel referred to in subparagraph (A) is—

"(i) a vessel eligible under subsection (a), (b), or (c) that is replaced under paragraph (1); or

"(ii) a vessel eligible under subsection (a), (b), or (c) that is rebuilt to increase its registered length, gross tonnage, or shaft horsepower.

"(5) LIMITATION ON FISHERY ENDORSEMENTS.—Any vessel that is replaced under this subsection shall thereafter not be eligible for a fishery endorsement under section 12113 of title 46, United States Code, unless that vessel is also a replacement vessel described in paragraph (1).

"(6) GULF OF ALASKA LIMITATION.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the Secretary shall prohibit from participation in the groundfish fisheries of the Gulf of Alaska any vessel that is rebuilt or replaced under this subsection and that exceeds the maximum length overall specified on the license that authorizes fishing for groundfish pursuant to the license limitation program under part 679 of title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on the date of enactment of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2007.

"(7) AUTHORITY OF PACIFIC COUNCIL.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to diminish or otherwise affect the authority of the Pacific Council to recommend to the Secretary conservation and management measures to protect fisheries under its jurisdiction (including the Pacific whiting fishery) and participants in such fisheries from adverse impacts caused by this Act.".

(2) EXEMPTION OF CERTAIN VESSELS.—Section 203(g) of the American Fisheries Act (title II of division C of Public Law 105–277; 112 Stat. 2681–620) is amended—

(A) by inserting "and" after "(United States official number 651041)";

(B) by striking ", NORTHERN TRAVELER (United States official number 635986), and NORTHERN VOYAGER (United States official number 637398) (or a replacement vessel for the NORTHERN VOYAGER that complies with paragraphs (2), (5), and (6) of section 208(g) of this Act)"; and

(C) by striking ", in the case of the NORTHERN" and all that follows through "PHOENIX,".

(3) FISHERY COOPERATIVE EXIT PROVISIONS.—Section 210(b) of the American Fisheries Act (title II of division C of Public Law 105–277; 112 Stat. 2681–629) is amended—

(A) by moving the matter beginning with "the Secretary shall" in paragraph (1) 2 ems to the right;

(B) by adding at the end the following:

"(7) FISHERY COOPERATIVE EXIT PROVISIONS.—

"(A) FISHING ALLOWANCE DETERMINATION.—For purposes of determining the aggregate percentage of directed fishing allowances under paragraph (1), when a catcher vessel is removed from the directed pollock fishery, the fishery allowance for pollock for the vessel being removed—

"(i) shall be based on the catch history determination for the vessel made pursuant to section 679.62 of title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on the date of enactment of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2007; and

"(ii) shall be assigned, for all purposes under this title, in the manner specified by the owner of the vessel being removed to any

other catcher vessel or among other catcher vessels participating in the fishery cooperative if such vessel or vessels remain in the fishery cooperative for at least one year after the date on which the vessel being removed leaves the directed pollock fishery.

"(B) ELIGIBILITY FOR FISHERY ENDORSEMENT.—Except as provided in subparagraph (C), a vessel that is removed pursuant to this paragraph shall be permanently ineligible for a fishery endorsement, and any claim (including relating to catch history) associated with such vessel that could qualify any owner of such vessel for any permit to participate in any fishery within the exclusive economic zone of the United States shall be extinguished, unless such removed vessel is thereafter designated to replace a vessel to be removed pursuant to this paragraph.

"(C) LIMITATIONS ON STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed—

"(i) to make the vessels AJ (United States official number 905625), DONA MARTITA (United States official number 651751), NORDIC EXPLORER (United

States official number 678234), and PROVIDIAN (United States official number 1062183) ineligible for a fishery endorsement or any permit necessary to participate in any fishery under the authority of the New England Fishery Management Council or the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council established, respectively, under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 302(a)(1) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act; or

"(ii) to allow the vessels referred to in clause (i) to participate in any fishery under the authority of the Councils referred to in clause (i) in any manner that is not consistent with the fishery management plan for the fishery developed by the Councils under section 303 of the Magnuson-Stevens Act.".

SEC. 302. GOODS AND SERVICES.

Section 4(b) of the Act of July 5, 1884, commonly known as the Rivers and Harbors Appropriation Act of 1884 (33 U.S.C. 5(b)), is amended—

(1) by striking "or" at the end of paragraph (2)(C);

(2) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (3) and inserting "; or"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(4) sales taxes on goods and services provided to or by vessels or watercraft (other than vessels or watercraft primarily engaged in foreign commerce).".

SEC. 303. SEAWARD EXTENSION OF ANCHORAGE GROUNDS JURISDICTION.

Section 7 of the Rivers and Harbors Appropriations Act of 1915 (33 U.S.C. 471) is amended—

(1) by striking "That the" and inserting the following:

"(a) IN GENERAL.—The".

(2) in subsection (a) (as designated by paragraph (1)) by striking "$100; and the" and inserting "up to $10,000. Each day during which a violation continues shall constitute a separate violation. The";

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(b) DEFINITION.—As used in this section 'navigable waters of the United States' includes all waters of the territorial sea of the United States as described in Presidential Proclamation No. 5928 of December 27, 1988.".

SEC. 304. MARITIME DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT AMENDMENT-SIMPLE POSSESSION.

Section 70506 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(c) SIMPLE POSSESSION.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Any individual on a vessel subject to the jurisdiction of the United States who is found by the Secretary, after notice and an opportunity for a hearing, to have knowingly or intentionally possessed a controlled substance within the meaning of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812) shall be liable to the United States for a civil penalty of not to exceed $10,000 for each violation. The Secretary shall notify the individual in writing of the amount of the civil penalty.

"(2) DETERMINATION OF AMOUNT.—In determining the amount of the penalty, the Secretary shall consider the nature, circumstances, extent, and gravity of the prohibited acts committed and, with respect to the violator, the degree of culpability, any history of prior offenses, ability to pay, and other matters that justice requires.

"(3) TREATMENT OF CIVIL PENALTY ASSESSMENT.—Assessment of a civil penalty under this subsection shall not be considered a conviction for purposes of State or Federal law but may be considered

proof of possession if such a determination is relevant.".

SEC. 305. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS TO TONNAGE MEASUREMENT LAW.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 14101(4) of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking "engaged" the first place it appears and inserting "that engages";

(2) in subparagraph (A), by striking "arriving" and inserting "that arrives";

(3) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) by striking "making" and inserting "that makes"; and

(B) by striking "(except a foreign vessel engaged on that voyage)";

(4) in subparagraph (C), by striking "departing" and inserting "that departs"; and

(5) in subparagraph (D), by striking "making" and inserting "that makes".

(b) DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY.—Section 14103(c) of that title is amended by striking "intended to be engaged on" and inserting "that engages on".

(c) APPLICATION.—Section 14301 of that title is amended—

(1) by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

"(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, this chapter applies to any vessel for which the application of an international agreement or other law of the United States to the vessel depends on the vessel's tonnage.";

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking the period at the end and inserting ", unless the government of the country to which the vessel belongs elects to measure the vessel under this chapter.";

(B) in paragraph (3), by inserting "of United States or Canadian registry or nationality, or a vessel operated under the authority of the United States or Canada, and that is" after "vessel";

(C) in paragraph (4), by striking "a vessel (except a vessel engaged" and inserting "a vessel of United States registry or nationality, or one operated under the authority of the United States (except a vessel that engages";

(D) by striking paragraph (5);

(E) by redesignating paragraph (6) as paragraph (5); and

(F) by amending paragraph (5), as so redesignated, to read as follows:

"(5) a barge of United States registry or nationality, or a barge operated under the authority of the United States (except a barge that engages on a foreign voyage) unless the owner requests.";

(3) by striking subsection (c);

(4) by redesignating subsections (d) and (e) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively; and

(5) in subsection (c), as redesignated, by striking "After July 18, 1994, an existing vessel (except an existing vessel referred to in subsection (b)(5)(A) or (B) of this section)" and inserting "An existing vessel that has not undergone a change that the Secretary finds substantially affects the vessel's gross tonnage (or a vessel to which IMO Resolutions A.494 (XII) of November 19, 1981, A.540 (XIII) of November 17, 1983, or A.541 (XIII) of November 17, 1983 apply)".

(d) MEASUREMENT.—Section 14302(b) of that title is amended to read as follows:

"(b) A vessel measured under this chapter may not be required to be measured under another law.".

(e) TONNAGE CERTIFICATE.—

(1) ISSUANCE.—Section 14303 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the following: "For a vessel to which the Convention does not apply, the Secretary shall prescribe a certificate to be issued as evidence of a vessel's measurement under this chapter.";

(B) in subsection (b), by inserting "issued under this section" after "certificate"; and

*(C) in the section heading by striking "**International**" and "**(1969)**".*

(2) MAINTENANCE.—Section 14503 of that title is amended—

(A) by designating the existing text as subsection (a); and

(B) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(b) The certificate shall be maintained as required by the Secretary.".

(3) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis at the beginning of chapter 143 of that title is amended by striking the item relating to section 14303 and inserting the following:

"14303. Tonnage Certificate.".

(f) OPTIONAL REGULATORY MEASUREMENT.—Section 14305(a) of that title is amended by striking "documented vessel measured under this chapter," and inserting "vessel measured under this chapter that is of United States reg-

istry or nationality, or a vessel operated under the authority of the United States,".

(g) APPLICATION.—Section 14501 of that title is amended—

(1) by amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

"(1) A vessel not measured under chapter 143 of this title if the application of an international agreement or other law of the United States to the vessel depends on the vessel's tonnage."; and

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking "a vessel" and inserting "A vessel".

(h) DUAL TONNAGE MEASUREMENT.—Section 14513(c) of that title is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking "vessel's tonnage mark is below the uppermost part of the load line marks," and inserting "vessel is assigned two sets of gross and net tonnages under this section,"; and

(B) by inserting "vessel's tonnage" before "mark" the second place such term appears; and

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end and inserting "as assigned under this section.".

(i) RECIPROCITY FOR FOREIGN VESSELS.—Subchapter II of chapter 145 of that title is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 14514. Reciprocity for foreign vessels

"For a foreign vessel not measured under chapter 143, if the Secretary finds that the laws and regulations of a foreign country related to measurement of vessels are substantially similar to those of this chapter and the regulations prescribed under this chapter, the Secretary may accept the measurement and certificate of a vessel of that foreign country as complying with this chapter and the regulations prescribed under this chapter.".

(j) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for subchapter II of chapter 145 of such title is amended by adding at the end the following:

"14514. Reciprocity for foreign vessels.".

SEC. 306. SEAMEN'S SHORESIDE ACCESS.

Each facility security plan approved under section 70103(c) of title 46, United States Code, shall provide a system for seamen assigned to a vessel at that facility, pilots, and representatives of seamen's welfare and labor organizations to board and depart the vessel through the facility in a timely manner at no cost to the individual.

SEC. 307. FISHING VESSEL SAFETY.

(a) SAFETY STANDARDS.—Section 4502 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by—

(A) striking paragraphs (6) and (7) and inserting the following:

"(6) other equipment required to minimize the risk of injury to the crew during vessel operations, if the Secretary determines that a risk of serious injury exists that can be eliminated or mitigated by that equipment; and"; and

(B) redesignating paragraph (8) as paragraph (7);

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking "documented";

(B) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking "the Boundary Line" and inserting "3 nautical miles from the baseline from which the territorial sea of the United States is measured or beyond 3 nautical miles from the coastline of the Great Lakes";

(C) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking "lifeboats or liferafts" and inserting "a survival craft that ensures that no part of an individual is immersed in water";

(D) in paragraph (2)(D), by inserting "marine" before "radio";

(E) in paragraph (2)(E), by striking "radar reflectors, nautical charts, and anchors" and inserting "nautical charts, and publications";

(F) in paragraph (2)(F), by striking ", including medicine chests" and inserting "and medical supplies sufficient for the size and area of operation of the vessel" and

(G) by amending paragraph (2)(G) to read as follows:

"(G) ground tackle sufficient for the vessel.";

(3) by amending subsection (f) to read as follows:

"(f) To ensure compliance with the requirements of this chapter, the Secretary—

"(1) shall require the individual in charge of a vessel described in subsection (b) to keep a record of equipment maintenance, and required instruction and drills; and

"(2) shall examine at dockside a vessel described in subsection (b) at least twice every 5 years, and shall issue a certificate of compliance to a vessel meeting the requirements of this chapter."; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

"(g)(1) The individual in charge of a vessel described in subsection (b) must pass a training program approved by the Secretary that meets the requirements in paragraph (2) of this subsection and hold a valid certificate issued under that program.

"(2) The training program shall—

"(A) be based on professional knowledge and skill obtained through sea service and hands-on training, including training in seamanship, stability, collision prevention, navigation, fire fighting and prevention, damage control, personal survival, emergency medical care, and weather;

"(B) require an individual to demonstrate ability to communicate in an emergency situation and understand information found in navigation publications;

"(C) recognize and give credit for recent past experience in fishing vessel operation; and

"(D) provide for issuance of a certificate to an individual that has successfully completed the program.

"(3) The Secretary shall prescribe regulations implementing this subsection. The regulations shall require that individuals who are issued a certificate under paragraph (2)(D) must complete refresher training at least once every

5 years as a condition of maintaining the validity of the certificate.

"(4) The Secretary shall establish a publicly accessible electronic database listing the names of individuals who have participated in and received a certificate confirming successful completion of a training program approved by the Secretary under this section.

"(h) A vessel to which this chapter applies shall be constructed in a manner that provides a level of safety equivalent to the minimum safety standards the Secretary may established for recreational vessels under section 4302, if—

"(1) subsection (b) of this section applies to the vessel;

"(2) the vessel is less than 50 feet overall in length; and

"(3) the vessel is built after January 1, 2008.

"(i)(1) The Secretary shall establish a Fishing Safety Training Grants Program to provide funding to municipalities, port authorities, other appropriate public entities, not-for-profit organizations, and other qualified persons that provide commercial fishing safety training—

"(A) to conduct fishing vessel safety training that meets the requirements of subsection (g); and

"(B) for purchase of safety equipment and training aids for use in those fishing vessel safety training programs.

"(2) The Secretary shall award grants under this subsection on a competitive basis.

"(3) The Federal share of the cost of any activity carried out with a grant under this subsection shall not exceed 75 percent.

"(4) There is authorized to be appropriated $3,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012 for grants under this subsection.

"(j)(1) The Secretary shall establish a Fishing Safety Research Grant Program to provide funding to individuals in academia, members of non-profit organizations and businesses involved in fishing and maritime matters, and other persons with expertise in fishing safety, to conduct research on methods of improving the safety of the commercial fishing industry, including vessel design, emergency and survival equipment, enhancement of vessel monitoring systems, communications devices, de-icing technology, and severe weather detection.

"(2) The Secretary shall award grants under this subsection on a competitive basis.

"(3) The Federal share of the cost of any activity carried out with a grant under this subsection shall not exceed 75 percent.".

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 4506(b) of title 46, United States Code, is repealed.

(c) ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—

(1) CHANGE OF NAME.—Section 4508 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking the section heading and inserting the following:

"§ 4508. Commercial Fishing Safety Advisory Committee";

and

(B) in subsection (a) by striking "Industry Vessel".

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of section at the beginning of chapter 45 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to such section and inserting the following:

"4508. Commercial Fishing Safety Advisory Committee.".

(d) LOADLINES FOR VESSELS OVER 79 FEET.—Section 5102(b)(3) of title 46, United States Code, is amended by inserting after "vessel" the following ", unless the vessel is built or undergoes a major conversion completed after January 1, 2008".

(e) CLASSING OF VESSELS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 4503 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking the section heading and inserting the following:

"§ 4503. Fishing, fish tender, and fish processing vessel certification";

(B) in subsection (a) by striking "fish processing"; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

"(c) This section applies to a vessel to which section 4502(b) of this title applies that—

"(1) is at least 50 feet overall in length;

"(2) is built after January 1, 2008; or

"(3) undergoes a major conversion completed after that date.

"(d) After January 1, 2018, this section applies to a fishing vessel or fish tender vessel that is built before January 1, 2008, and is 25 years of age or older, unless the vessel complies with an alternate safety compliance program prescribed by the Secretary.".

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of section at the beginning of chapter 45 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to such section and inserting the following:

"4503. Fishing, fish tender, and fish processing vessel certification.".

(f) ALTERNATIVE SAFETY COMPLIANCE PROGRAM.—No later than January 1, 2015, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall prescribe an alternative safety compliance program referred to in section 4503(d) of the title 46, United States Code, as amended by this section.

SEC. 308. MARINER RECORDS.

Section 7502 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting "(a)" before "The";

(2) by striking "computerized records" and inserting "records, including electronic records,"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(b) The Secretary may prescribe regulations requiring a vessel owner or managing operator of a commercial vessel, or the employer of a seaman on that vessel, to maintain records of each individual engaged on the vessel on matters of engagement, discharge, and service for not less than 5 years after the date of the completion of the service of that individual on the vessel. The regulations may require that a vessel owner, managing operator, or employer shall make these records available to the individual and the Coast Guard on request.

"(c) A person violating this section, or a regulation prescribed under this section, is liable to the United States Government for a civil penalty of not more than $5,000.".

SEC. 309. DELETION OF EXEMPTION OF LICENSE REQUIREMENT FOR OPERATORS OF CERTAIN TOWING VESSELS.

Section 8905 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (b); and

(2) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (b).

SEC. 310. ADJUSTMENT OF LIABILITY LIMITS FOR NATURAL GAS DEEPWATER PORTS.

Section 1004(d)(2) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2704(d)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(D) The Secretary may establish, by regulation, a limit of liability of not less than $12,000,000 for a deepwater port used only in connection with transportation of natural gas.".

SEC. 311. PERIOD OF LIMITATIONS FOR CLAIMS AGAINST OIL SPILL LIABILITY TRUST FUND.

Section 1012(h)(1) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2712(h)(1)) is amended by striking "6" and inserting "3".

SEC. 312. LOG BOOKS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 113 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 11304. Additional logbook and entry requirements

"(a) A vessel of the United States that is subject to inspection under section 3301 of this title, except a vessel on a voyage from a port in the United States to a port in Canada, shall have an official logbook.

"(b) The log book required by subsection (a) shall include the following entries:

"(1) The time when each seaman and each officer assumed or relieved the watch.

"(2) The number of hours in service to the vessels of each seaman and each officer.

"(3) An account of each accident, illness, and injury that occurs during each watch.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following:

"11304. Additional logbook and entry requirements.".

SEC. 313. UNSAFE OPERATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 21 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"§ 2116. Termination for unsafe operation

"An individual authorized to enforce this title—

"(1) may remove a certificate required by this title from a vessel that is operating in a condition that does not comply with the provisions of the certificate;

"(2) may order the individual in charge of a vessel that is operating that does not have on board the certificate required by this title to return the vessel to a mooring and to remain there until the vessel is in compliance with this title; and

"(3) may direct the individual in charge of a vessel to which this title applies to immediately take reasonable steps necessary for the safety of individuals on board the vessel if the official observes the vessel being operated in an unsafe condition that the official believes creates an especially hazardous condition, including ordering the individual in charge to return the vessel to a mooring and to remain there until the situation creating the hazard is corrected or ended.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of that title is amended by adding at the end the following:

"2116. Termination for unsafe operation.".

SEC. 314. APPROVAL OF SURVIVAL CRAFT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 31 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"§ 3104. Survival craft

"(a) Except as provided in subsection (b), the Secretary may not approve a survival craft as a safety device for purposes of this part, unless the craft ensures that no part of an individual is immersed in water.

"(b) The Secretary may authorize a survival craft that does not provide protection described in subsection (a) to remain in service until not later than January 1, 2013, if—

"(1) it was approved by the Secretary before January 1, 2008; and

"(2) it is in serviceable condition.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of that title is amended by adding at the end the following:

"3104. Survival craft.".

SEC. 315. SAFETY MANAGEMENT.

(a) VESSELS TO WHICH REQUIREMENTS APPLY.—Section 3202 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a) by striking the heading and inserting "FOREIGN VOYAGES AND FOREIGN VESSELS.—";

(2) by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively;

(3) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

"(b) OTHER PASSENGER VESSELS.—This chapter applies to a vessel that is—

"(1) a passenger vessel or small passenger vessel; and

"(2) is transporting more passengers than a number prescribed by the Secretary based on the number of individuals on the vessel that could be killed or injured in a marine casualty.";

(4) in subsection (d), as so redesignated, by striking "subsection (b)" and inserting "subsection (c)";

(5) in subsection (d)(4), as so redesignated, by inserting "that is not described in subsection (b) of this section" after "waters".

(b) SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.—Section 3203 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(c) In prescribing regulations for passenger vessels and small passenger vessels, the Secretary shall consider the characteristics, methods of operation, and nature of the service of these vessels.".

SEC. 316. PROTECTION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2114 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1)(A), by striking "or" after the semicolon;

(2) in subsection (a)(1)(B), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(3) by adding at the end of subsection (a)(1) the following new subparagraphs:

"(C) the seaman testified in a proceeding brought to enforce a maritime safety law or regulation prescribed under that law;

"(D) the seaman notified, or attempted to notify, the vessel owner or the Secretary of a work-related personal injury or work-related illness of a seaman;

"(E) the seaman cooperated with a safety investigation by the Secretary or the National Transportation Safety Board;

"(F) the seaman furnished information to the Secretary, the National Transportation Safety Board, or any other public official as to the facts relating to any marine casualty resulting in injury or death to an individual or damage to property occurring in connection with vessel transportation; or

"(G) the seaman accurately reported hours of duty under this part."; and

(4) by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

"(b) A seaman alleging discharge or discrimination in violation of subsection (a) of this section, or another person at the seaman's request, may file a complaint with respect to such allegation in the same manner as a complaint may be filed under subsection (b) of section 31105 of title 49. Such complaint shall be subject to the procedures, requirements, and rights described in that section, including with respect to the right to file an objection, the right of a person to file for a petition for review under subsection (c) of that section, and the requirement to bring a civil action under subsection (d) of that section.".

(b) EXISTING ACTIONS.—This section shall not affect the application of section 2114(b) of title 46, United States Code, as in effect before the date of enactment of this Act, to an action filed under that section before that date.

SEC. 317. DRY BULK CARGO RESIDUE.

Section 623(a)(2) of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2004 (33 U.S.C. 1901 note) is amended by striking "2008" and inserting "2009".

SEC. 318. CLARIFICATION OF DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES.

Section 3316 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(1), by inserting "or for a floating installation" after "chapter 121 of this title";

(2) in subsection (b)(2)(A), by inserting "or for floating installations" after "vessels documented in that country";

(3) in subsection (b)(3)(A), by inserting "or floating installation" after "after the vessel"; and

(4) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(d) For purposes of this section, the term 'floating installation' means any installation, structure, or other device that floats and that either dynamically holds position or is temporarily or permanently attached to the seabed or subsoil under the territorial sea of the United States or the outer Continental Shelf (as that term is defined in section 2 of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331)), and is used for the purpose of exploring for, developing, producing, or storing the resources from that seabed or subsoil.".

SEC. 319. REGISTRY ENDORSEMENT FOR LNG VESSELS.

Section 12111 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(d) A vessel or facility for which a registry endorsement is not issued may not engage in regassifying on navigable waters unless the vessel or facility transported the gas from a foreign port.".

SEC. 320. OATHS.

Sections 7105 and 7305 of title 46, United States Code, and the items relating to such sections in the analysis for chapters 71 and 73 of such title, are repealed.

SEC. 321. DURATION OF CREDENTIALS.

(a) MERCHANT MARINER'S DOCUMENTS.—Section 7302(f) of title 46, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"(f) PERIODS OF VALIDITY AND RENEWAL OF MERCHANT MARINERS' DOCUMENTS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (g), a merchant mariner's document issued under this chapter is valid for a 5-year period and may be renewed for additional 5-year periods.

"(2) ADVANCE RENEWALS.—A renewed merchant mariner's document may be issued under this chapter up to 8 months in advance but is not effective until the date that the previously issued merchant mariner's document expires.".

(b) DURATION OF LICENSES.—Section 7106 of such title is amended to read as follows:

"§ 7106. Duration of licenses

"(a) IN GENERAL.—A license issued under this part is valid for a 5-year period and may be renewed for additional 5-year periods; except that the validity of a license issued to a radio officer is conditioned on the continuous

possession by the holder of a first-class or second-class radiotelegraph operator license issued by the Federal Communications Commission.

"(b) ADVANCE RENEWALS.—A renewed license issued under this part may be issued up to 8 months in advance but is not effective until the date that the previously issued license expires.".

(c) CERTIFICATES OF REGISTRY.—Section 7107 of such title is amended to read as follows:

"§ 7107. Duration of certificates of registry

"(a) IN GENERAL.—A certificate of registry issued under this part is valid for a 5-year period and may be renewed for additional 5-year periods; except that the validity of a certificate issued to a medical doctor or professional nurse is conditioned on the continuous possession by the holder of a license as a medical doctor or registered nurse, respectively, issued by a State.

"(b) ADVANCE RENEWALS.—A renewed certificate of registry issued under this part may be issued up to 8 months in advance but is not effective until the date that the previously issued certificate of registry expires.".

SEC. 322. FINGERPRINTING.

(a) MERCHANT MARINER LICENSES AND DOCUMENTS.—Chapter 75 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 7507. Fingerprinting

"The Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating may not require an individual to be fingerprinted for the issuance or renewal of a license, a certificate of registry, or a merchant mariner's document under chapter 71 or 73 if the individual was fingerprinted when the individual applied for a transportation security card under section 70105.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following:

"7507. Fingerprinting.".

SEC. 323. AUTHORIZATION TO EXTEND THE DURATION OF LICENSES, CERTIFICATES OF REGISTRY, AND MERCHANT MARINERS' DOCUMENTS.

(a) MERCHANT MARINER LICENSES AND DOCUMENTS.—Chapter 75 of title 46, United States Code, as amended by section 322(a) of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 7508. Authority to extend the duration of licenses, certificates of registry, and merchant mariner documents

"(a) LICENSES AND CERTIFICATES OF REGISTRY.—Notwithstanding section 7106 and 7107, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating may extend for one year an expiring license or certificate of registry issued for an individual under chapter 71 if the Sec-

retary determines that extension is required to enable the Coast Guard to eliminate a backlog in processing applications for those licenses or certificates of registry.

"(b) MERCHANT MARINER DOCUMENTS.—Notwithstanding section 7302(g), the Secretary may extend for one year an expiring merchant mariner's document issued for an individual under chapter 71 if the Secretary determines that extension is required to enable the Coast Guard to eliminate a backlog in processing applications for those documents.

"(c) MANNER OF EXTENSION.—Any extensions granted under this section may be granted to individual seamen or a specifically identified group of seamen.

"(d) EXPIRATION OF AUTHORITY.—The authority for providing an extension under this section shall expire on June 30, 2009.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for such chapter, as amended by section 322(b), is further amended by adding at the end the following:

"7508. Authority to extend the duration of licenses, certificates of registry, and merchant mariner documents.".

SEC. 324. MERCHANT MARINER DOCUMENTATION.

(a) INTERIM CLEARANCE PROCESS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall develop an interim clearance process for

issuance of a merchant mariner document to enable a newly hired seaman to begin working on an offshore supply vessel or towing vessel if the Secretary makes an initial determination that the seaman does not pose a safety and security risk.

(b) CONTENTS OF PROCESS.—The process under subsection (a) shall include a check against the consolidated and integrated terrorist watch list maintained by the Federal Government, review of the seaman's criminal record, and review of the results of testing the seaman for use of a dangerous drug (as defined in section 2101 of title 46, United States Code) in violation of law or Federal regulation.

SEC. 325. MERCHANT MARINER ASSISTANCE REPORT.

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report regarding a plan—

(1) to expand the streamlined evaluation process program that was affiliated with the Houston Regional Examination Center of the Coast Guard to all processing centers of the Coast Guard nationwide;

(2) to include proposals to simplify the application process for a license as an officer, staff officer, or operator and for a merchant mariner's document to help eliminate errors by merchant mariners when completing the application form (CG–719B), including instructions attached to the application form and a modified application form for renewals with questions pertaining only to the period of time since the previous application;

(3) to provide notice to an applicant of the status of the pending application, including a process to allow the applicant to check on the status of the application by electronic means; and

(4) to ensure that all information collected with respect to applications for new or renewed licenses, merchant mariner documents, and certificates of registry is retained in a secure electronic format.

SEC. 326. MERCHANT MARINER SHORTAGE REPORT.

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation, acting through the Administrator of the Maritime Administration, shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report concerning methods to address the current and future

shortage in the number of merchant mariners, particularly entry-level mariners, including an evaluation of whether an educational loan program providing loans for the cost of on-the-job training would provide an incentive for workers and help alleviate the shortage.

SEC. 327. MERCHANT MARINER DOCUMENT STANDARDS.

Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate—

(1) a plan to ensure that the process for an application, by an individual who has, or has applied for, a transportation security card under section 70105 of title 46, United States Code, for a merchant mariner document can be completed entirely by mail; and

(2) a report on the feasibility of, and a timeline to, redesign the merchant mariner document to comply with the requirements of such section, including a biometric identifier, and all relevant international conventions, including the International Labour Organization Convention Number 185 concerning the seafarers identity document, and include a review on

whether or not such redesign will eliminate the need for separate credentials and background screening and streamline the application process for mariners.

SEC. 328. WATERSIDE SECURITY AROUND LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS TERMINALS AND LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS TANKERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant of the Coast Guard shall be responsible for providing waterside security services around liquefied natural gas terminals and around tankers transporting liquefied natural gas in security zones established by the Coast Guard.

(b) LIMITATION ON RELIANCE ON STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—Security arrangements approved as part of the facility security plan approved under section 70103 of title 46, United States Code, for an onshore liquefied natural gas terminal may not be based upon the provision of security by a State or local government unless the State or local government has entered into a contract, cooperative agreement, or other arrangement with the terminal operator to provide such services and the Secretary certifies that the waterborne patrols operated by State or local governments have the training, resources, personnel, equipment, and experience necessary to successfully deter all transportation security incidents (as that term is defined in section 70101 of title 46, United States Code).

(c) ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY ZONES.—Security zones established by the Coast Guard around tankers transporting liquefied natural gas shall be enforced by the Coast Guard.

(d) CERTIFICATION REQUIRED FOR NEW LNG TERMINALS.—The Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating may not approve a facility security plan under section 70103 of title 46, United States Code, for a liquefied natural gas terminal the construction of which is begun after the date of enactment of this Act unless the Secretary certifies that the Coast Guard sector in which the terminal is located has all of the assets it needs to provide waterside security around the terminal and to provide security around tankers transporting liquefied natural gas in security zones established by the Coast Guard.

TITLE IV—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SEC. 401. CERTIFICATE OF DOCUMENTATION FOR GALLANT LADY.

Section 1120(c) of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 1996 (110 Stat. 3977) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking "of Transportation" and inserting "of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating"; and

(B) by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

"(A) the vessel GALLANT LADY (Feadship hull number 672, approximately 168 feet in length).";

(2) by striking paragraphs (3) and (4) and redesignating paragraph (5) as paragraph (3); and

(3) in paragraph (3) (as so redesignated) by striking all after "shall expire" and inserting "on the date of the sale of the vessel by the owner.".

SEC. 402. WAIVER.

Notwithstanding section 12112 and chapter 551 of title 46, United States Code, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating may issue a certificate of documentation with a coastwise endorsement for the OCEAN VERITAS (IMO Number 7366805).

SEC. 403. GREAT LAKES MARITIME RESEARCH INSTITUTE.

Section 605 of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2004 (118 Stat. 1052) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(1)—

(A) by striking "The Secretary of Transportation shall conduct a study that" and inserting "The Institute shall conduct maritime transportation studies of the Great Lakes region, including studies that";

(B) in subparagraphs (A), (B), (C), (E), (F), (H), (I), and (J) by striking "evaluates" and inserting "evaluate";

(C) in subparagraphs (D) and (G) by striking "analyzes" and inserting "analyze";

(D) by striking "and" at the end of subparagraph (I);

(E) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (J) and inserting a semicolon;

(F) by adding at the end the following:

"(K) identify ways to improve the integration of the Great Lakes marine transportation system into the national transportation system;

"(L) examine the potential of expanded operations on the Great Lakes marine transportation system;

"(M) identify ways to include intelligent transportation applications into the Great Lakes marine transportation system;

"(N) analyze the effects and impacts of aging infrastructure and port corrosion on the Great Lakes marine transportation system;

"(O) establish and maintain a model Great Lakes marine transportation system database; and

"(P) identify market opportunities for, and impediments to, the use of United States-flag vessels in trade with Canada on the Great Lakes."; and

(2) by striking subsection (b)(4) and inserting the following:

"(4) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out paragraph (1)—

"(A) $2,100,000 for fiscal year 2007;

"(B) $2,200,000 for fiscal year 2008;

"(C) $2,300,000 for fiscal year 2009;

"(D) $2,400,000 for fiscal year 2010; and

"(E) $2,500,000 for fiscal year 2011.".

SEC. 404. CONVEYANCE.

(a) STATION BRANT POINT BOAT HOUSE.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall convey to the town of Nantucket, Massachusetts, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the buildings known as the Station Brant Point Boat House located at Coast Guard Station Brant Point, Nantucket, Massachusetts, for use for a public purpose.

(2) TERMS OF CONVEYANCE.—A conveyance of the building under paragraph (1) shall be made—

(A) without the payment of consideration; and

(B) subject to appropriate terms and conditions the Secretary considers necessary.

(3) REVERSIONARY INTEREST.—All right, title, and interest in property conveyed under this subsection shall revert to the United States if any portion of the property is used other than for a public purpose.

(b) LEASE.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall enter into a lease with the town of Nantucket that authorizes the town of Nantucket to occupy the land on which the buildings conveyed under subsection (a) are located, subject to appropriate terms and conditions the Secretary considers necessary.

(2) LEASE TERM.—A lease under this subsection shall not expire before January 31, 2033.

(3) TERMINATION OF LEASE.—If the Secretary determines that the property leased under paragraph (1) is necessary for purposes of the Coast Guard, the Secretary—

(A) may terminate the lease without payment of compensation; and

(B) shall provide the town of Nantucket not less than 12 months notice of the requirement to vacate the site and move the buildings conveyed under subsection (a) to another location.

SEC. 405. CREW WAGES ON PASSENGER VESSELS.

(a) FOREIGN AND INTERCOASTAL VOYAGES.—

(1) CAP ON PENALTY WAGES.—Section 10313(g) of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking "When" and inserting "(1) Subject to paragraph (2), when"; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

"(2) The total amount required to be paid under paragraph (1) with respect to all claims in a class action suit by seamen on a passenger vessel capable of carrying more than 500 passengers for wages under this section against a vessel master, owner, or operator or the employer of the seamen shall not exceed ten times the unpaid wages that are the subject of the claims.

"(3) A class action suit for wages under this subsection must be commenced within three years after the later of—

"(A) the date of the end of the last voyage for which the wages are claimed; or

"(B) the receipt, by a seaman who is a claimant in the suit, of a payment of wages that are the subject of the suit that is made in the ordinary course of employment.".

(2) DEPOSITS.—Section 10315 of such title is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(f) DEPOSITS IN SEAMAN ACCOUNT.—A seaman employed on a passenger vessel capable of carrying more than 500 passengers may authorize, by written request signed by the seaman, the master, owner, or operator of the vessel, or the employer of the seaman, to make deposits of wages of the seaman into a checking, savings, investment, or retirement account, or other account to secure a payroll or debit card for the seaman if—

"(1) the wages designated by the seaman for such deposit are deposited in a United States or international financial institution designated by the seaman;

"(2) such deposits in the financial institution are fully guaranteed under commonly accepted international standards by the government of the country in which the financial institution is licensed;

"(3) a written wage statement or pay stub, including an accounting of any direct deposit, is delivered to the seaman no less often than monthly; and

"(4) while on board the vessel on which the seaman is employed, the seaman is able to arrange for withdrawal of all funds on deposit in the account in which the wages are deposited.".

(b) COASTWISE VOYAGES.—

(1) CAP ON PENALTY WAGES.—Section 10504(c) of such title is amended—

(A) by striking "When" and inserting "(1) Subject to subsection (d), and except as provided in paragraph (2), when"; and

(B) by inserting at the end the following:

"(2) The total amount required to be paid under paragraph (1) with respect to all claims in a class action suit by seamen on a passenger vessel capable of carrying more than 500 passengers for wages under this section against a vessel master, owner, or operator or the employer of the seamen shall not exceed ten times the unpaid wages that are the subject of the claims.

"(3) A class action suit for wages under this subsection must be commenced within three years after the later of—

"(A) the date of the end of the last voyage for which the wages are claimed; or

"(B) the receipt, by a seaman who is a claimant in the suit, of a payment of wages that are the subject

of the suit that is made in the ordinary course of employment.".

(2) DEPOSITS.—Section 10504 of such title is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(f) DEPOSITS IN SEAMAN ACCOUNT.—A seaman employed on a passenger vessel capable of carrying more than 500 passengers may authorize, by written request signed by the seaman, the master, owner, or operator of the vessel, or the employer of the seaman, to make deposits of wages of the seaman into a checking, savings, investment, or retirement account, or other account to secure a payroll or debit card for the seaman if—

"(1) the wages designated by the seaman for such deposit are deposited in a United States or international financial institution designated by the seaman;

"(2) such deposits in the financial institution are fully guaranteed under commonly accepted international standards by the government of the country in which the financial institution is licensed;

"(3) a written wage statement or pay stub, including an accounting of any direct deposit, is delivered to the seaman no less often than monthly; and

"(4) while on board the vessel on which the seaman is employed, the seaman is able to arrange for

withdrawal of all funds on deposit in the account in which the wages are deposited.".

SEC. 406. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.

(a) COAST GUARD AND MARITIME TRANSPORTATION ACT OF 2006.—Effective with enactment of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–241), such Act is amended—

(1) in section 311(b) (120 Stat. 530) by inserting "paragraphs (1) and (2) of" before "section 8104(o)";

(2) in section 603(a)(2) (120 Stat. 554) by striking "33 U.S.C. 2794(a)(2)" and inserting "33 U.S.C. 2704(a)(2)";

(3) in section 901(r)(2) (120 Stat. 566) by striking "the" the second place it appears;

(4) in section 902(c) (120 Stat. 566) by inserting "of the United States" after "Revised Statutes";

(5) in section 902(e) (120 Stat. 567) is amended—

(A) by inserting "and" after the semicolon at the end of paragraph (1);

(B) by striking "and" at the end of paragraph (2)(A); and

(C) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and (4) as subparagraphs (C) and (D) of paragraph

(2), respectively, and aligning the left margin of such subparagraphs with the left margin of subparagraph (A) of paragraph (2);

(6) in section 902(e)(2)(C) (as so redesignated) by striking "this section" and inserting "this paragraph";

(7) in section 902(e)(2)(D) (as so redesignated) by striking "this section" and inserting "this paragraph";

(8) in section 902(h)(1) (120 Stat. 567)—

(A) by striking "Bisti/De-Na-Zin" and all that follows through "Protection" and inserting "Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management"; and

(B) by inserting a period after "Commandant of the Coast Guard";

(9) in section 902(k) (120 Stat. 568) is amended—

(A) by inserting "the Act of March 23, 1906, commonly known as" before "the General Bridge";

(B) by striking "491)" and inserting "494),"; and

(C) by inserting "each place it appears" before "and inserting"; and

(10) in section 902(o) (120 Stat. 569) by striking the period after "Homeland Security".

(b) TITLE 14.—(1) The analysis for chapter 7 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding a period at the end of the item relating to section 149.

(2) The analysis for chapter 17 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding a period at the end of the item relating to section 677.

(3) The analysis for chapter 9 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding a period at the end of the item relating to section 198.

(c) TITLE 46.—(1) The analysis for chapter 81 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding a period at the end of the item relating to section 8106.

(2) Section 70105(c)(3)(C) of such title is amended by striking "National Intelligence Director" and inserting "Director of National Intelligence".

(d) DEEPWATER PORT ACT OF 1974.—Section 5(c)(2) of the Deepwater Port Act of 1974 (33 U.S.C. 1504(c)(2)) is amended by aligning the left margin of subparagraph (K) with the left margin of subparagraph (L).

(e) OIL POLLUTION ACT OF 1990.—(1) Section 1004(a)(2) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2704(a)(2)) is amended by striking the first comma following "$800,000".

(2) The table of sections in section 2 of such Act is amended by inserting a period at the end of the item relating to section 7002.

(f) COAST GUARD AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1996.—The table of sections in section 2 of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 1996 is amended in the item relating to section 103 by striking "reports" and inserting "report".

SEC. 407. CONVEYANCE OF DECOMMISSIONED COAST GUARD CUTTER STORIS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Upon the scheduled decommissioning of the Coast Guard Cutter STORIS, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall convey, without consideration, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to that vessel to the USCG Cutter STORIS Museum and Maritime Education Center, LLC, located in the State of Alaska if the recipient—

(1) agrees—

(A) to use the vessel for purposes of a museum and historical display;

(B) not to use the vessel for commercial transportation purposes;

(C) to make the vessel available to the United States Government if needed for use by the Commandant in time of war or a national emergency; and

(D) to hold the Government harmless for any claims arising from exposure to hazardous materials, including asbestos and polychlorinated biphenyls, after conveyance of the vessel, except for claims arising from the use by the Government under subparagraph (C);

(2) has funds available that will be committed to operate and maintain in good working condition the vessel conveyed, in the form of cash, liquid assets, or a written loan commitment and in an amount of at least $700,000; and

(3) agrees to any other conditions the Commandant considers appropriate.

(b) MAINTENANCE AND DELIVERY OF VESSEL.—

(1) MAINTENANCE.—Before conveyance of the vessel under this section, the Commandant shall make, to the extent practical and subject to other Coast Guard mission requirements, every effort to maintain the integrity of the vessel and its equipment until the time of delivery.

(2) DELIVERY.—If a conveyance is made under this section, the Commandant shall deliver the vessel to a suitable mooring in the local area in its present condition.

(3) TREATMENT OF CONVEYANCE.—The conveyance of the vessel under this section shall not be considered a distribution in commerce for purposes of section 6(e) of Public Law 94–469 (15 U.S.C. 2605(e)).

(c) OTHER EXCESS EQUIPMENT.—The Commandant may convey to the recipient of a conveyance under subsection (a) any excess equipment or parts from other decommissioned Coast Guard vessels for use to enhance the operability and function of the vessel conveyed under subsection (a) for purposes of a museum and historical display.

SEC. 408. REPEAL OF REQUIREMENT OF LICENSE FOR EMPLOYMENT IN THE BUSINESS OF SALVAGING ON THE COAST OF FLORIDA.

Chapter 801 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking section 80102; and

(2) in the table of sections at the beginning of the chapter by striking the item relating to that section.

SEC. 409. RIGHT-OF-FIRST-REFUSAL FOR COAST GUARD PROPERTY ON JUPITER ISLAND, FLORIDA.

(a) RIGHT-OF-FIRST-REFUSAL.—Notwithstanding any other law (other than this section), the Town of Jupiter Island, Florida, shall have the right-of-first-refusal for an exchange of real property within the jurisdiction of the

Town comprising Parcel #35–38–42–004–000–02590–6 (Bon Air Beach lots 259 and 260 located at 83 North Beach Road) and Parcel #35–38–42–004–000–02610–2 (Bon Air Beach lots 261 to 267), including any improvements thereon, for other real property of equal or greater value.

(b) IDENTIFICATION OF PROPERTY.—The Commandant of the Coast Guard may identify, describe, and determine the property referred to in subsection (a) that is subject to the right of the Town under that subsection.

(c) LIMITATION.—The property referred to in subsection (a) may not be conveyed under that subsection until the Commandant of the Coast Guard determines that the property is not needed to carry out Coast Guard missions or functions.

(d) REQUIRED USE.—Any property conveyed under this section shall be used by the Town of Jupiter Island, Florida, solely for conservation of habitat and as protection against damage from wind, tidal, and wave energy.

(e) REVERSION.—Any conveyance of property under this section shall be subject to the condition that all right, title, and interest in the property, at the option of the Commandant of the Coast Guard, shall revert to the United States Government if the property is used for purposes other than conservation.

(f) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Commandant of the Coast Guard shall upon request by the Town—

(1) promptly take those actions necessary to make property identified under subsection (b) and determined by the Commandant under subsection (c) ready for conveyance to the Town; and

(2) convey the property to the Town subject to subsections (d) and (e).

SEC. 410. CONVEYANCE OF COAST GUARD HU–25 FALCON JET AIRCRAFT.

(a) AUTHORITY TO CONVEY.—Notwithstanding any other law, the Commandant of the Coast Guard may convey to the Elizabeth City State University (in this section referred to as the "University"), a public university located in the State of North Carolina, without consideration all right, title, and interest of the United States in an HU–25 Falcon Jet aircraft under the administrative jurisdiction of the Coast Guard that the Commandant determines—

(1) is appropriate for use by the University; and

(2) is excess to the needs of the Coast Guard.

(b) CONDITIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—As a condition of conveying an aircraft to the University under subsection (a), the Commandant shall enter into an agreement with the University under which the University agrees—

(A) to utilize the aircraft for educational purposes or other public purposes as jointly agreed upon by the Commandant and the University before conveyance; and

(B) to hold the United States harmless for any claim arising with respect to the aircraft after conveyance of the aircraft.

(2) REVERSIONARY INTEREST.—If the Commandant determines that the recipient violated subparagraph (A) or (B) of paragraph (1), then—

(A) all right, title, and interest in the aircraft shall revert to the United States;

(B) the United States shall have the right to immediate possession of the aircraft; and

(C) the recipient shall pay the United States for its costs incurred in recovering the aircraft for such violation.

(c) LIMITATION ON FUTURE TRANSFERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant shall include in the instruments for the conveyance a requirement that any further conveyance of an interest in the aircraft may not be made without the approval in advance of the Commandant.

(2) REVERSIONARY INTEREST.—If the Commandant determines that an interest in the aircraft was conveyed without such approval, then—

(A) all right, title, and interest in the aircraft shall revert to the United States;

(B) the United States shall have the right to immediate possession of the aircraft; and

(C) the recipient shall pay the United States for its costs incurred in recovering the aircraft for such a violation.

(d) DELIVERY OF AIRCRAFT.—The Commandant shall deliver the aircraft conveyed under subsection (a)—

(1) at the place where the aircraft is located on the date of the conveyance;

(2) in its condition on the date of conveyance; and

(3) without cost to the United States.

(e) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Commandant may require such additional terms and conditions in connection with the conveyance required by subsection (a) as the Commandant considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

SEC. 411. DECOMMISSIONED COAST GUARD VESSELS FOR HAITI.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other law, upon the scheduled decommissioning of any Coast Guard 41-foot patrol boat, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall give the Government of Haiti a right-of-first-refusal for conveyance of that vessel to the Government of Haiti, if that Government of Haiti agrees—

(1) to use the vessel for the Coast Guard of Haiti;

(2) to make the vessel available to the United States Government if needed for use by the Commandant in time of war or national emergency;

(3) to hold the United States Government harmless for any claims arising from exposure to hazardous materials, including asbestos and polychlorinated biphenyls, after conveyance of the vessel, except for claims arising from the use by the United States Government under paragraph (2); and

(4) to any other conditions the Commandant considers appropriate.

(b) LIMITATION.—The Commandant may not convey more than 10 vessels to the Government of Haiti pursuant to this section.

(c) MAINTENANCE AND DELIVERY OF VESSEL.—

(1) MAINTENANCE.—Before conveyance of a vessel under this section, the Commandant shall make, to the extent practical and subject to other Coast Guard mission requirements, every effort to maintain the integrity of the vessel and its equipment until the time of delivery.

(2) DELIVERY.—If a conveyance is made under this section, the Commandant shall deliver a vessel to a suitable mooring in the local area in its present condition.

(3) TREATMENT OF CONVEYANCE.—The conveyance of a vessel under this section shall not be considered a distribution in commerce for purposes of section 6(e) of Public Law 94–469 (15 U.S.C. 2605(e)).

SEC. 412. EXTENSION OF PERIOD OF OPERATION OF VESSEL FOR SETTING, RELOCATION, OR RECOVERY OF ANCHORS OR OTHER MOORING EQUIPMENT.

Section 705(a)(2) of Public Law 109–347 (120 Stat. 1945) is amended by striking "2" and inserting "3".

SEC. 413. VESSEL TRAFFIC RISK ASSESSMENTS.

(a) REQUIREMENT.—The Commandant of the Coast Guard, acting through the appropriate Area Committee established under section 311(j)(4) of the Federal Water Pol-

lution Control Act, shall prepare a vessel traffic risk assessment—

(1) for Cook Inlet, Alaska, within one year after the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) for the Aleutian Islands, Alaska, within two years after the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) CONTENTS.—Each of the assessments shall describe, for the region covered by the assessment—

(1) the amount and character of present and estimated future shipping traffic in the region; and

(2) the current and projected use and effectiveness in reducing risk, of—

(A) traffic separation schemes and routing measures;

(B) long-range vessel tracking systems developed under section 70115 of title 46, United States Code;

(C) towing, response, or escort tugs;

(D) vessel traffic services;

(E) emergency towing packages on vessels;

(F) increased spill response equipment including equipment appropriate for severe weather and sea conditions;

(G) the Automatic Identification System developed under section 70114 of title 46, United States Code;

(H) particularly sensitive sea areas, areas to be avoided, and other traffic exclusion zones;

(I) aids to navigation; and

(J) vessel response plans.

(c) RECOMMENDATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Each of the assessments shall include any appropriate recommendations to enhance the safety and security, or lessen potential adverse environmental impacts, of marine shipping.

(2) CONSULTATION.—Before making any recommendations under paragraph (1) for a region, the Area Committee shall consult with affected local, State, and Federal government agencies, representatives of the fishing industry, Alaska Natives from the region, the conservation community, and the merchant shipping and oil transportation industries.

(d) PROVISION TO CONGRESS.—The Commandant shall provide a copy of each assessment to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Commandant $1,800,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 and 2009 to the conduct the assessments.

SEC. 414. VESSEL MARYLAND INDEPENDENCE.

Notwithstanding sections 55101, 55103, and 12112 of title 46, United States Code, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating may issue a certificate of documentation with a coastwise endorsement for the vessel MARYLAND INDEPENDENCE (official number 662573). The coastwise endorsement issued under authority of this section is terminated if—

(1) the vessel, or controlling interest in the person that owns the vessel, is conveyed after the date of enactment of this Act; or

(2) any repairs or alterations are made to the vessel outside of the United States.

SEC. 415. STUDY OF RELOCATION OF COAST GUARD SECTOR BUFFALO FACILITIES.

(a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this section are—

(1) to authorize a project study to evaluate the feasibility of consolidating and relocating Coast Guard facilities at Coast Guard Sector Buffalo within the study area;

(2) to obtain a preliminary plan for the design, engineering, and construction for the consolidation of Coast Guard facilities at Sector Buffalo; and

(3) to distinguish what Federal lands, if any, shall be identified as excess after the consolidation.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COMMANDANT.—The term "Commandant" means the Commandant of the Coast Guard.

(2) SECTOR BUFFALO.—The term "Sector Buffalo" means Coast Guard Sector Buffalo of the Ninth Coast Guard District.

(3) STUDY AREA.—The term "study area" means the area consisting of approximately 31 acres of real property and any improvements thereon that are commonly identified as Coast Guard Sector Buffalo, located at 1 Fuhrmann Boulevard, Buffalo, New York, and under the administrative control of the Coast Guard.

(c) STUDY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Within 12 months after the date on which funds are first made available to carry out this section, the Commandant shall conduct a project proposal report of the study area and shall submit such report to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The project proposal report shall—

(A) evaluate the most cost-effective method for providing shore facilities to meet the operational requirements of Sector Buffalo;

(B) determine the feasibility of consolidating and relocating shore facilities on a portion of the existing site, while—

(i) meeting the operational requirements of Sector Buffalo; and

(ii) allowing the expansion of operational requirements of Sector Buffalo; and

(C) contain a preliminary plan for the design, engineering, and construction of the proposed project, including—

(i) the estimated cost of the design, engineering, and construction of the proposed project;

(ii) an anticipated timeline of the proposed project; and

(iii) a description of what Federal lands, if any, shall be considered excess to Coast Guard needs.

(d) LIMITATION.—Nothing in this section shall affect the current administration and management of the study area.

TITLE V—BALLAST WATER TREATMENT

SEC. 501. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "Ballast Water Treatment Act of 2007".

SEC. 502. DECLARATION OF GOALS AND PURPOSES.

Section 1002 of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 4701) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (c);

(2) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

"(b) DECLARATION OF GOALS AND PURPOSES.—The objective of this Act is to eliminate the threat and impacts of nonindigenous aquatic nuisance species in the waters of the United States. In order to achieve this objective, it is declared that, consistent with the provisions of this Act—

"(1) it is the national goal that ballast water discharged into the waters of the United States will contain no living (viable) organisms by the year 2015;

"(2) it is the national policy that the introduction of nonindigenous aquatic nuisance species in the waters of the United States be prohibited; and

"(3) it is the national policy that Federal, State, and local governments and the private sector identify the most effective ways to coordinate prevention efforts, and harmonize environmentally sound methods to prevent, detect, monitor, and control nonindigenous aquatic nuisance species, in an expeditious manner.".

(3) in subsection (c)(1) (as redesignated by paragraph (1) of this section)—

(A) by striking "prevent" and inserting "eliminate"; and

(B) by inserting "treatment" after "ballast water";

(4) in subsection (c)(2) (as so redesignated)—

(A) by inserting ", detection, monitoring," after "prevention"; and

(B) by striking "the zebra mussel and other";

(5) in subsection (c)(3) (as so redesignated)—

(A) by inserting "detect," after "prevent,"; and

(B) by striking "from pathways other than ballast water exchange";

(6) in subsection (c)(4) (as so redesignated) by striking ", including the zebra mussel"; and

(7) in subsection (c)(5) (as so redesignated)—

(A) by inserting "prevention," after "in the";

(B) by inserting a comma after "management"; and

(C) by striking "zebra mussels" and inserting "aquatic nuisance species".

SEC. 503. BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1101 of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 4711) is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 1101. BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT.

"(a) VESSELS TO WHICH THIS SECTION APPLIES.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraphs (2), (3), (4), and (5), this section applies to a vessel that—

"(A) is designed, constructed, or adapted to carry ballast water; and

"(B)(i) is a vessel of the United States; or

"(ii) is a foreign vessel that—

"(I) is en route to a United States port or place; or

"(II) has departed from a United States port or place and is within waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

"(2) PERMANENT BALLAST WATER VESSELS.—This section does not apply to a vessel that carries all of its permanent ballast water in sealed tanks that are not subject to discharge.

"(3) ARMED FORCES VESSELS.—

"(A) EXEMPTION.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), this section does not apply to a vessel of the Armed Forces.

"(B) BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM.—The Secretary and the Secretary of Defense, after consultation with each other and with the Under Secretary and the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies as determined by the Secretary, shall implement a ballast water management program, including the issuance of standards for ballast water exchange and treatment and for sediment management, for vessels of the Armed Forces under their respective jurisdictions designed, constructed, or adapted to carry ballast water that are—

"(i) consistent with the requirements of this section, including the deadlines established by this section; and

"(ii) at least as stringent as the requirements issued for such vessels under section 312 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1322).

"(4) SPECIAL RULE FOR SMALL RECREATIONAL VESSELS.—In applying this section to recreational vessels less than 50 meters in length that have a maximum ballast water capacity of 8 cubic meters, the Secretary may issue alternative measures for managing ballast water in a manner that is consistent with the requirements of this section.

"(5) MARAD VESSELS.—Subsection (f) does not apply to any vessel in the National Defense Reserve Fleet that is scheduled to be disposed of through scrapping or sinking.

"(b) UPTAKE AND DISCHARGE OF BALLAST WATER OR SEDIMENT.—

"(1) PROHIBITION.—The operator of a vessel to which this section applies may not conduct the uptake or discharge of ballast water or sediment in waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States except as provided in this section.

"(2) EXCEPTIONS.—Paragraph (1) does not apply to the uptake or discharge of ballast water or sediment in the following circumstances:

"(A) The uptake or discharge is solely for the purpose of—

"(i) ensuring the safety of the vessel in an emergency situation; or

"(ii) saving a life at sea.

"(B) The uptake or discharge is accidental and the result of damage to the vessel or its equipment and—

"(i) all reasonable precautions to prevent or minimize ballast water and sediment discharge have been taken before and after the damage occurs, the discovery of the damage, and the discharge; and

"(ii) the owner or officer in charge of the vessel did not willfully or recklessly cause the damage.

"(C) The uptake or discharge is solely for the purpose of avoiding or minimizing the discharge from the vessel of pollution that would otherwise violate applicable Federal or State law.

"(D) The uptake or discharge of ballast water and sediment occurs at the same location where the whole of that ballast water and that sediment originated and there is no mixing with ballast water and sediment from another area that has not been managed in accordance with the requirements of this section.

"(c) VESSEL BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The operator of a vessel to which this section applies shall conduct all ballast water management operations of that vessel in accordance with a ballast water management plan designed to minimize the discharge of aquatic nuisance species that—

"(A) meets the requirements prescribed by the Secretary by regulation; and

"(B) is approved by the Secretary.

"(2) APPROVAL CRITERIA.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may not approve a ballast water management plan unless the Secretary determines that the plan—

"(i) describes in detail the actions to be taken to implement the ballast water management requirements established under this section;

"(ii) describes in detail the procedures to be used for disposal of sediment at sea and on shore in accordance with the requirements of this section;

"(iii) describes in detail safety procedures for the vessel and crew associated with ballast water management;

"(iv) designates the officer on board the vessel in charge of ensuring that the plan is properly implemented;

"(v) contains the reporting requirements for vessels established under this section and a copy of each form necessary to meet those requirements; and

"(vi) meets all other requirements prescribed by the Secretary.

"(B) FOREIGN VESSELS.—The Secretary may approve a ballast water management plan for a foreign vessel on the basis of a certificate of compliance with the criteria described in subparagraph (A) issued by the vessel's country of registration in accordance with regulations issued by the Secretary.

"(3) COPY OF PLAN ON BOARD VESSEL.—The owner or operator of a vessel to which this section applies shall—

"(A) maintain a copy of the vessel's ballast water management plan on board at all times; and

"(B) keep the plan readily available for examination by the Secretary and the head of the appropriate agency of the State in which the vessel is located at all reasonable times.

"(d) VESSEL BALLAST WATER RECORD BOOK.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The owner or operator of a vessel to which this section applies shall maintain, in English on board the vessel, a ballast water record book in which each operation of the vessel involving ballast water or sediment discharge is recorded in accordance with regulations issued by the Secretary.

"(2) AVAILABILITY.—The ballast water record book—

"(A) shall be kept readily available for examination by the Secretary and the head of the appropriate agency of the State in which the vessel is located at all reasonable times; and

"(B) notwithstanding paragraph (1), may be kept on the towing vessel in the case of an unmanned vessel under tow.

"(3) RETENTION PERIOD.—The ballast water record book shall be retained—

"(A) on board the vessel for a period of 3 years after the date on which the last entry in the book is made; and

"(B) under the control of the vessel's owner for an additional period of 3 years.

"(4) REGULATIONS.—In the regulations issued under this section, the Secretary shall require, at a minimum, that—

"(A) each entry in the ballast water record book be signed and dated by the officer in charge of the ballast water operation recorded;

"(B) each completed page in the ballast water record book be signed and dated by the master of the vessel; and

"(C) the owner or operator of the vessel transmit such information to the Secretary regarding the ballast operations of the vessel as the Secretary may require.

"(5) ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF RECORD-KEEPING.—The Secretary may provide, by regulation,

for alternative methods of recordkeeping, including electronic recordkeeping, to comply with the requirements of this subsection. Any electronic recordkeeping method authorized by the Secretary shall support the inspection and enforcement provisions of this Act and shall comply with applicable standards of the National Institute of Standards and Technology and the Office of Management and Budget governing reliability, integrity, identity authentication, and nonrepudiation of stored electronic data.

"(e) BALLAST WATER EXCHANGE REQUIREMENTS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—

"(A) REQUIREMENT.—Until a vessel is required to conduct ballast water treatment in accordance with subsection (f), the operator of a vessel to which this section applies may not discharge ballast water in waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, except after—

"(i) conducting ballast water exchange as required by this subsection, in accordance with regulations issued by the Secretary;

"(ii) using ballast water treatment technology that meets the performance standards of subsection (f); or

"(iii) using environmentally sound alternative ballast water treatment technology if the Secretary determines that such treatment technology is at least as effective as the ballast water exchange required by clause (i) in preventing and controlling the introduction of aquatic nuisance species.

"(B) TECHNOLOGY EFFICACY.—For purposes of this paragraph, a ballast water treatment technology shall be considered to be at least as effective as the ballast water exchange required by clause (i) in preventing and controlling the introduction of aquatice nuisance species if preliminary experiments prior to installation of the technology aboard the vessel demonstrate that the technology removed or killed at least 98 percent of organisms larger than 50 microns.

"(2) GUIDANCE; 5-YEAR USAGE.—

"(A) GUIDANCE.—Not later than one year after the date of enactment of the Ballast Water Treatment Act of 2007, the Secretary shall develop and issue guidance on technology that may be used under paragraph (1)(A)(iii).

"(B) 5-YEAR USAGE.—The Secretary shall allow a vessel using environmentally-sound alter-

native ballast treatment technology under paragraph (1)(A)(iii) to continue to use that technology for 5 years after the date on which the environmentally-sound alternative ballast water treatment technology was first placed in service on the vessel or the date on which treatment requirements under subsection (f) become applicable, whichever is later.

"(3) EXCHANGE AREAS.—

"(A) VESSELS OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES EEZ.—The operator of a vessel en route to a United States port or place from a port or place outside the waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States shall conduct ballast water exchange—

"(i) before arriving at a United States port or place;

"(ii) at least 200 nautical miles from the nearest point of land; and

"(iii) in water at least 200 meters in depth.

"(B) COASTAL VOYAGES.—The operator of a vessel originating from a port or place within the United States exclusive economic zone, or from a port within 200 nautical miles of the

United States in Canada, Mexico, or other ports designated by the Secretary for purposes of this section, shall conduct ballast water exchange—

"(i) at least 50 nautical miles from the nearest point of land; and

"(ii) in water at least 200 meters in depth.

"(4) SAFETY OR STABILITY EXCEPTION.—

"(A) SECRETARIAL DETERMINATION.—Paragraph (3) does not apply to the discharge of ballast water if the Secretary determines that compliance with that paragraph would threaten the safety or stability of the vessel, its crew, or is passengers.

"(B) MASTER OF THE VESSEL DETERMINATION.—Paragraph (3) does not apply to the discharge of ballast water if the master of a vessel determines that compliance with that paragraph would threaten the safety or stability of the vessel, its crew, or its passengers because of adverse weather, equipment failure, or any other relevant condition.

"(C) NOTIFICATION REQUIRED.—Whenever the master of a vessel is unable to comply with the requirements of paragraph (3) because of a

determination made under subparagraph (B), the master of the vessel shall—

"(i) notify the Secretary as soon as practicable thereafter but no later than 24 hours after making that determination and shall ensure that the determination, the reasons for the determination, and the notice are recorded in the vessel's ballast water record book; and

"(ii) undertake ballast water exchange in accordance with paragraph (6) if safety or stability concerns prevent undertaking ballast water exchange in the alternative area.

"(D) REVIEW OF CIRCUMSTANCES.—If the master of a vessel conducts a ballast water discharge under the provisions of this paragraph, the Secretary shall review the circumstances to determine whether the discharge met the requirements of this paragraph. The review under this clause shall be in addition to any other enforcement authority of the Secretary.

"(5) DISCHARGE UNDER WAIVER.—

"(A) SUBSTANTIAL BUSINESS HARDSHIP WAIVER.—If, because of the short length of a voy-

age, the operator of a vessel is unable to discharge ballast water in accordance with the requirements of paragraph (3)(B) without substantial business hardship, as determined under regulations issued by the Secretary, the operator may request a waiver from the Secretary and discharge the ballast water in accordance with paragraph (6). A request for a waiver under this subparagraph shall be submitted to the Secretary at such time and in such form and manner as the Secretary may require.

"(B) SUBSTANTIAL BUSINESS HARDSHIP.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the factors taken into account in determining substantial business hardship shall include whether—

"(i) compliance with the requirements of paragraph (3)(B) would require a sufficiently great change in routing or scheduling of service as to compromise the economic or commercial viability of the trade or business in which the vessel is operated; or

"(ii) it is reasonable to expect that the trade or business or service provided will be

continued only if a waiver is granted under subparagraph (A).

"(6) PERMISSABLE DISCHARGE.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The discharge of ballast water shall be considered to be carried out in accordance with this paragraph if it is—

"(i) in an area designated for that purpose by the Secretary, after consultation with the Under Secretary, the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies as determined by the Secretary, and representatives of any State that may be affected by discharge of ballast water in that area; or

"(ii) into a reception facility described in subsection (f)(2).

"(B) LIMITATION ON VOLUME.—The volume of any ballast water discharged under this paragraph may not exceed the volume necessary to ensure the safe operation of the vessel.

"(7) CERTAIN GEOGRAPHICALLY LIMITED ROUTES.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the operator of a vessel is not required to comply with the requirements of this subsection—

"(A) if the vessel operates exclusively—

"(i) within the Great Lakes; or

"(ii) between or among the main group of the Hawaiian Islands; or

"(B) if the vessel operates exclusively within any area with respect to which the Secretary has determined, after consultation with the Under Secretary, the Administrator, and representatives of States the waters of which would be affected by the discharge of ballast water from the vessel, that the risk of introducing aquatic nuisance species through ballast water discharge in the areas in which the vessel operates is insignificant.

"(8) MARINE SANCTUARIES AND OTHER PROHIBITED AREAS.—A vessel may not conduct ballast water exchange or discharge ballast water under this subsection—

"(A) within a national marine sanctuary designated under of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act (16 U.S.C. 1431 et seq.);

"(B) in waters that are approved by the Administrator as a nondischarge zone under section 312(n)(7) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1322(n)(7)); or

"(C) in any other waters designated by the Secretary, in consultation with the Under Secretary and the Administrator.

"(9) VESSELS WITHOUT PUMPABLE BALLAST WATER.—

"(A) APPLICABILITY OF REQUIREMENTS.—Ballast water exchange requirements under this subsection shall apply to vessels that are equipped with ballast water tanks and that enter a port of the United States without pumpable ballast water.

"(B) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall issue regulations, not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Ballast Water Treatment Act of 2007, that are intended to minimize the introduction of nuisance species from vessels that enter the navigable waters without pumpable ballast water, including the requirements that apply under subparagraph (A), and that are at least as stringent as the regulations in effect on the date of enactment such Act.

"(C) APPLICATION OF EXISTING REGULATIONS.—The regulations issued by the Secretary under this section, as such regulations were in effect on the day before the date of enactment of

the Ballast Water Treatment Act of 2007, shall continue to apply to vessels without pumpable ballast water entering or operating on the navigable waters until the earlier of—

"(i) the date on which such vessels are required to conduct ballast water treatment, in accordance with the requirements of subsection (f); or

"(ii) the effective date of final regulations required under this paragraph.

"(f) BALLAST WATER TREATMENT REQUIREMENTS.—

"(1) PERFORMANCE STANDARDS.—A vessel to which this section applies shall conduct ballast water treatment in accordance with the requirements of this subsection before discharging ballast water in waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States so that the ballast water discharged will contain—

"(A) less than 1 living organism per 10 cubic meters that is 50 or more micrometers in minimum dimension;

"(B) less than 1 living organism per 10 milliliters that is less than 50 micrometers in minimum dimension and more than 10 micrometers in minimum dimension;

"(C) concentrations of indicator microbes that are less than—

"(i) 1 colony-forming unit of toxicogenic Vibrio cholera (serotypes O1 and O139) per 100 milliliters or less than 1 colony-forming unit of that microbe per gram of wet weight of zoological samples;

"(ii) 126 colony-forming units of escherichia coli per 100 milliliters; and

"(iii) 33 colony-forming units of intestinal enterococci per 100 milliliters; and

"(D) concentrations of such additional indicator microbes as may be specified in regulations issued by the Secretary, after consultation with other appropriate Federal agencies as determined by the Secretary, that are less than the amount specified in those regulations.

"(2) RECEPTION FACILITY EXCEPTION.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) does not apply to a vessel that discharges ballast water into—

"(i) a land-based facility for the reception of ballast water that meets standards issued by the Administrator; or

"(ii) a water-based facility for the reception of ballast water that meets standards issued by the Secretary.

"(B) ISSUANCE OF STANDARDS.—Not later than one year after the date of enactment of the Ballast Water Treatment Act of 2007, the Secretary, in consultation with the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies as determined by the Secretary, shall issue standards for—

"(i) the reception of ballast water in land-based and water-based reception facilities; and

"(ii) the disposal or treatment of such ballast water in a way that does not impair or damage the environment, human health, property, or resources.

"(3) TREATMENT SYSTEM IMPLEMENTATION.—Paragraph (1) applies to a vessel to which this section applies beginning on the date of the first dry-docking of the vessel after December 31, 2008, but not later than December 31, 2013.

"(4) TREATMENT SYSTEM APPROVAL REQUIRED.—The operator of a vessel to which this section applies may not use a ballast water treatment system to comply with the requirements of this sub-

section unless the system is approved by the Secretary. The Secretary shall issue regulations establishing a process for such approval, after consultation with the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies as determined by the Secretary.

"(5) RELIANCE ON CERTAIN REPORTS, DOCUMENTS, AND RECORDS.—In approving a ballast water treatment system under this subsection, the Secretary may rely on reports, documents, and records of persons that meet such requirements as the Secretary may prescribe.

"(6) FEASIBILITY REVIEW.—

"(A) REQUIREMENT TO REVIEW.—The Secretary shall periodically conduct a review to determine whether appropriate technologies are available to achieve the standards set forth in paragraph (1). In reviewing technologies under this subparagraph, the Secretary, after consultation with the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies as determined by the Secretary, shall consider—

"(i) the effectiveness of a technology in achieving the standards;

"(ii) feasibility in terms of compatibility with ship design and operations;

"(iii) safety considerations;

"(iv) whether a technology has an adverse impact on the environment; and

"(v) cost effectiveness.

"(B) DEADLINES.—The Secretary shall—

"(i) complete an initial review of technologies under subparagraph (A) within 12 months after the date of the enactment of the Ballast Water Treatment Act of 2007; and

"(ii) carry out subsequent reviews of technologies under subparagraph (A) no later than 24 months after the date that the previous review was completed.

"(C) DELAY IN SCHEDULED APPLICATION.—If the Secretary determines, on the basis of the initial review or any subsequent review conducted under this paragraph, that compliance with the standards set forth in paragraph (1) is not feasible for any class of vessels, the Secretary shall—

"(i) delay the date on which such standards apply to that class of vessels for a period of not more than 24 months; and

"(ii) recommend action to ensure such compliance in accordance with the revised implementation schedule for that class of vessels by the date established under clause (i).

"(7) DELAY OF APPLICATION FOR VESSEL PARTICIPATING IN PROMISING TECHNOLOGY EVALUATIONS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—If a vessel participates in a program, including the Shipboard Technology Evaluation Program established under section 1104, using a technology approved by the Secretary to test and evaluate promising ballast water treatment technologies that are likely to result in treatment technologies achieving a standard that is the same as or more stringent than the standard that applies under paragraph (1) before the first date on which paragraph (1) applies to that vessel, the Secretary shall allow the vessel to use that technology for a 10-year period and such vessel shall be deemed to be in compliance with the requirements of paragraph (1) during that 10-year period.

"(B) VESSEL DIVERSITY.—The Secretary—

"(i) shall seek to ensure that a wide variety of vessel types and voyages are included in the program; but

"(ii) may not grant a delay under this paragraph to more than 5 percent of the vessels to which this section applies.

"(C) TERMINATION OF GRACE PERIOD.—The Secretary may terminate the 10-year grace period of a vessel under subparagraph (A) if—

"(i) the participation of the vessel in the program is terminated without the consent of the Secretary;

"(ii) the vessel does not comply with manufacturer's standards for operating the ballast water treatment technology used on such vessel; or

"(iii) the Secretary determines that the approved technology is insufficiently effective or is causing harm to the environment.

"(8) REVIEW OF STANDARDS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—In December 2012 and every third year thereafter, the Secretary shall complete review of ballast water treatment standards in effect under this subsection to determine, after consultation with the Administrator and

the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies determined by the Secretary, if the standards under this subsection should be revised to reduce the amount of organisms or microbes allowed to be discharged, taking into account improvements in the scientific understanding of biological processes leading to the spread of aquatic nuisance species and improvements in ballast water treatment technology. The Secretary shall revise, by regulation, the requirements of this subsection as necessary.

"(B) APPLICATION OF ADJUSTED STANDARDS.—In the regulations, the Secretary shall provide for the prospective application of the adjusted standards issued under this paragraph to vessels constructed after the date on which the adjusted standards apply and for an orderly phase-in of the adjusted standards to existing vessels.

"(9) HIGH-RISK VESSELS.—

"(A) VESSEL LIST.—Not later than one year after the date of enactment of the Ballast Water Treatment Act of 2007, the Secretary shall publish and regularly update a list of vessels identified by the States that, due to factors such

as the origin of their voyages, the frequency of their voyages, the volume of ballast water they carry, the biological makeup of the ballast water, and the fact that they frequently discharge ballast water under an exception to subsection (e), pose a high risk of introducing aquatic nuisance species into the waters of those States.

"(B) INCENTIVE PROGRAMS.—The Secretary shall give priority to vessels on the list for participation in a program described in paragraph (7). Any Federal agency, and any State agency with respect to vessels identified by such State to the Secretary for inclusion on a list under subparagraph (A), may develop and implement technology development programs or other incentives (whether positive or negative) in order to encourage the adoption of ballast water treatment technology by those vessels consistent with the requirements of this section on an expedited basis.

"(10) NONAPPLICABILITY OF VESSELS OPERATING EXCLUSIVELY IN DETERMINED AREA.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (D), paragraph (1) does not apply to a vessel that operates exclusively within an

area if the Secretary has determined through a rulemaking proceeding, after consultation with the Administrator and the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies as determined by the Secretary, and representatives of States the waters of which could be affected by the discharge of ballast water from the vessel, that the risk of introducing aquatic nuisance species through ballast water discharge from the vessel is insignificant.

"(B) CERTAIN VESSELS.—A vessel constructed before January 1, 2001, that operates exclusively within the Great Lakes shall be presumed not to pose a significant risk of introducing aquatic nuisance species unless the Secretary finds otherwise in a rulemaking proceeding under subparagraph (A).

"(C) BEST PRACTICES.—The Secretary shall develop, and require a vessel exempted from complying with the requirements of paragraph (1) under this paragraph to follow, best practices to minimize the spreading of aquatic nuisance species in its operation area. The best practices shall be developed in consultation with the Governors of States that may be affected.

"(D) STOPPING THE SPREAD OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.—The Secretary, at the request of the Secretary of Agriculture, shall require a vessel to which paragraph (1) does not apply in accordance with subparagraph (A) to have a ballast water treatment system approved by the Secretary under this subsection to stop the spread of infectious diseases to plants and animals as otherwise authorized by law.

"(11) LABORATORIES.—The Secretary may use any Federal, non-Federal, or foreign laboratory that meets standards established by the Secretary for the purpose of evaluating and certifying ballast water treatment technologies that meet the requirements of this subsection.

"(12) PROGRAM TO SUPPORT THE PROMULGATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF STANDARDS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in coordination with the Under Secretary, the Task Force and other appropriate Federal agencies, shall carry out a coordinated program to support the promulgation and implementation of standards under this subsection to prevent the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive spe-

cies by vessels. The program established under this section shall, at a minimum—

"(i) characterize physical, chemical, and biological harbor conditions relevant to ballast discharge into United States waters to inform the design and implementation of ship vector control technologies and practices;

"(ii) develop testing protocols for determining the effectiveness of vessel vector monitoring and control technologies and practices;

"(iii) demonstrate methods for mitigating the spread of invasive species by coastal voyages, including exploring the effectiveness of alternative exchange zones in the near coastal areas and other methods proposed to reduce transfers of organisms;

"(iv) verify the practical effectiveness of any process for approving a type of alternative ballast water management as meeting standards established under this subsection, to ensure that the process produces repeatable and accurate assessments of treatment effectiveness; and

"(v) evaluate the effectiveness and residual risk and environmental impacts associated with any standard set with respect to the vessel pathways.

"(B) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In addition to other amounts authorized by this title, to carry out this paragraph there are authorized to be appropriated $1,500,000 to the Secretary and $1,500,000 to the Under Secretary for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

"(g) WARNINGS CONCERNING BALLAST WATER UPTAKE.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall notify vessel owners and operators of any area in waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States in which vessels may not uptake ballast water due to known conditions.

"(2) CONTENTS.—The notice shall include—

"(A) the coordinates of the area; and

"(B) if possible, the location of alternative areas for the uptake of ballast water.

"(h) SEDIMENT MANAGEMENT.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The operator of a vessel to which this section applies may not remove or dispose

of sediment from spaces designed to carry ballast water, except—

"(A) in accordance with this subsection and the ballast water management plan approved under subsection (c); and

"(B)(i) more than 200 nautical miles from the nearest point of land; or

"(ii) into a reception facility that meets the requirements of paragraph (3).

"(2) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

"(A) NEW VESSELS.—After December 31, 2008, a vessel to which this section applies may not be operated on waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, unless that vessel is designed and constructed in accordance with regulations issued under subparagraph (C) and in a manner that—

"(i) minimizes the uptake and entrapment of sediment;

"(ii) facilitates removal of sediment; and

"(iii) provides for safe access for sediment removal and sampling.

"(B) EXISTING VESSELS.—A vessel to which this section applies that was constructed before

January 1, 2009, shall be modified, to the extent practicable, at the first drydocking of the vessel after December 31 2008, but not later than December 31, 2013, to achieve the objectives described in subparagraph (A).

"(C) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall issue regulations establishing design and construction standards to achieve the objectives of subparagraph (A) and providing guidance for modifications and practices under subparagraph (B). The Secretary shall incorporate the standards and guidance in the regulations governing the ballast water management plan approved under subsection (c).

"(3) SEDIMENT RECEPTION FACILITIES.—

"(A) STANDARDS.—The Secretary, in consultation with the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies as determined by the Secretary, shall issue regulations governing facilities for the reception of vessel sediment from spaces designed to carry ballast water that provide for the disposal of such sediment in a way that does not impair or damage the environment, human health, or property or resources of the disposal area.

"(B) DESIGNATION.—The Secretary, in consultation with the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies as determined by the Secretary shall designate facilities for the reception of vessel sediment that meet the requirements of the regulations issued under subparagraph (A) at ports and terminals where ballast tanks are cleaned or repaired.

"(i) EXAMINATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS.—

"(1) INITIAL EXAMINATION.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall examine vessels to which this section applies to determine whether—

"(i) there is a ballast water management plan for the vessel that is approved by the Secretary and a ballast water record book on the vessel that meets the requirements of subsection (d);

"(ii) the equipment used for ballast water and sediment management in accordance with the requirements of this section and the regulations issued under this section is installed and functioning properly.

"(B) NEW VESSELS.—For vessels constructed on or after January 1, 2009, the Sec-

retary shall conduct the examination required by subparagraph (A) before the vessel is placed in service.

"(C) EXISTING VESSELS.—For vessels constructed before January 1, 2009, the Secretary shall—

"(i) conduct the examination required by subparagraph (A) before the date on which subsection (f)(1) applies to the vessel according to the schedule in subsection (f)(3); and

"(ii) inspect the vessel's ballast water record book required by subsection (d).

"(D) FOREIGN VESSEL.—In the case of a foreign vessel, the Secretary shall perform the examination required by this paragraph the first time the vessel enters a United States port.

"(2) SUBSEQUENT EXAMINATIONS.—In addition to the examination required by paragraph (1), the Secretary shall annually examine vessels to which this section applies, to ensure compliance with the requirements of this section and the regulations issued under this section.

"(3) INSPECTION AUTHORITY.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may carry out inspections of any vessel to which this section applies at any time, including the taking of ballast water samples, to ensure compliance with this section. The Secretary shall use all appropriate and practical measures of detection and environmental monitoring such vessels and shall establish adequate procedures for reporting violations of this section and accumulating evidence regarding such violations.

"(B) INVESTIGATIONS.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—Upon receipt of evidence that a violation of this section or a regulation issued under this section has occurred, the Secretary shall cause the matter to be investigated.

"(ii) ISSUANCE OF SUBPOENAS.—In an investigation under this subparagraph, the Secretary may issue subpoenas to require the attendance of any witness and the production of documents and other evidence.

"(iii) COMPELLING COMPLIANCE WITH SUBPOENAS.—In case of refusal to obey a subpoena issued under this subparagraph, the Secretary may request the Attorney

General to invoke the aid of the appropriate district court of the United States to compel compliance.

"(4) STATE PROGRAMS.—

"(A) SUBMISSION TO SECRETARY.—At any time after the date of issuance of ballast water treatment regulations issued under this section, the Governor of each State desiring to administer its own inspection and enforcement authority for ballast water discharges within its jurisdiction may submit to the Secretary a complete description of the program the Governor proposes to establish and administer under State law. In addition, the Governor shall submit a statement from the attorney general that the laws of such State provide adequate authority to carry out the described program.

"(B) APPROVAL.—The Secretary shall approve a program submitted under subparagraph (A), unless the Secretary determines that adequate resources do not exist or, in the case of ballast water testing, that adequate scientific expertise does not exist—

"(i) to inspect, monitor, and board any vessel to which this section applies at

any time, including the taking and testing of ballast water samples, to ensure the vessel's compliance with this section;

"(ii) to ensure that any ballast water discharged within the waters subject to the jurisdiction of the State meet the ballast water requirements of this section and the regulations issued under this section, including any revisions to such requirements and regulations;

"(iii) to establish adequate procedures for reporting violations of this section;

"(iv) to investigate and abate violations of this section, including civil and criminal penalties and other ways and means of enforcement; and

"(v) to ensure that the Secretary receives notice of each violation of the ballast water treatment requirements issued under this section in an expeditious manner.

"(C) SUSPENSION OF FEDERAL AUTHORITIES.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which a State submits a program (or revision thereof) under this paragraph, the Secretary shall suspend its authorities under subsections

(k) and (l) in such State, unless the Secretary determines that the State program does not meet the requirements of this paragraph. If the Secretary so determines, the Secretary shall notify the State of any revisions or modifications necessary to conform to such requirements.

"(D) COMPLIANCE.—Any State program approved under this paragraph shall at all times be conducted in accordance with this section and regulations issued under this section.

"(E) WITHDRAWAL OF APPROVAL.—Whenever the Secretary determines, after public hearing, that a State is not administering a program approved under this paragraph in accordance with this section and regulations issued under this section, the Secretary shall notify the State and, if appropriate corrective action is not taken within a reasonable period of time not to exceed 90 days, the Secretary shall withdraw approval of the program. The Secretary shall not withdraw approval of any program unless the Secretary shall first have notified the State, and made public, in writing, the reasons for such withdrawal.

"(F) LIMITATION ON STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this paragraph shall limit the authority of the Secretary carry out inspections and investigations of any vessels under paragraph (3).

"(5) REQUIRED CERTIFICATE.—If, on the basis of an initial examination under paragraph (1), the Secretary finds that a vessel complies with the requirements of this section and the regulations issued under this section, the Secretary shall issue a certificate under this paragraph as evidence of such compliance. The certificate shall be valid for a period of not more than 5 years, as specified by the Secretary. The certificate or a true copy shall be maintained on board the vessel.

"(6) NOTIFICATION OF VIOLATIONS.—If the Secretary finds, on the basis of an examination under paragraph (1) or (2), investigation under paragraph (3), or any other information, that a vessel is being operated in violation of any requirement of this section or regulation issued under this section, the Secretary shall—

"(A) notify, in writing—

"(i) the master of the vessel; and

"(ii) the captain of the port at the vessel's next port of call;

"(B) remove from the vessel the certificate issued under paragraph (5);

"(C) take such other action as may be appropriate.

"(7) COMPLIANCE MONITORING.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish, by regulation, sampling and other procedures to monitor compliance with the requirements of this section and the regulations issued under this section.

"(B) USE OF MARKERS.—The Secretary may verify compliance with the discharge requirements of subsection (f) and the regulations issued under this section with respect to such requirements through identification of markers associated with a treatment technology's effectiveness, such as the presence of indicators associated with a certified treatment technology.

"(8) EDUCATION AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.—The Secretary may carry out education and technical assistance programs and other measures to promote compliance with the requirements of this section and the regulations issued under this section.

"(j) DETENTION OF VESSELS.—The Secretary, by notice to the owner, charterer, managing operator, agent, master, or other individual in charge of a vessel, may detain that vessel if the Secretary has reasonable cause to believe that—

"(1) the vessel is a vessel to which this section applies; and

"(2) the vessel does not comply with any requirement of this section or regulation issued under this section or is being operated in violation of such a requirement or regulation.

"(k) SANCTIONS.—

"(1) CIVIL PENALTIES.—Any person who violates this section (including a regulation issued under this section) shall be liable for a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed $32,500. Each day of a continuing violation constitutes a separate violation. A vessel operated in violation of this section (including a regulation issued under this section) is liable in rem for any civil penalty assessed under this subsection for that violation.

"(2) CRIMINAL PENALTIES.—Whoever knowingly violates this section (including a regulation issued under this section) shall be fined under title 18,

United States, or imprisoned not more than 12 years, or both.

"(3) REVOCATION OF CLEARANCE.—Except as provided in subsection (j)(2), upon request of the Secretary, the Secretary of the Treasury shall withhold or revoke the clearance of a vessel required by section 60105 of title 46, United States Code, if the owner or operator of that vessel is in violation of this section or a regulation issued under this section.

"(l) ENFORCEMENT.—

"(1) ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS.—If the Secretary finds, after notice and an opportunity for a hearing, that a person has violated this section or a regulation issued under this section, the Secretary may assess a civil penalty for that violation. In determining the amount of the civil penalty, the Secretary shall take into account the nature, circumstances, extent, and gravity of the prohibited acts committed and, with respect to the violator, the degree of culpability, any history of prior violations, and such other matters as justice may require.

"(2) CIVIL ACTIONS.—At the request of the Secretary, the Attorney General may bring a civil action in an appropriate district court of the United States to enforce this section or any regulation issued under

this section. Any court before which such an action is brought may award appropriate relief, including temporary or permanent injunctions and civil penalties.

"(m) CONSULTATION WITH CANADA, MEXICO, AND OTHER FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS.—In developing the guidelines and regulations to be issued under this section, the Secretary is encouraged to consult with the Government of Canada, the Government of Mexico and any other government of a foreign country that the Secretary, after consultation with the Task Force, determines to be necessary to develop and implement an effective international program for preventing the unintentional introduction and spread of aquatic nuisance species through ballast water.

"(n) INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.—The Secretary, in cooperation with the Under Secretary, the Secretary of State, the Administrator, the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, the International Maritime Organization of the United Nations, and the Commission on Environmental Cooperation established pursuant to the North American Free Trade Agreement, is encouraged to enter into negotiations with the governments of foreign countries to develop and implement an effective international program for preventing the unintentional introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species. The Secretary is particularly encouraged to seek bilateral or multilateral agreements with

Canada, Mexico, and other nations in the Wider Caribbean Region (as defined in the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean, signed at Cartagena on March 24, 1983 (TIAF 11085), to carry out the objectives of this section.

"(o) NONDISCRIMINATION.—The Secretary shall ensure that foreign vessels do not receive more favorable treatment than vessels of the United States when the Secretary performs studies, reviews compliance, determines effectiveness, establishes requirements, or performs any other responsibilities under this Act.

"(p) CONSULTATION WITH TASK FORCE.—The Secretary shall consult with the Task Force in carrying out this section.

"(q) PREEMPTION.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (i)(4) but notwithstanding any other provision of law, the provisions of subsections (e) and (f) supersede any provision of State or local law that is inconsistent with the requirements of those subsections or that conflicts with the requirements of those subsections.

"(2) GREATER PENALTIES OR FEES.—For purpose of paragraph (1), the imposition by State or local law of greater penalties or fees for acts or omis-

sions that are violations of such law and also violations of this Act or the imposition by a State of incentives under subsection (f)(9)(B) shall not be considered to be inconsistent, or to conflict, with the requirements of subsections (e) and (f).

"(3) RECEPTION FACILITIES.—The standards issued by the Secretary or the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies under subsection (f)(2) do not supersede any more stringent standard under any otherwise applicable Federal, State, or local law.

"(r) COAST GUARD REPORT ON OTHER SOURCES OF VESSEL-BOURNE NUISANCE SPECIES.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—

"(A) HULL-FOULING AND OTHER VESSEL SOURCES.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Ballast Water Treatment Act of 2007, the Secretary shall transmit a report to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives on vessel-related pathways of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens other than ballast water and sediment, including vessel hulls and equipment, and from

vessels equipped with ballast tanks that carry no ballast water on board.

"(B) BEST PRACTICES.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable, the Secretary shall develop best practices standards and procedures designed to reduce the introduction and spread of invasive species into and within the United States from vessels and establish a timeframe for implementation of those standards and procedures by vessels. Such standards and procedures shall include designation of geographical locations for uptake and discharge of untreated ballast water, as well as standards and procedure for other vessel pathways of aquatic invasive species.

"(ii) REPORT.—The Secretary shall transmit a report to the committees referred to in subparagraph (A) describing the standards and procedures developed under this subparagraph and the implementation timeframe, together with such recommendations as the Secretary determines appropriate.

"(iii) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary may issue regulations to incorporate and enforce standards and procedures developed under this paragraph.

"(2) TRANSITING VESSELS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Ballast Water Treatment Act of 2007, the Secretary shall transmit a report to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives containing—

"(A) an assessment of the magnitude and potential adverse impacts of ballast water operations from foreign vessels designed, adapted, or constructed to carry ballast water that are transiting waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States; and

"(B) recommendations, including legislative recommendations if appropriate, of options for addressing ballast water operations of those vessels.".

(b) DEFINITIONS.—Section 1003 of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 4702) is amended—

(1) by redesignating—

(A) paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) as paragraphs (2), (3), and (4), respectively;

(B) paragraphs (4), (5), and (6) as paragraphs (8), (9), and (10), respectively;

(C) paragraphs (7), (8), (9), and (10) as paragraphs (12), (13), (14), and (15), respectively;

(D) paragraphs (11) and (12) as paragraphs (17) and (18), respectively;

(E) paragraphs (13), (14), and (15) as paragraphs (20), (21), and (22), respectively;

(F) paragraph (16) as paragraph (27); and

(G) paragraph (17) as paragraph (23);

(2) by moving paragraph (23), as so redesignated, after paragraph (22), as so redesignated;

(3) by inserting before paragraph (2), as so redesignated, the following:

"(1) 'Administrator' means the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency;";

(4) by striking paragraph (4), as so redesignated, and inserting the following:

"(4) 'ballast water' means—

"(A) water taken on board a vessel to control trim, list, draught, stability, or stresses of

the vessel, including matter suspended in such water; or

"(B) any water placed into a ballast tank during cleaning, maintenance, or other operations;";

(5) by inserting after paragraph (4), as so redesignated and amended, the following:

"(5) 'ballast water capacity' means the total volumetric capacity of any tanks, spaces, or compartments on a vessel that is used for carrying, loading, or discharging ballast water, including any multi-use tank, space, or compartment designed to allow carriage of ballast water;

"(6) 'ballast water management' means mechanical, physical, chemical, and biological processes used, either singularly or in combination, to remove, render harmless, or avoid the uptake or discharge of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens within ballast water and sediment;

"(7) 'constructed' means a state of construction of a vessel at which—

"(A) the keel is laid;

"(B) construction identifiable with the specific vessel begins;

"(C) assembly of the vessel has begun comprising at least 50 tons or 1 percent of the estimated mass of all structural material of the vessel, whichever is less; or

"(D) the vessel undergoes a major conversion;";

(6) by inserting after paragraph (10), as so redesignated, the following:

"(11) 'foreign vessel' has the meaning such term has under section 110 of title 46, United States Code;";

(7) by inserting after paragraph (15), as so redesignated, the following:

"(16) 'major conversion' means a conversion of a vessel, that—

"(A) changes its ballast water carrying capacity by at least 15 percent;

"(B) changes the vessel class;

"(C) is projected to prolong the vessel's life by at least 10 years (as determined by the Secretary); or

"(D) results in modifications to the vessel's ballast water system, except—

"(i) component replacement-in-kind; or

"(ii) conversion of a vessel to meet the requirements of section 1101(e);";

(8) by inserting after paragraph (18), as so redesignated, the following:

"(19) 'sediment' means matter that has settled out of ballast water within a vessel;";

(9) in paragraph (12), as so redesignated, by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(10) by inserting after paragraph (23), as so redesignated and moved, the following:

"(24) 'United States port' means a port, river, harbor, or offshore terminal under the jurisdiction of the United States, including ports located in Puerto Rico, Guam, and the United States Virgin Islands;

"(25) 'vessel of the Armed Forces' means—

"(A) any vessel owned or operated by the Department of Defense, other than a time or voyage chartered vessel; and

"(B) any vessel owned or operated by the Department of Homeland Security that is designated by the Secretary as a vessel equivalent to a vessel described in subparagraph (A);

"(26) 'vessel of the United States' has the meaning such term has under section 116 of title 46, United States Code;"; and

(11) in paragraph (23), as so redesignated, by striking the period at the end and inserting ";"; and

(12) by inserting after paragraph (27), as so redesignated and amended, the following:

"(28) 'waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States' means navigable waters and the territorial sea of the United States, the exclusive economic zone, and the Great Lakes.".

(c) REPEAL OF SECTION 1103.—Section 1103 of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 4713) is repealed.

(d) INTERIM FINAL RULE.—The Secretary shall issue an interim final rule as a temporary regulation implementing the amendments made by this section as soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this section, without regard to the provisions of chapter 5 of title 5, United States Code. All regulations issued under the authority of this subsection that are not earlier superseded by final regulations shall expire not later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 504. NATIONAL BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT INFORMATION.

Section 1102 (16 U.S.C. 4712) is amended—

(1) by adding at the end the following:

"(g) BALLAST WATER SURVEYS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct the following ballast water surveys:

"(A) A survey of the number of living organisms in untreated ballast water of a representative number of vessels, as determined by the Secretary.

"(B) A survey of the number of living organisms in the ballast water of a representative number of vessels, as determined by the Secretary, that has been exchanged on the high seas.

"(C) Surveys of the number of living organisms in the ballast water of vessels that are participating in a program to test and evaluate promising ballast water treatment, as approved by the Secretary.

"(2) REPORTS.—The Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate—

"(A) a report on the results of the surveys under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1) by not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of the Ballast Water Treatment Act of 2007; and

"(B) a report on the results of the surveys required under subparagraph (C) of paragraph (1) upon completion of each demonstration concerned.";

(2) in subsection (b)(1)(B)(ii), by striking "guidelines issued and";

(3) in subsection (b)(2)(B)(ii), by striking "voluntary guidelines issued, and regulations promulgated," and inserting "regulations promulgated";

(4) in subsection (c)(1), by striking "section 1101(b)" and inserting "section 1101(a)"; and

(5) in subsection (f)(1)(B), by striking "guidelines issued pursuant to section 1101(c)" and inserting "regulations issued pursuant to section 1101".

SEC. 505. BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT EVALUATION AND DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.

Section 1104 (16 U.S.C. 4714) is amended—

(1) by striking the section heading and inserting the following:

"SEC. 1104. BALLAST WATER TREATMENT TECHNOLOGY EVALUATION AND DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS.";

(2) by striking subsection (a);

(3) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (a);

(4) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d);

(5) in subsection (a), as so redesignated—

(A) by striking so much as precedes paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

"(a) SHIPBOARD TECHNOLOGY EVALUATION PROGRAM.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a Shipboard Technology Evaluation Program to evaluate alternative ballast water management methods aboard vessels to prevent aquatic nuisance species from being introduced into and spread through discharges of ballast water in waters of the United States."; and

(B) in paragraph (2) by striking "of the technologies and practices used in the demonstration program" and inserting "of alternative ballast water management methods used in the program";

(6) in subsection (a)(3), as so redesignated, by striking "technologies and practices" and all that follows through "shall—" and inserting "ballast water treatment technologies on vessels under this subsection, the Secretary shall—";

(7) in subsection (a)(3)(A), as so redesignated, by striking clause (i) and redesignating clauses (ii) and (iii) in order as clauses (i) and (ii);

(8) by amending subsection (a)(3)(A)(i), as so redesignated, to read as follows:

"(i) have ballast water systems conducive to testing aboard the vessel; and";

(9) by amending subsection (a)(3)(C), as so redesignated, to read as follows:

"(C) seek to use a variety of vessel types.";

(10) by amending subsection (a)(4), as so redesignated, to read as follows:

"(4) SELECTION OF ALTERNATIVE BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT METHODS.—In order for a ballast water treatment technology to be eligible to be installed on vessels for evaluation under this section, such technology must be, at a minimum—

"(A) determined by the Secretary to have the demonstrated potential to reduce the number of organisms greater than or equal to 50 microns

in minimum dimension in discharged ballast water to fewer than 10 living organisms per cubic meter of water;

"(B) cost-effective;

"(C) environmentally sound;

"(D) operationally practical;

"(E) able to be retrofitted on existing vessels or incorporated in new vessel design (or both);

"(F) safe for a vessel and crew; and

"(G) accessible to monitoring.";

(11) in subsection (a), as so redesignated, by adding at the end the following:

"(6) AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY TO REVIEW AND REVISE CRITERIA.—The Secretary may review and revise the criteria described in paragraph (4)(A) to require ballast water treatment technologies to meet a more stringent ballast water discharge standard, including standards promulgated under section 1101(f), before being eligible for installation aboard vessels under the program.";

(12) by inserting after subsection (a), as so redesignated, the following:

"(b) SHIPBOARD TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Under Secretary, with the concurrence of and in cooperation with the Secretary, shall conduct a program to demonstrate ballast water treatment technologies evaluated aboard vessels under subsection (a) to prevent aquatic nuisance species from being introduced into and spread through ballast water in waters of the United States.

"(2) LOCATION.—The installation and construction of ballast water treatment technologies used in the demonstration program under this subsection shall be performed in the United States.

"(3) VESSEL ELIGIBILITY.—Vessels eligible to participate in the demonstration program under this subsection shall consist only of vessels that have been accepted into and are actively participating in the Shipboard Technology Evaluation Program under subsection (a).

"(4) GRANTS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Under Secretary shall establish a grant program to provide funding for acquiring, installing, and operating ballast water treatment technologies aboard vessels participating in the program under this subsection.

"(B) MATCHING REQUIREMENTS.—The amount of Federal funds used for any demonstration project under this subsection—

"(i) shall not exceed $1,000,000; and

"(ii) shall not exceed 50 percent of the total cost of such project.

"(c) ALTERNATIVE SHIP PATHWAY PROGRAM.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Under Secretary, with the concurrence of and in cooperation with the Secretary, shall conduct a program to demonstrate and verify technologies and practices to monitor and control the introduction of aquatic invasive species by ship pathways other than the release of ballast water.

"(2) SELECTION OF METHODS.—The Under Secretary may not select technologies and practices for demonstration or verification under paragraph (1) unless such technologies and practices, in the determination of the Under Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary, meet the criteria outlined in subparagraphs (B) through (G) of subsection (a)(4).

"(3) LOCATION.—The installation and construction of technologies and practices for demonstration and verification under this subsection shall be performed in the United States."; and

(13) in subsection (d), as so redesignated, by striking "Secretary of the Interior" each place it appears and inserting "Secretary, in consultation with the Under Secretary,".

SEC. 506. RAPID RESPONSE PLAN.

Subtitle C of title I of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 4721 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"SEC. 1210. RAPID RESPONSE PLAN.

"(a) PREPARATION BY PRESIDENT.—The President shall prepare and publish a national rapid response plan for killing, removing, or minimizing the spread of aquatic nuisance species in the waters of the United States in accordance with this section.

"(b) CONTENTS.—The national rapid response plan shall provide for efficient, coordinated, and effective action to minimize damage from aquatic nuisance species in the navigable waters of the United States, including killing, containing, and removal of the aquatic nuisance species, and shall include the following:

"(1) Assignment of duties and responsibilities among Federal departments and agencies in coordination with State and local agencies and port authorities and private entities.

"(2) Identification, procurement, maintenance, and storage of equipment and supplies needed to facilitate the killing, containment, and removal of aquatic nuisance species under this section.

"(3) Establishment or designation by the President of Federal aquatic nuisance species response teams, consisting of—

"(A) personnel who shall be trained and prepared by the President and shall be available to provide necessary services to carry out the national rapid response plan;

"(B) adequate equipment and material needed to facilitate the killing, containment, and removal of aquatic nuisance species under this section; and

"(C) a detailed plans to kill, contain, and remove aquatic nuisance species, including measures to protect fisheries and wildlife.

"(4) A system of surveillance and notice designed to safeguard against, as well as ensure earliest possible notice of, the introduction of aquatic nuisance species and imminent threats of such introduction to the appropriate State and Federal agencies.

"(5) Establishment by the President of a national center to provide coordination and direction for operations in carrying out the plan.

"(6) Procedures and techniques to be employed in identifying, containing, killing, and removing aquatic nuisance species in the waters of the United States.

"(7) A schedule, prepared by the President in cooperation with the States, identifying—

"(A) mitigating devices and substances, if any, that may be used in carrying out the plan;

"(B) the waters in which such mitigating devices and substances may be used; and

"(C) the quantities of such mitigating device or substance which can be used safely in such waters.

"(8) A system whereby the State or States affected by an aquatic nuisance species may act where necessary to remove such species.

"(9) Establishment by the President of criteria and procedures to ensure immediate and effective Federal identification of, and response to, an introduction of aquatic nuisance species.

"(10) Designation by the President of the Federal official who shall be the Federal on-scene coordi-

nator for measures taken to kill, contain, and remove aquatic nuisance species under this section.

"(11) A fish and wildlife response plan for the immediate and effective protection, rescue, and rehabilitation of, and the minimization of risk of damage to, fish and wildlife resources and their habitat that are harmed or that may be jeopardized by an introduction of an aquatic nuisance species.

"(c) FEDERAL REMOVAL AUTHORITY.—

"(1) REMOVAL REQUIREMENT.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The President shall ensure, in accordance with the national rapid response plan, effective and immediate killing, containing, and removal of the aquatic nuisance species in the waters of the United States.

"(B) DISCRETIONARY AUTHORITY.—In carrying out this paragraph, the President may—

"(i) kill, contain, and remove an aquatic nuisance species, at any time; and

"(ii) direct or monitor all Federal, State, and private actions to kill, contain, and remove the aquatic nuisance species.

"(2) ACTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH NATIONAL RAPID RESPONSE PLAN.—Each Federal agency, State, owner or operator, or other person participating in

efforts under this subsection shall act in accordance with the national rapid response plan or as directed by the President to carry out the plan.".

SEC. 507. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 1301(a) of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 4741(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking "and" after the semicolon in paragraph (4)(B);

(2) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (5)(B) and inserting a semicolon; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(6) $20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012 to the Secretary to carry out section 1101;

"(7) $500,000 to the Secretary for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2013 to carry out section 1102(f);

"(8) $6,000,000 to the Under Secretary for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2013 to carry out paragraph (4) of section 1104(b); and

"(9) $1,500,000 to the Under Secretary for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2013 to carry out section 1104(c).".

TITLE VI—ALIEN SMUGGLING

SEC. 601. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "Maritime Law Enforcement Improvement Act of 2007".

SEC. 602. MARITIME LAW ENFORCEMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle VII of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"CHAPTER 707—MARITIME LAW ENFORCEMENT

"Sec.
"70701. Offense.
"70702. Attempt or conspiracy.
"70703. Affirmative defenses.
"70704. Penalties.
"70705. Criminal forfeiture.
"70706. Civil forfeiture.
"70707. Extension beyond territorial jurisdiction.
"70708. Claim of failure to comply with international law; jurisdiction of court.
"70709. Federal activities.
"70710. Definitions.

"§ 70701. Offense

"It shall be unlawful for any person on board a covered vessel to transport or facilitate the transportation, harboring, or concealment of an alien on board such vessel knowing or having reason to believe that the alien is attempting to unlawfully enter the United States.

"§ 70702. Attempt or conspiracy

"Any person on board a covered vessel who attempts or conspires to commit a violation of section 70701 shall be subject to the same penalties as those prescribed for the

violation, the commission of which was the object of the attempt or conspiracy.

"§ 70703. Affirmative defenses

"It is an affirmative defense to a prosecution under this section, which the defendant must prove by a preponderance of the evidence, that—

"(1)(A) the alien was on board pursuant to a rescue at sea, or was a stowaway; or

"(B) the entry into the United States was a necessary response to an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury to the alien;

"(2) the defendant, as soon as reasonably practicable, informed the Coast Guard of the presence of the alien on the vessel and the circumstances of the rescue; and

"(3) the defendant complied with all orders given by law enforcement officials of the United States.

"§ 70704. Penalties

"Any person who commits a violation of this chapter shall be imprisoned for not less than 3 nor more than 20 years or fined not more than $100,000, or both; except that—

"(1) in any case in which the violation causes serious bodily injury to any person, regardless of where the injury occurs, the person shall be impris-

oned for not less than 7 nor more than 30 years or fined not more than $500,000, or both; and

"(2) in any case in which the violation causes or results in the death of any person regardless of where the death occurs, the person shall be imprisoned for not less than 10 years nor more than life or fined not more than $1,000,000, or both.

"§ 70705. Criminal forfeiture

"The court, at the time of sentencing a person convicted of an offense under this chapter, shall order forfeited to the United States any vessel used in the offense in the same manner and to the same extent as if it were a vessel used in an offense under section 274 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1324).

"§ 70706. Civil forfeiture

"A vessel that has been used in the commission of a violation of this chapter shall be seized and subject to forfeiture in the same manner and to the same extent as if it were used in the commission of a violation of section 274(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1324(a)).

"§ 70707. Extension beyond territorial jurisdiction

"Sections 70701 and 70702 apply even though the act is committed outside the territorial jurisdiction of the United States.

"§ 70708. Claim of failure to comply with international law; jurisdiction of court

"A claim of failure to comply with international law in the enforcement of this chapter may be invoked as a basis for a defense solely by a foreign nation. A failure to comply with international law shall not divest a court of jurisdiction or otherwise constitute a defense to any proceeding under this chapter.

"§ 70709. Federal activities

"Nothing in this chapter applies to otherwise lawful activities carried out by or at the direction of the United States Government.

"§ 70710. Definitions

"In this chapter, the following definitions apply:

"(1) ALIEN.—The term 'alien' has the meaning given that term in section 70105(f).

"(2) COVERED VESSEL.—The term 'covered vessel' means a vessel of the United States, or a vessel subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, that is less than 300 gross tons (or an alternate tonnage prescribed by the Secretary under section 14104 of this title) as measured under section 14502 of this title.

"(3) SERIOUS BODILY INJURY.—The term 'serious bodily injury' has the meaning given that term in section 1365 of title 18, United States Code.

"(4) UNITED STATES.—The term 'United States' has the meaning given that term is section 114.

"(5) VESSEL OF THE UNITED STATES.—The term 'vessel of the United States' has the meaning given that term in section 70502.

"(6) VESSEL SUBJECT TO THE JURISDICTION OF THE UNITED STATES.—The term 'vessel subject to the jurisdiction of the United States' has the meaning given that term in section 70502.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for such subtitle is amended by inserting after the item relating to chapter 705 the following:

"707. Maritime Law Enforcement .....70701".

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2007".

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.
Sec. 2. Table of contents.

TITLE I—AUTHORIZATION

Sec. 101. Authorization of appropriations.
Sec. 102. Authorized levels of military strength and training.
Sec. 103. Transfer of bridge administration program authority and functions.

TITLE II—COAST GUARD

Sec. 201. Appointment of civilian Coast Guard judges.
Sec. 202. Industrial activities.
Sec. 203. Reimbursement for medical-related travel expenses.

Sec. 204. Commissioned officers.
Sec. 205. Coast Guard participation in the Armed Forces Retirement Home (AFRH) system.
Sec. 206. Grants to international maritime organizations.
Sec. 207. Emergency leave retention authority.
Sec. 208. Enforcement authority.
Sec. 209. Repeal.
Sec. 210. Admirals and Vice Admirals.
Sec. 211. Merchant Mariner Medical Advisory Committee.
Sec. 212. Reserve commissioned warrant officer to lieutenant program.
Sec. 213. Enhanced status quo officer promotion system.
Sec. 214. Laser Training System.
Sec. 215. Coast Guard vessels and aircraft.
Sec. 216. Coast Guard District Ombudsmen.

TITLE III—SHIPPING AND NAVIGATION

Sec. 301. Vessel size limits.
Sec. 302. Goods and services.
Sec. 303. Seaward extension of anchorage grounds jurisdiction.
Sec. 304. Maritime Drug Law Enforcement Act amendment-simple possession.
Sec. 305. Technical amendments to tonnage measurement law.
Sec. 306. Access for seamen.
Sec. 307. Fishing vessel safety.
Sec. 308. Mariner records.
Sec. 309. Deletion of exemption of license requirement for operators of certain towing vessels.
Sec. 310. Adjustment of liability limits for natural gas deepwater ports.
Sec. 311. Period of limitations for claims against Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund.
Sec. 312. Log books.
Sec. 313. Unsafe operation.
Sec. 314. Approval of survival craft.
Sec. 315. Safety management.
Sec. 316. Protection against discrimination.
Sec. 317. Dry bulk cargo residue.
Sec. 318. Clarification of delegation of authority to classification societies.
Sec. 319. Registry endorsement for LNG vessels.
Sec. 320. Oaths.
Sec. 321. Duration of credentials.
Sec. 322. Fingerprinting.
Sec. 323. Authorization to extend the duration of licenses, certificates of registry, and merchant mariners' documents.
Sec. 324. Merchant mariner documentation.
Sec. 325. Merchant mariner assistance report.
Sec. 326. Merchant mariner shortage report.
Sec. 327. Merchant mariner document standards.
Sec. 328. Waterside security around liquefied natural gas terminals and liquefied natural gas tankers.

TITLE IV—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Sec. 401. Certificate of documentation for GALLANT LADY.
Sec. 402. Waiver.
Sec. 403. Great Lakes Maritime Research Institute.
Sec. 404. Conveyance.
Sec. 405. Crew wages on passenger vessels.
Sec. 406. Technical corrections.
Sec. 407. Conveyance of decommissioned Coast Guard Cutter STORIS.
Sec. 408. Repeal of requirement of license for employment in the business of salvaging on the coast of Florida.
Sec. 409. Right-of-first-refusal for Coast Guard property on Jupiter Island, Florida.
Sec. 410. Conveyance of Coast Guard HU–25 Falcon Jet aircraft.
Sec. 411. Conveyance of a Coast Guard vessel.
Sec. 412. Conveyance of a Coast Guard vessel.
Sec. 413. Conveyance of a Coast Guard vessel.
Sec. 414. Decommissioned Coast Guard vessels for Haiti.
Sec. 415. Extension of period of operation of vessel for setting, relocation, or recovery of anchors or other mooring equipment.
Sec. 416. Vessel traffic risk assessments.
Sec. 417. Vessel MARYLAND INDEPENDENCE.
Sec. 418. Study of relocation of Coast Guard Sector Buffalo facilities.
Sec. 419. Coast Guard assets for United States Virgin Islands.

TITLE V—BALLAST WATER TREATMENT

Sec. 501. Short title.
Sec. 502. Declaration of goals and purposes.
Sec. 503. Ballast water management.
Sec. 504. National ballast water management information.
Sec. 505. Ballast water management evaluation and demonstration program.
Sec. 506. Rapid response plan.
Sec. 507. Authorization of appropriations.

TITLE VI—ALIEN SMUGGLING

Sec. 601. Short title.
Sec. 602. Maritime law enforcement.

TITLE VII—MISCELLANEOUS HOMELAND SECURITY PROVISIONS

Sec. 701. Maritime homeland security public awareness program.
Sec. 702. Transportation Worker Identification Credential.
Sec. 703. Study to identify redundant background records checks.
Sec. 704. Review of interacency operational centers.
Sec. 705. Maritime security response teams.
Sec. 706. Coast Guard detection canine team program expansion.
Sec. 707. Coast Guard port assistance program.

Sec. 708. Homeland security impact review of liquefied natural gas facilities.
Sec. 709. Maritime biometric identification.
Sec. 710. Review of potential threats.
Sec. 711. Port security pilot.
Sec. 712. Advance notice of port arrival of significant or fatal incidents involving U.S. persons.
Sec. 713. Safety and security assistance for foreign ports.
Sec. 714. Seasonal workers.
Sec. 715. Comparative risk assessment of vessel-based and facility-based liquefied natural gas regasification processes.
Sec. 716. Savings clause.

TITLE VIII—COAST GUARD INTEGRATED DEEPWATER PROGRAM

Sec. 801. Short title.
Sec. 802. Implementation of Coast Guard Integrated Deepwater Acquisition Program.
Sec. 803. Chief Acquisition Officer.
Sec. 804. Testing and certification.
Sec. 805. National Security Cutters.
Sec. 806. Miscellaneous reports.
Sec. 807. Use of the Naval Sea Systems Command, the Naval Air Systems Command, and the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command to assist the Coast Guard in exercising technical authority for the Deepwater Program and other Coast Guard acquisition programs.
Sec. 808. Definitions.

TITLE I—AUTHORIZATION

SEC. 101. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Funds are authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2008 for necessary expenses of the Coast Guard as follows:

(1) For the operation and maintenance of the Coast Guard, $5,965,742,000, of which—

(A) $24,500,000 is authorized to be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to carry out the purposes

of section 1012(a)(5) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2712(a)(5));

(B) not less than $631,000,000 shall be available for paying for search and rescue programs;

(C) not less than $527,000,000 shall be available for paying for marine safety programs; and

(D) not less than $80,500,000 shall be available only for paying for operating expenses of the Integrated Deepwater System program.

(2) For the acquisition, construction, rebuilding, and improvement of aids to navigation, shore and offshore facilities, vessels, and aircraft, including equipment related thereto, $1,234,774,000, of which—

(A) $20,000,000 shall be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to carry out the purposes of section 1012(a)(5) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, to remain available until expended;

(B) $1,065,872,000 is authorized for the Integrated Deepwater System Program; and

(C) $44,597,000 is authorized for shore facilities and aids to navigation.

(3) To the Commandant of the Coast Guard for research, development, test, and evaluation of technologies, materials, and human factors directly relating to improving the performance of the Coast Guard's mission in search and rescue, aids to navigation, marine safety, marine environmental protection, enforcement of laws and treaties, ice operations, oceanographic research, and defense readiness, $18,583,000, to remain available until expended, of which $2,000,000 shall be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to carry out the purposes of section 1012(a)(5) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990.

(4) For retired pay (including the payment of obligations otherwise chargeable to lapsed appropriations for this purpose), payments under the Retired Serv-

iceman's Family Protection and Survivor Benefit Plans, and payments for medical care of retired personnel and their dependents under chapter 55 of title 10, United States Code, $1,184,720,000, to remain available until expended.

(5) For alteration or removal of bridges over navigable waters of the United States constituting obstructions to navigation, and for personnel and administrative costs associated with the Bridge Alteration Program, $16,000,000.

(6) For environmental compliance and restoration at Coast Guard facilities (other than parts and equipment associated with operation and maintenance), $12,079,000, to remain available until expended.

(7) For the Coast Guard Reserve program, including personnel and training costs, equipment, and services, $126,883,000.

SEC. 102. AUTHORIZED LEVELS OF MILITARY STRENGTH AND TRAINING.

(a) ACTIVE DUTY STRENGTH.—The Coast Guard is authorized an end-of-year strength for active duty personnel of 45,500 for the fiscal year ending on September 30, 2008.

(b) MILITARY TRAINING STUDENT LOADS.—For fiscal year 2008, the Coast Guard is authorized average military training student loads as follows:

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

(2) For flight training, 165 student years.

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

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

SEC. 103. TRANSFER OF BRIDGE ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM AUTHORITY AND FUNCTIONS.

(a) TRANSFER.—

(1) AUTHORITY AND FUNCTIONS.—Notwithstanding section 888(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 468(b)) or any other provision of law, the au-

thorities of the Secretary of Homeland Security to approve the construction, alteration, or operation of a bridge, drawbridge, or causeway across or over the navigable waters of the United States and to require the alteration, repair, or removal of that bridge, drawbridge, or causeway, pursuant to the Bridge Act of 1906 (34 Stat. 84; 33 U.S.C. 491 et seq.), the General Bridge Act of 1946 (60 Stat. 847, 33 U.S.C. 525 note), the Truman-Hobbs Act (54 Stat. 497; 33 U.S.C. 511 et seq.), and the International Bridge Act of 1972 (60 Stat. 847; 33 U.S.C. 525 et seq.), and the functions related thereto, are hereby transferred to the Secretary of Transportation.

(2) TRANSFER AND ADMINISTRATION OF BALANCES.—Any unobligated balances of prior appropriations provided for the alteration of bridges are transferred and shall be available to the Secretary of Transportation to carry out the functions and authorities transferred by subsection (a).

TITLE II—COAST GUARD

SEC. 201. APPOINTMENT OF CIVILIAN COAST GUARD JUDGES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 7 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 153. Appointment of judges

"The Secretary may appoint civilian employees of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating as appellate military judges, available for assignment to the Coast Guard Court of Criminal Appeals as provided for in section 866(a) of title 10.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following:

"153. Appointment of judges.".

SEC. 202. INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES.

Section 151 of title 14, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting "(a) IN GENERAL.—" before "All orders"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

1 **"(b) ORDERS AND AGREEMENTS FOR INDUS-**
2 **TRIAL ACTIVITIES.—Under this section, the**
3 **Coast Guard industrial activities may accept**
4 **orders and enter into reimbursable agree-**
5 **ments with establishments, agencies, and de-**
6 **partments of the Department of Defense.".**

7 **SEC. 203. REIMBURSEMENT FOR MEDICAL-RELATED TRAV-**
8 **EL EXPENSES.**

9 **(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 13 of title 14,**
10 **United States Code, is amended by adding at**
11 **the end the following:**

12 **"§ 518. Reimbursement for medical-related travel ex-**
13 **penses for certain persons residing on is-**
14 **lands in the continental United States**

15 **"In any case in which a covered bene-**
16 **ficiary (as defined in section 1072(5) of title**
17 **10) resides on an island that is located in the**
18 **48 contiguous States and the District of Co-**
19 **lumbia and that lacks public access roads to**
20 **the mainland and is referred by a primary**
21 **care physician to a specialty care provider (as**
22 **defined in section 1074i(b) of title 10) on the**
23 **mainland who provides services less than 100**
24 **miles from the location where the beneficiary**
25 **resides, the Secretary shall reimburse the rea-**

sonable travel expenses of the covered beneficiary and, when accompaniment by an adult is necessary, for a parent or guardian of the covered beneficiary or another member of the covered beneficiary's family who is at least 21 years of age.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following:

"518. Reimbursement for medical-related travel expenses for certain persons residing on islands in the continental United States.".

SEC. 204. COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

(a) ACTIVE DUTY PROMOTION LIST.—Section 42 of title 14, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"§ 42. Number and distribution of commissioned officers on active duty promotion list

"(a) MAXIMUM TOTAL NUMBER.—The total number of Coast Guard commissioned officers on the active duty promotion list, excluding warrant officers, shall not exceed 6,700; except that the Commandant may temporarily increase that number by up to 2 percent for no more than 60 days following the date of the commissioning of a Coast Guard Academy class.

"(b) DISTRIBUTION PERCENTAGES BY GRADE.—

"(1) REQUIRED.—The total number of commissioned officers authorized by this section shall be distributed in grade in the following percentages: 0.375 percent for rear admiral; 0.375 percent for rear admiral (lower half); 6.0 percent for captain; 15.0 percent for commander; and 22.0 percent for lieutenant commander.

"(2) DISCRETIONARY.—The Secretary shall prescribe the percentages applicable to the grades of lieutenant, lieutenant (junior grade), and ensign.

"(3) AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY TO REDUCE PERCENTAGE.—The Secretary—

"(A) may reduce, as the needs of the Coast Guard require, any of the percentages set forth in paragraph (1); and

"(B) shall apply that total percentage reduction to any other lower grade or combination of lower grades.

"(c) COMPUTATIONS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall compute, at least once each year, the total number of commissioned officers authorized to serve in each grade by applying the grade distribution percentages established by or under this section to the total number of commissioned officers listed on the current active duty promotion list.

"(2) ROUNDING FRACTIONS.—Subject to subsection (a), in making the computations under paragraph (1), any fraction shall be rounded to the nearest whole number.

"(3) TREATMENT OF OFFICERS SERVING OUTSIDE COAST GUARD.—The number of commissioned officers on the active duty promotion list below the rank of rear admiral (lower half) serving with other Federal departments or agencies on a reimbursable basis or excluded under section 324(d) of title 49 shall not be counted against the total number of commissioned officers authorized to serve in each grade.

"(d) USE OF NUMBERS; TEMPORARY INCREASES.—The numbers resulting from computations under subsection (c) shall be, for all purposes, the authorized number in each grade; except that the authorized number for a grade is temporarily increased during the period between one computation and the next by the number of officers originally appointed in that grade during that period and the number of officers of that grade for whom vacancies exist in the next higher grade but whose promotion has been delayed for any reason.

"(e) OFFICERS SERVING COAST GUARD ACADEMY AND RESERVE.—The number of officers authorized to be serving on active duty in each grade of the permanent commissioned teaching staff of the Coast Guard Academy and of the Reserve serving in connection with organizing, administering, recruiting, instructing, or training the reserve components shall be prescribed by the Secretary.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 3 of such title is amended by striking the item relating to section 42 and inserting the following:

"42. Number and distribution of commissioned officers on active duty promotion list.".

SEC. 205. COAST GUARD PARTICIPATION IN THE ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOME (AFRH) SYSTEM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1502 of the Armed Forces Retirement Home Act of 1991 (24 U.S.C. 401) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (4);

(2) in paragraph (5)—

(A) by striking "and" at the end of subparagraph (C);

(B) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (D) and inserting "; and"; and

(C) by inserting at the end the following:

"(E) the Assistant Commandant of the Coast Guard for Human Resources."; and

(3) by adding at the end of paragraph (6) the following:

"(E) The Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard.".

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—(1) Section 2772 of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in subsection (a) by inserting "or, in the case of the Coast Guard, the Commandant" after "concerned"; and

(B) by striking subsection (c).

(2) Section 1007(i) of title 37, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in paragraph (3) by inserting "or, in the case of the Coast Guard, the Commandant" after "Secretary of Defense";

(B) by striking paragraph (4); and

(C) by redesignating paragraph (5) as paragraph (4).

SEC. 206. GRANTS TO INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATIONS.

Section 149 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(c) GRANTS TO INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATIONS.—After consultation with the Secretary of State, the Commandant may make grants to, or enter into cooperative agreements, contracts, or other agreements with, international maritime organizations for the purpose of acquiring information or data about merchant vessel inspections, secu-

rity, safety, classification, and port State or flag State law enforcement or oversight.".

SEC. 207. EMERGENCY LEAVE RETENTION AUTHORITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 11 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 425 the following:

"§ 426. Emergency leave retention authority

"With regard to a member of the Coast Guard who serves on active duty, a duty assignment in support of a declaration of a major disaster or emergency by the President under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) shall be treated, for the purpose of section 701(f)(2) of title 10, a duty assignment in support of a contingency operation.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for such chapter is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 425 the following new item:

"426. Emergency leave retention authority.".

SEC. 208. ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 5 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 99. Enforcement authority

"Subject to guidelines approved by the Secretary, members of the Coast Guard, in the performance of official duties, may—

"(1) carry a firearm; and

"(2) while at a facility (as defined in section 70101 of title 46)—

"(A) make an arrest without warrant for any offense against the United States; and

"(B) seize property as otherwise provided by law.".

(b) CONFORMING REPEAL.—The first section added to title 46, United States Code, by the amendment made by subsection (a) of section 801 of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2004 (118 Stat. 1078), and the item relating to such first section enacted by the amendment made by subsection (b) of such section 801, are repealed.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following:

"99. Enforcement authority.".

SEC. 209. REPEAL.

Section 216 of title 14, United States Code, and the item relating to such section in the analysis for chapter 11 of such title, are repealed.

SEC. 210. ADMIRALS AND VICE ADMIRALS.

(a) VICE COMMANDANT.—Section 47 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking "vice admiral" and inserting "admiral".

(b) VICE ADMIRALS.—Section 50 of title 14, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"§ 50. Vice admirals

"(a)(1) The President may designate 4 positions of importance and responsibility that shall be held by officers who—

"(A) while so serving, shall have the grade of vice admiral, with the pay and allowances of that grade; and

"(B) shall perform any duties as the Commandant may prescribe.

"(2) The 4 vice admiral positions authorized under paragraph (1) are, respectively, the following:

"(A) The Deputy Commandant for Mission Support.

"(B) The Deputy Commandant for National Operations and Policy.

"(C) The Commander, Force Readiness Command.

"(D) The Commander, Operations Command.

"(3) The President may appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and reappoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to each of the positions designated under paragraph (1) an officer of the Coast Guard who is serving on active duty above the grade of captain. The Commandant shall make recommendations for those appointments.

"(b)(1) The appointment and the grade of vice admiral under this section shall be effective on the date the officer assumes that duty and, except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection or in section 51(d) of this title, shall terminate on the date the officer is detached from that duty.

"(2) An officer who is appointed to a position designated under subsection (a) shall continue to hold the grade of vice admiral—

"(A) while under orders transferring the officer to another position designated under subsection (a), beginning on the date the officer is detached from duty and terminating on the date before the day the officer assumes the subsequent duty, but not for more than 60 days;

"(B) while hospitalized, beginning on the day of the hospitalization and ending on the day the officer is discharged from the hospital, but not for more than 180 days; and

"(C) while awaiting retirement, beginning on the date the officer is detached from duty and ending on the day before the officer's retirement, but not for more than 60 days.

"(c)(1) An appointment of an officer under subsection (a) does not vacate the permanent grade held by the officer.

"(2) An officer serving in a grade above rear admiral who holds the permanent grade of rear admiral (lower half) shall be considered for promotion to the permanent grade of

rear admiral as if the officer was serving in the officer's permanent grade.

"(d) Whenever a vacancy occurs in a position designated under subsection (a), the Commandant shall inform the President of the qualifications needed by an officer serving in that position to carry out effectively the duties and responsibilities of that position.".

(c) REPEAL.—Section 50a of title 14, United States Code, is repealed.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 51(d)(2) of that title is amended by striking "Area Commander, or Chief of Staff" and inserting "or Vice Admirals".

(e) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(1) The heading for section 47 of that title is amended by striking "assignment" and inserting "appointment".

(2) The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 3 of that title is amended—

(A) by striking the item relating to section 47 and inserting the following:

"47. Vice Commandant; appointment.";

1 (B) by striking the item relating
2 to section 50 and inserting the fol-
3 lowing:

"50. Vice admirals.";

4 and
5 (C) by striking the item relating
6 to section 50a.
7 (f) TECHNICAL CORRECTION.—Section 47 of
8 that title is further amended in the fifth sen-
9 tence by striking "subsection" and inserting
10 "section".

11 SEC. 211. MERCHANT MARINER MEDICAL ADVISORY COM-
12 MITTEE.

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 71 of title 46,
14 United States Code, is amended by adding at
15 the end the following new section:

16 "§ 7115. Merchant Mariner Medical Advisory Com-
17 mittee

18 "(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—
19 "(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established
20 a Merchant Mariner Medical Advisory
21 Committee (in this section referred to as
22 the 'Committee').
23 "(2) FUNCTIONS.—The Committee shall
24 advise the Secretary on matters relating
25 to—

"(A) medical certification determinations for issuance of merchant mariner credentials;

"(B) medical standards and guidelines for the physical qualifications of operators of commercial vessels;

"(C) medical examiner education; and

"(D) medical research.

"(b) MEMBERSHIP.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Committee shall consist of twelve members, none of whom is a Federal employee, and shall include—

"(A) ten who are health-care professionals with particular expertise, knowledge, or experience regarding the medical examinations of merchant mariners or occupational medicine; and

"(B) two who are professional mariners with knowledge and experience in mariner occupational requirements.

"(2) STATUS OF MEMBERS.—Members of the Committee shall not be considered Federal employees or otherwise in the service or the employment of the Federal Government, except that members shall be considered special Government employees, as defined in section 202(a) of title 18, United States Code, and shall be subject to any administrative standards of conduct applicable to the employees of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating.

"(c) APPOINTMENTS; TERMS; VACANCIES.—

"(1) APPOINTMENTS.—The Secretary shall appoint the members of the Committee, and each member shall serve at the pleasure of the Secretary.

"(2) TERMS.—Each member shall be appointed for a term of three years, except that, of the members first appointed, three members shall be appointed for a term of two years and three members shall be appointed for a term of one year.

"(3) VACANCIES.—Any member appointed to fill the vacancy prior to the ex-

piration of the term for which that member's predecessor was appointed shall be appointed for the remainder of that term.

"(d) CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN.—The Secretary shall designate one member of the Committee as the Chairman and one member as the Vice Chairman. The Vice Chairman shall act as Chairman in the absence or incapacity of, or in the event of a vacancy in the office of, the Chairman.

"(e) COMPENSATION; REIMBURSEMENT.—Members of the Committee shall serve without compensation, except that, while engaged in the performance of duties away from their homes or regular places of business of the member, the member of the Committee may be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by section 5703 of title 5.

"(f) STAFF; SERVICES.—The Secretary shall furnish to the Committee the personnel and services as are considered necessary for the conduct of its business.".

(b) FIRST MEETING.—No later than six months after the date of enactment of this

Act, the Merchant Mariner Medical Advisory Committee established by the amendment made by this section shall hold its first meeting.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 71 of that title is amended by adding at the end the following:

"7115. Merchant Mariner Medical Advisory Committee.".

SEC. 212. RESERVE COMMISSIONED WARRANT OFFICER TO LIEUTENANT PROGRAM.

Section 214(a) of title 14, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"(a) The president may appoint temporary commissioned officers—

"(1) in the Regular Coast Guard in a grade, not above lieutenant, appropriate to their qualifications, experience, and length of service, as the needs of the Coast Guard may require, from among the commissioned warrant officers, warrant officers, and enlisted members of the Coast Guard, and from holders of licenses issued under chapter 71 of title 46; and

"(2) in the Coast Guard Reserve in a grade, not above lieutenant, appropriate to their qualifications, experience, and

length of service, as the needs of the Coast Guard may require, from among the commissioned warrant officers of the Coast Guard Reserve.".

SEC. 213. ENHANCED STATUS QUO OFFICER PROMOTION SYSTEM.

Chapter 11 of title 14, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 253(a)—

(A) by inserting "and" after "considered,"; and

(B) by striking ", and the number of officers the board may recommend for promotion";

(2) in section 258—

(A) by inserting "(a) IN GENERAL.—" before the existing text;

(B) in subsection (a) (as so designated) by striking the colon at the end of the material preceding paragraph (1) and inserting "—"; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

"(b) PROVISION OF DIRECTION AND GUIDANCE.—

"(1) In addition to the information provided pursuant to subsection (a), the Secretary may furnish the selection board—

"(A) specific direction relating to the needs of the Coast Guard for officers having particular skills, including direction relating to the need for a minimum number of officers with particular skills within a specialty; and

"(B) any other guidance that the Secretary believes may be necessary to enable the board to properly perform its functions.

"(2) Selections made based on the direction and guidance provided under this subsection shall not exceed the maximum percentage of officers who may be selected from below the announced promotion zone at any given selection board convened under section 251 of this title.";

(3) in section 259(a), by inserting after "whom the board" the following: ", giving due consideration to the needs of

the Coast Guard for officers with particular skills so noted in specific direction furnished to the board by the Secretary under section 258 of this title,"; and

(4) in section 260(b), by inserting after "qualified for promotion" the following: "to meet the needs of the service (as noted in specific direction furnished the board by the Secretary under section 258 of this title)".

SEC. 214. LASER TRAINING SYSTEM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Within one year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard shall test an integrated laser engagement system for the training of members of the Coast Guard assigned to small vessels in the use of individual weapons and machine guns on those vessels. The test shall be conducted on vessels on the Great Lakes using similar laser equipment used by other Federal agencies. However, that equipment shall be adapted for use in the marine environment.

(b) REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit a report to Congress within 6 months after the conclusions of the test required under subsection (a) on the costs and benefits of using the system regionally and nationwide to train members of the Coast Guard in the use of individual weapons and machine guns.

SEC. 215. COAST GUARD VESSELS AND AIRCRAFT.

(a) AUTHORITY TO FIRE AT OR INTO A VESSEL.—Section 637(c) of title 14, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking "; or" and inserting a semicolon;

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; or"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(3) any other vessel or aircraft owned by a government and used for noncommercial service when—

"(A) the vessel or aircraft is under the tactical control of the Coast Guard; and

"(B) at least one member of the Coast Guard is assigned and conducting a Coast Guard mission on the vessel or aircraft.".

(b) AUTHORITY TO DISPLAY COAST GUARD ENSIGNS AND PENNANTS.—Section 638(a) of title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking "Coast Guard vessels and aircraft" and inserting "Vessels and aircraft authorized by the Secretary".

SEC. 216. COAST GUARD DISTRICT OMBUDSMEN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 3 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"§ 55. District Ombudsmen

"(a) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant may appoint in each Coast Guard District a District Ombudsman to serve as a liaison between representatives of port stakeholders, including the Area Maritime Security Advisory Committees required by section 70112 of title 46 and the Coast Guard.

"(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the District Ombudsman shall be the following:

"(1) To support the operations of the Coast Guard in each port in the District for which the District Ombudsman is appointed.

"(2) To improve communications between and among port stakeholders including, but not limited to, port and terminal operators, ship owners, labor representatives, and the Coast Guard.

"(3) To ensure timely resolution of disputes between the Coast Guard and all petitioners regarding requirements imposed or services provided by the Coast Guard.

"(c) FUNCTIONS.—

"(1) INVESTIGATIONS.—The District Ombudsman may investigate complaints brought to the attention of the District Ombudsman by a petitioner operating in a port provided such a complaint is not the subject of an administrative, civil, or criminal investigation or other legal proceeding and provided the District Ombudsman receives no benefit, either di-

rect or indirect, from the outcome of the complaint.

"(2) GUIDELINES FOR DISPUTES.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant of the Coast Guard shall develop guidelines regarding disputes with respect to which the District Ombudsman will provide assistance.

"(B) LIMITATION.—The District Ombudsman shall not provide assistance with respect to a dispute if such a dispute is the subject of an administrative, civil, or criminal investigation or other legal proceeding or if the District Ombudsman receives a benefit, either direct or indirect, from the outcome of the dispute.

"(C) PRIORITY.—In providing such assistance, the District Ombudsman shall give priority to complaints brought by petitioners who will suffer a significant hardship as the result of implementing a Coast Guard requirement or being denied a Coast Guard service.

"(3) CONSULTATION.—The District Ombudsman may consult with any Coast Guard personnel who can aid in the investigation of a complaint provided such persons are reasonably available.

"(4) ACCESS TO INFORMATION.—Unless otherwise prohibited by law or regulation, the District Ombudsman shall have access to any document, including any record or report, that will aid the District Ombudsman in obtaining the information needed to conduct an investigation of a compliant.

"(5) REPORTS.—At the conclusion of an investigation, the District Ombudsman shall submit a report on the findings and recommendations of the District Ombudsman, to the Commander of the District in which the petitioner who brought the complaint is located or operating.

"(6) DEADLINE.—The District Ombudsman shall seek to resolve each complaint brought in accordance with the guidelines—

"(A) in a timely fashion; and

"(B) to the maximum extent practicable, not later than 4 months after the complaint is officially accepted by the District Ombudsman.

"(d) APPOINTMENT.—The Commandant shall appoint as the District Ombudsman an appropriately cleared civilian who has experience in port and transportation systems and knowledge of port operations or of maritime commerce (or both).

"(e) ANNUAL REPORTS.—The Secretary shall report annually to the Committees on Homeland Security and Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate on the matters brought before the District Ombudsmen, including—

"(1) the number of matters brought before each District Ombudsman;

"(2) a brief summary of each such matter; and

"(3) the eventual resolution of each such matter.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

"55. District Ombudsmen.".

TITLE III—SHIPPING AND NAVIGATION

SEC. 301. VESSEL SIZE LIMITS.

(a) LENGTH, TONNAGE, AND HORSEPOWER.—Section 12113(d)(2) of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting "and" after the semicolon at the end of subparagraph (A)(i);

(2) by striking "and" at the end of subparagraph (A)(ii);

(3) by striking subparagraph (A)(iii);

(4) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (B) and inserting "; or"; and

(5) by inserting at the end the following:

"(C) the vessel is either a rebuilt vessel or a replacement vessel under section 208(g) of the American Fisheries Act (title II of division C of Public Law 105–277; 112 Stat. 2681–627)

and is eligible for a fishery endorsement under this section.".

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) VESSEL REBUILDING AND REPLACEMENT.—Section 208(g) of the American Fisheries Act (title II of division C of Public Law 105–277; 112 Stat. 2681–627) is amended to read as follows:

"(g) VESSEL REBUILDING AND REPLACEMENT.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—

"(A) REBUILD OR REPLACE.—Notwithstanding any limitation to the contrary on replacing, rebuilding, or lengthening vessels or transferring permits or licenses to a replacement vessel contained in sections 679.2 and 679.4 of title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on the date of enactment of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2007 and except as provided in paragraph (4), the owner of a vessel eligible under subsection (a), (b), (c), (d), or (e) (other than paragraph (21)), in order to improve

vessel safety and operational efficiencies (including fuel efficiency), may rebuild or replace that vessel (including fuel efficiency) with a vessel documented with a fishery endorsement under section 12113 of title 46, United States Code.

"(B) SAME REQUIREMENTS.—The rebuilt or replacement vessel shall be eligible in the same manner and subject to the same restrictions and limitations under such subsection as the vessel being rebuilt or replaced.

"(C) TRANSFER OF PERMITS AND LICENSES.—Each fishing permit and license held by the owner of a vessel or vessels to be rebuilt or replaced under subparagraph (A) shall be transferred to the rebuilt or replacement vessel.

"(2) RECOMMENDATIONS OF NORTH PACIFIC COUNCIL.—The North Pacific Council may recommend for approval by the Secretary such conservation and management measures, including size limits and

measures to control fishing capacity, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Act as it considers necessary to ensure that this subsection does not diminish the effectiveness of fishery management plans of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area or the Gulf of Alaska.

"(3) SPECIAL RULE FOR REPLACEMENT OF CERTAIN VESSELS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the requirements of subsections (b)(2), (c)(1), and (c)(2) of section 12113 of title 46, United States Code, a vessel that is eligible under subsection (a), (b), (c), (d), or (e) (other than paragraph (21)) and that qualifies to be documented with a fishery endorsement pursuant to section 203(g) or 213(g) may be replaced with a replacement vessel under paragraph (1) if the vessel that is replaced is validly documented with a fishery endorsement pursuant to section 203(g) or 213(g) before the re-

placement vessel is documented with a fishery endorsement under section 12113 of title 46, United States Code.

"(B) APPLICABILITY.—A replacement vessel under subparagraph (A) and its owner and mortgagee are subject to the same limitations under section 203(g) or 213(g) that are applicable to the vessel that has been replaced and its owner and mortgagee.

"(4) SPECIAL RULES FOR CERTAIN CATCHER VESSELS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—A replacement for a covered vessel described in subparagraph (B) is prohibited from harvesting fish in any fishery (except for the Pacific whiting fishery) managed under the authority of any regional fishery management council (other than the North Pacific Council) established under section 302(a) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

"(B) COVERED VESSELS.—A covered vessel referred to in subparagraph (A) is—

"(i) a vessel eligible under subsection (a), (b), or (c) that is replaced under paragraph (1); or

"(ii) a vessel eligible under subsection (a), (b), or (c) that is rebuilt to increase its registered length, gross tonnage, or shaft horsepower.

"(5) LIMITATION ON FISHERY ENDORSEMENTS.—Any vessel that is replaced under this subsection shall thereafter not be eligible for a fishery endorsement under section 12113 of title 46, United States Code, unless that vessel is also a replacement vessel described in paragraph (1).

"(6) GULF OF ALASKA LIMITATION.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the Secretary shall prohibit from participation in the groundfish fisheries of the Gulf of Alaska any vessel that is rebuilt or replaced under this subsection and that exceeds the maximum length overall specified on the license that authorizes fishing for groundfish pursuant to the license limitation program under part 679 of title

50, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on the date of enactment of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2007.

"(7) AUTHORITY OF PACIFIC COUNCIL.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to diminish or otherwise affect the authority of the Pacific Council to recommend to the Secretary conservation and management measures to protect fisheries under its jurisdiction (including the Pacific whiting fishery) and participants in such fisheries from adverse impacts caused by this Act.".

(2) EXEMPTION OF CERTAIN VESSELS.—Section 203(g) of the American Fisheries Act (title II of division C of Public Law 105–277; 112 Stat. 2681–620) is amended—

(A) by inserting "and" after "(United States official number 651041)";

(B) by striking ", NORTHERN TRAVELER (United States official number 635986), and NORTHERN VOYAGER (United States official number 637398) (or a replacement

vessel for the NORTHERN VOYAGER that complies with paragraphs (2), (5), and (6) of section 208(g) of this Act)"; and

(C) by striking ", in the case of the NORTHERN" and all that follows through "PHOENIX,".

(3) FISHERY COOPERATIVE EXIT PROVISIONS.—Section 210(b) of the American Fisheries Act (title II of division C of Public Law 105–277; 112 Stat. 2681–629) is amended—

(A) by moving the matter beginning with "the Secretary shall" in paragraph (1) 2 ems to the right;

(B) by adding at the end the following:

"(7) FISHERY COOPERATIVE EXIT PROVISIONS.—

"(A) FISHING ALLOWANCE DETERMINATION.—For purposes of determining the aggregate percentage of directed fishing allowances under paragraph (1), when a catcher vessel is removed from the directed pollock

fishery, the fishery allowance for pollock for the vessel being removed—

"(i) shall be based on the catch history determination for the vessel made pursuant to section 679.62 of title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on the date of enactment of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2007; and

"(ii) shall be assigned, for all purposes under this title, in the manner specified by the owner of the vessel being removed to any other catcher vessel or among other catcher vessels participating in the fishery cooperative if such vessel or vessels remain in the fishery cooperative for at least one year after the date on which the vessel being removed leaves the directed pollock fishery.

"(B) ELIGIBILITY FOR FISHERY ENDORSEMENT.—Except as provided in

subparagraph (C), a vessel that is removed pursuant to this paragraph shall be permanently ineligible for a fishery endorsement, and any claim (including relating to catch history) associated with such vessel that could qualify any owner of such vessel for any permit to participate in any fishery within the exclusive economic zone of the United States shall be extinguished, unless such removed vessel is thereafter designated to replace a vessel to be removed pursuant to this paragraph.

"(C) LIMITATIONS ON STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed—

"(i) to make the vessels AJ (United States official number 905625), DONA MARTITA (United States official number 651751), NORDIC EXPLORER (United States official number 678234), and PROVIDIAN (United States official number 1062183) ineli-

gible for a fishery endorsement or any permit necessary to participate in any fishery under the authority of the New England Fishery Management Council or the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council established, respectively, under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 302(a)(1) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act; or

"(ii) to allow the vessels referred to in clause (i) to participate in any fishery under the authority of the Councils referred to in clause (i) in any manner that is not consistent with the fishery management plan for the fishery developed by the Councils under section 303 of the Magnuson-Stevens Act.".

SEC. 302. GOODS AND SERVICES.

Section 4(b) of the Act of July 5, 1884, commonly known as the Rivers and Harbors Appropriation Act of 1884 (33 U.S.C. 5(b)), is amended—

(1) by striking "or" at the end of paragraph (2)(C);

(2) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (3) and inserting "; or"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(4) sales taxes on goods and services provided to or by vessels or watercraft (other than vessels or watercraft primarily engaged in foreign commerce).".

SEC. 303. SEAWARD EXTENSION OF ANCHORAGE GROUNDS JURISDICTION.

Section 7 of the Rivers and Harbors Appropriations Act of 1915 (33 U.S.C. 471) is amended—

(1) by striking "That the" and inserting the following:

"(a) IN GENERAL.—The".

(2) in subsection (a) (as designated by paragraph (1)) by striking "$100; and the" and inserting "up to $10,000. Each day during which a violation continues shall constitute a separate violation. The";

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(b) DEFINITION.—As used in this section 'navigable waters of the United States' includes all waters of the territorial sea of the United States as described in Presidential Proclamation No. 5928 of December 27, 1988.".

SEC. 304. MARITIME DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT AMENDMENT-SIMPLE POSSESSION.

Section 70506 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(c) SIMPLE POSSESSION.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Any individual on a vessel subject to the jurisdiction of the United States who is found by the Secretary, after notice and an opportunity for a hearing, to have knowingly or intentionally possessed a controlled substance within the meaning of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812) shall be liable to the United States for a civil penalty of not to exceed $10,000 for each violation. The Secretary shall notify the individual in writing of the amount of the civil penalty.

"(2) DETERMINATION OF AMOUNT.—In determining the amount of the penalty, the Secretary shall consider the nature, circumstances, extent, and gravity of the prohibited acts committed and, with respect to the violator, the degree of culpability, any history of prior offenses, ability to pay, and other matters that justice requires.

"(3) TREATMENT OF CIVIL PENALTY ASSESSMENT.—Assessment of a civil penalty under this subsection shall not be considered a conviction for purposes of State or Federal law but may be considered proof of possession if such a determination is relevant.".

SEC. 305. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS TO TONNAGE MEASUREMENT LAW.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 14101(4) of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking "engaged" the first place it appears and inserting "that engages";

(2) in subparagraph (A), by striking "arriving" and inserting "that arrives";

(3) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) by striking "making" and inserting "that makes"; and

(B) by striking "(except a foreign vessel engaged on that voyage)";

(4) in subparagraph (C), by striking "departing" and inserting "that departs"; and

(5) in subparagraph (D), by striking "making" and inserting "that makes".

(b) DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY.—Section 14103(c) of that title is amended by striking "intended to be engaged on" and inserting "that engages on".

(c) APPLICATION.—Section 14301 of that title is amended—

(1) by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

"(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, this chapter applies to any vessel for which the application of an international agreement or other law of the United States to the vessel depends on the vessel's tonnage.";

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking the period at the end and inserting ", unless the government of the country to which the vessel belongs elects to measure the vessel under this chapter.";

(B) in paragraph (3), by inserting "of United States or Canadian registry or nationality, or a vessel operated under the authority of the United States or Canada, and that is" after "vessel";

(C) in paragraph (4), by striking "a vessel (except a vessel engaged" and inserting "a vessel of United States registry or nationality, or one operated under the authority of the United States (except a vessel that engages";

(D) by striking paragraph (5);

(E) by redesignating paragraph (6) as paragraph (5); and

(F) by amending paragraph (5), as so redesignated, to read as follows:

"(5) a barge of United States registry or nationality, or a barge operated under the authority of the United States (except a barge that engages on a foreign voyage) unless the owner requests.";

(3) by striking subsection (c);

(4) by redesignating subsections (d) and (e) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively; and

(5) in subsection (c), as redesignated, by striking "After July 18, 1994, an existing vessel (except an existing vessel referred to in subsection (b)(5)(A) or (B) of this section)" and inserting "An existing vessel that has not undergone a change that the Secretary finds substantially affects the vessel's gross tonnage (or a vessel to which IMO Resolutions A.494 (XII) of November 19, 1981, A.540 (XIII) of November 17, 1983, or A.541 (XIII) of November 17, 1983 apply)".

(d) MEASUREMENT.—Section 14302(b) of that title is amended to read as follows:

"(b) A vessel measured under this chapter may not be required to be measured under another law.".

(e) TONNAGE CERTIFICATE.—

(1) ISSUANCE.—Section 14303 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the following: "For a vessel to which the Convention does not apply, the Secretary shall prescribe a certificate to be issued as evidence of a vessel's measurement under this chapter.";

(B) in subsection (b), by inserting "issued under this section" after "certificate"; and

(C) in the section heading by striking "International" and "(1969)".

(2) MAINTENANCE.—Section 14503 of that title is amended—

(A) by designating the existing text as subsection (a); and

(B) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(b) The certificate shall be maintained as required by the Secretary.".

(3) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis at the beginning of chapter 143 of that title is amended by striking the item relating to section 14303 and inserting the following:

"14303. Tonnage Certificate.".

(f) OPTIONAL REGULATORY MEASUREMENT.—Section 14305(a) of that title is amended by striking "documented vessel measured under this chapter," and inserting "vessel measured under this chapter that is of United States registry or nationality, or a vessel operated under the authority of the United States,".

(g) APPLICATION.—Section 14501 of that title is amended—

(1) by amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

"(1) A vessel not measured under chapter 143 of this title if the application of an international agreement or other law of the United States to the vessel depends on the vessel's tonnage."; and

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking "a vessel" and inserting "A vessel".

(h) DUAL TONNAGE MEASUREMENT.—Section 14513(c) of that title is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking "vessel's tonnage mark is below the uppermost part of the load line marks," and inserting "vessel is assigned two sets of gross and net tonnages under this section,"; and

(B) by inserting "vessel's tonnage" before "mark" the second place such term appears; and

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end and inserting "as assigned under this section.".

(i) RECIPROCITY FOR FOREIGN VESSELS.—Subchapter II of chapter 145 of that title is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 14514. Reciprocity for foreign vessels

"For a foreign vessel not measured under chapter 143, if the Secretary finds that the laws and regulations of a foreign country related to measurement of vessels are substantially similar to those of this chapter and the regulations prescribed under this chapter,

the Secretary may accept the measurement and certificate of a vessel of that foreign country as complying with this chapter and the regulations prescribed under this chapter.".

(j) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for subchapter II of chapter 145 of such title is amended by adding at the end the following:

"14514. Reciprocity for foreign vessels.".

SEC. 306. ACCESS FOR SEAMEN.

A seaman assigned to a vessel docked at a facility with a security plan approved under section 70103(c) of title 46, United States Code, and pilots and representatives of seamen's welfare and labor organizations, who board and depart from the vessel in compliance with the provisions of the facility security plan shall be provided access through the facility at no cost to the individual.

SEC. 307. FISHING VESSEL SAFETY.

(a) SAFETY STANDARDS.—Section 4502 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by—

(A) striking paragraphs (6) and (7) and inserting the following:

"(6) other equipment required to minimize the risk of injury to the crew during vessel operations, if the Secretary determines that a risk of serious injury exists that can be eliminated or mitigated by that equipment; and"; and

(B) redesignating paragraph (8) as paragraph (7);

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking "documented";

(B) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking "the Boundary Line" and inserting "3 nautical miles from the baseline from which the territorial sea of the United States is measured or beyond 3 nautical miles from the coastline of the Great Lakes";

(C) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking "lifeboats or liferafts" and inserting "a survival craft that ensures that no part of an individual is immersed in water";

(D) in paragraph (2)(D), by inserting "marine" before "radio";

(E) in paragraph (2)(E), by striking "radar reflectors, nautical charts, and anchors" and inserting "nautical charts, and publications";

(F) in paragraph (2)(F), by striking ", including medicine chests" and inserting "and medical supplies sufficient for the size and area of operation of the vessel" and

(G) by amending paragraph (2)(G) to read as follows:

"(G) ground tackle sufficient for the vessel.";

(3) by amending subsection (f) to read as follows:

"(f) To ensure compliance with the requirements of this chapter, the Secretary—

"(1) shall require the individual in charge of a vessel described in subsection (b) to keep a record of equipment maintenance, and required instruction and drills; and

"(2) shall examine at dockside a vessel described in subsection (b) at least twice every 5 years, and shall issue a certificate of compliance to a vessel meeting the requirements of this chapter."; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

"(g)(1) The individual in charge of a vessel described in subsection (b) must pass a training program approved by the Secretary that meets the requirements in paragraph (2) of this subsection and hold a valid certificate issued under that program.

"(2) The training program shall—

"(A) be based on professional knowledge and skill obtained through sea service and hands-on training, including training in seamanship, stability, collision prevention, navigation, fire fighting and prevention, damage control, personal survival, emergency medical care, and weather;

"(B) require an individual to demonstrate ability to communicate in an emergency situation and understand in-

formation found in navigation publications;

"(C) recognize and give credit for recent past experience in fishing vessel operation; and

"(D) provide for issuance of a certificate to an individual that has successfully completed the program.

"(3) The Secretary shall prescribe regulations implementing this subsection. The regulations shall require that individuals who are issued a certificate under paragraph (2)(D) must complete refresher training at least once every 5 years as a condition of maintaining the validity of the certificate.

"(4) The Secretary shall establish a publicly accessible electronic database listing the names of individuals who have participated in and received a certificate confirming successful completion of a training program approved by the Secretary under this section.

"(h) A vessel to which this chapter applies shall be constructed in a manner that provides a level of safety equivalent to the minimum safety standards the Secretary may es-

tablished for recreational vessels under section 4302, if—

"(1) subsection (b) of this section applies to the vessel;

"(2) the vessel is less than 50 feet overall in length; and

"(3) the vessel is built after January 1, 2008.

"(i)(1) The Secretary shall establish a Fishing Safety Training Grants Program to provide funding to municipalities, port authorities, other appropriate public entities, not-for-profit organizations, and other qualified persons that provide commercial fishing safety training—

"(A) to conduct fishing vessel safety training that meets the requirements of subsection (g); and

"(B) for purchase of safety equipment and training aids for use in those fishing vessel safety training programs.

"(2) The Secretary shall award grants under this subsection on a competitive basis.

"(3) The Federal share of the cost of any activity carried out with a grant under this subsection shall not exceed 75 percent.

"(4) There is authorized to be appropriated $3,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012 for grants under this subsection.

"(j)(1) The Secretary shall establish a Fishing Safety Research Grant Program to provide funding to individuals in academia, members of non-profit organizations and businesses involved in fishing and maritime matters, and other persons with expertise in fishing safety, to conduct research on methods of improving the safety of the commercial fishing industry, including vessel design, emergency and survival equipment, enhancement of vessel monitoring systems, communications devices, de-icing technology, and severe weather detection.

"(2) The Secretary shall award grants under this subsection on a competitive basis.

"(3) The Federal share of the cost of any activity carried out with a grant under this subsection shall not exceed 75 percent.".

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 4506(b) of title 46, United States Code, is repealed.

(c) ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—

(1) CHANGE OF NAME.—Section 4508 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking the section heading and inserting the following:

"§ 4508. Commercial Fishing Safety Advisory Committee";

and

(B) in subsection (a) by striking "Industry Vessel".

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of section at the beginning of chapter 45 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to such section and inserting the following:

"4508. Commercial Fishing Safety Advisory Committee.".

(d) LOADLINES FOR VESSELS OVER 79 FEET.—Section 5102(b)(3) of title 46, United States Code, is amended by inserting after "vessel" the following ", unless the vessel is built or undergoes a major conversion completed after January 1, 2008".

(e) CLASSING OF VESSELS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 4503 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking the section heading and inserting the following:

"§ 4503. Fishing, fish tender, and fish processing vessel certification";

(B) in subsection (a) by striking "fish processing"; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

"(c) This section applies to a vessel to which section 4502(b) of this title applies that—

"(1) is at least 50 feet overall in length;

"(2) is built after January 1, 2008; or

"(3) undergoes a major conversion completed after that date.

"(d) After January 1, 2018, this section applies to a fishing vessel or fish tender vessel that is built before January 1, 2008, and is 25 years of age or older, unless the vessel complies with an alternate safety compliance program prescribed by the Secretary.".

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of section at the beginning of chapter 45 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to such section and inserting the following:

"4503. Fishing, fish tender, and fish processing vessel certification.".

(f) ALTERNATIVE SAFETY COMPLIANCE PROGRAM.—No later than January 1, 2015, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall prescribe an alternative safety compliance program referred to in section 4503(d) of the title 46, United States Code, as amended by this section.

SEC. 308. MARINER RECORDS.

Section 7502 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting "(a)" before "The";

(2) by striking "computerized records" and inserting "records, including electronic records,"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(b) The Secretary may prescribe regulations requiring a vessel owner or managing operator of a commercial vessel, or the em-

ployer of a seaman on that vessel, to maintain records of each individual engaged on the vessel on matters of engagement, discharge, and service for not less than 5 years after the date of the completion of the service of that individual on the vessel. The regulations may require that a vessel owner, managing operator, or employer shall make these records available to the individual and the Coast Guard on request.

"(c) A person violating this section, or a regulation prescribed under this section, is liable to the United States Government for a civil penalty of not more than $5,000.".

SEC. 309. DELETION OF EXEMPTION OF LICENSE REQUIREMENT FOR OPERATORS OF CERTAIN TOWING VESSELS.

Section 8905 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (b); and

(2) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (b).

SEC. 310. ADJUSTMENT OF LIABILITY LIMITS FOR NATURAL GAS DEEPWATER PORTS.

Section 1004(d)(2) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2704(d)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(D) The Secretary may establish, by regulation, a limit of liability of not less than $12,000,000 for a deepwater port used only in connection with transportation of natural gas.".

SEC. 311. PERIOD OF LIMITATIONS FOR CLAIMS AGAINST OIL SPILL LIABILITY TRUST FUND.

Section 1012(h)(1) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2712(h)(1)) is amended by striking "6" and inserting "3".

SEC. 312. LOG BOOKS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 113 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 11304. Additional logbook and entry requirements

"(a) A vessel of the United States that is subject to inspection under section 3301 of this title, except a vessel on a voyage from a port in the United States to a port in Canada, shall have an official logbook.

"(b) The log book required by subsection (a) shall include the following entries:

"(1) The time when each seaman and each officer assumed or relieved the watch.

"(2) The number of hours in service to the vessels of each seaman and each officer.

"(3) An account of each accident, illness, and injury that occurs during each watch.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following:

"11304. Additional logbook and entry requirements.".

SEC. 313. UNSAFE OPERATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 21 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"§ 2116. Termination for unsafe operation

"An individual authorized to enforce this title—

"(1) may remove a certificate required by this title from a vessel that is operating in a condition that does not

comply with the provisions of the certificate;

"(2) may order the individual in charge of a vessel that is operating that does not have on board the certificate required by this title to return the vessel to a mooring and to remain there until the vessel is in compliance with this title; and

"(3) may direct the individual in charge of a vessel to which this title applies to immediately take reasonable steps necessary for the safety of individuals on board the vessel if the official observes the vessel being operated in an unsafe condition that the official believes creates an especially hazardous condition, including ordering the individual in charge to return the vessel to a mooring and to remain there until the situation creating the hazard is corrected or ended.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following:

"2116. Termination for unsafe operation.".

SEC. 314. APPROVAL OF SURVIVAL CRAFT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 31 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"§ 3104. Survival craft

"(a) Except as provided in subsection (b), the Secretary may not approve a survival craft as a safety device for purposes of this part, unless the craft ensures that no part of an individual is immersed in water.

"(b) The Secretary may authorize a survival craft that does not provide protection described in subsection (a) to remain in service until not later than January 1, 2013, if—

"(1) it was approved by the Secretary before January 1, 2008; and

"(2) it is in serviceable condition.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following:

"3104. Survival craft.".

SEC. 315. SAFETY MANAGEMENT.

(a) VESSELS TO WHICH REQUIREMENTS APPLY.—Section 3202 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a) by striking the heading and inserting "FOREIGN VOYAGES AND FOREIGN VESSELS.—";

(2) by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively;

(3) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

"(b) OTHER PASSENGER VESSELS.—This chapter applies to a vessel that is—

"(1) a passenger vessel or small passenger vessel; and

"(2) is transporting more passengers than a number prescribed by the Secretary based on the number of individuals on the vessel that could be killed or injured in a marine casualty.";

(4) in subsection (d), as so redesignated, by striking "subsection (b)" and inserting "subsection (c)";

(5) in subsection (d)(4), as so redesignated, by inserting "that is not described in subsection (b) of this section" after "waters".

(b) SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.—Section 3203 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(c) In prescribing regulations for passenger vessels and small passenger vessels, the Secretary shall consider the characteristics, methods of operation, and nature of the service of these vessels.".

SEC. 316. PROTECTION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2114 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1)(A), by striking "or" after the semicolon;

(2) in subsection (a)(1)(B), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(3) by adding at the end of subsection (a)(1) the following new subparagraphs:

"(C) the seaman testified in a proceeding brought to enforce a maritime safety law or regulation prescribed under that law;

"(D) the seaman notified, or attempted to notify, the vessel owner or the

Secretary of a work-related personal injury or work-related illness of a seaman;

"(E) the seaman cooperated with a safety investigation by the Secretary or the National Transportation Safety Board;

"(F) the seaman furnished information to the Secretary, the National Transportation Safety Board, or any other public official as to the facts relating to any marine casualty resulting in injury or death to an individual or damage to property occurring in connection with vessel transportation; or

"(G) the seaman accurately reported hours of duty under this part."; and

(4) by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

"(b) A seaman alleging discharge or discrimination in violation of subsection (a) of this section, or another person at the seaman's request, may file a complaint with respect to such allegation in the same manner as a complaint may be filed under subsection (b) of section 31105 of title 49. Such complaint

shall be subject to the procedures, requirements, and rights described in that section, including with respect to the right to file an objection, the right of a person to file for a petition for review under subsection (c) of that section, and the requirement to bring a civil action under subsection (d) of that section.".

(b) EXISTING ACTIONS.—This section shall not affect the application of section 2114(b) of title 46, United States Code, as in effect before the date of enactment of this Act, to an action filed under that section before that date.

SEC. 317. DRY BULK CARGO RESIDUE.

Section 623(a)(2) of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2004 (33 U.S.C. 1901 note) is amended by striking "2008" and inserting "2009".

SEC. 318. CLARIFICATION OF DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES.

Section 3316 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(1), by inserting "or for a floating installation" after "chapter 121 of this title";

(2) in subsection (b)(2)(A), by inserting "or for floating installations" after "vessels documented in that country";

(3) in subsection (b)(3)(A), by inserting "or floating installation" after "after the vessel"; and

(4) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(d) For purposes of this section, the term 'floating installation' means any installation, structure, or other device that floats and that either dynamically holds position or is temporarily or permanently attached to the seabed or subsoil under the territorial sea of the United States or the outer Continental Shelf (as that term is defined in section 2 of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331)), and is used for the purpose of exploring for, developing, producing, or storing the resources from that seabed or subsoil.".

SEC. 319. REGISTRY ENDORSEMENT FOR LNG VESSELS.

Section 12111 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(d) A vessel or facility for which a registry endorsement is not issued may not engage in regassifying on navigable waters unless the vessel or facility transported the gas from a foreign port.".

SEC. 320. OATHS.

Sections 7105 and 7305 of title 46, United States Code, and the items relating to such sections in the analysis for chapters 71 and 73 of such title, are repealed.

SEC. 321. DURATION OF CREDENTIALS.

(a) MERCHANT MARINER'S DOCUMENTS.—Section 7302(f) of title 46, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"(f) PERIODS OF VALIDITY AND RENEWAL OF MERCHANT MARINERS' DOCUMENTS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (g), a merchant mariner's document issued under this chapter is valid for a 5-year period and may be renewed for additional 5-year periods.

"(2) ADVANCE RENEWALS.—A renewed merchant mariner's document may be issued under this chapter up to 8 months in advance but is not effective until the

date that the previously issued merchant mariner's document expires.".

(b) DURATION OF LICENSES.—Section 7106 of such title is amended to read as follows:

"§ 7106. Duration of licenses

"(a) IN GENERAL.—A license issued under this part is valid for a 5-year period and may be renewed for additional 5-year periods; except that the validity of a license issued to a radio officer is conditioned on the continuous possession by the holder of a first-class or second-class radiotelegraph operator license issued by the Federal Communications Commission.

"(b) ADVANCE RENEWALS.—A renewed license issued under this part may be issued up to 8 months in advance but is not effective until the date that the previously issued license expires.".

(c) CERTIFICATES OF REGISTRY.—Section 7107 of such title is amended to read as follows:

"§ 7107. Duration of certificates of registry

"(a) IN GENERAL.—A certificate of registry issued under this part is valid for a 5-year pe-

riod and may be renewed for additional 5-year periods; except that the validity of a certificate issued to a medical doctor or professional nurse is conditioned on the continuous possession by the holder of a license as a medical doctor or registered nurse, respectively, issued by a State.

"(b) ADVANCE RENEWALS.—A renewed certificate of registry issued under this part may be issued up to 8 months in advance but is not effective until the date that the previously issued certificate of registry expires.".

SEC. 322. FINGERPRINTING.

(a) MERCHANT MARINER LICENSES AND DOCUMENTS.—Chapter 75 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 7507. Fingerprinting

"The Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating may not require an individual to be fingerprinted for the issuance or renewal of a license, a certificate of registry, or a merchant mariner's document under chapter 71 or 73 if the individual was fingerprinted when the individual ap-

plied for a transportation security card under section 70105.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following:

"7507. Fingerprinting.".

SEC. 323. AUTHORIZATION TO EXTEND THE DURATION OF LICENSES, CERTIFICATES OF REGISTRY, AND MERCHANT MARINERS' DOCUMENTS.

(a) MERCHANT MARINER LICENSES AND DOCUMENTS.—Chapter 75 of title 46, United States Code, as amended by section 322(a) of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 7508. Authority to extend the duration of licenses, certificates of registry, and merchant mariner documents

"(a) LICENSES AND CERTIFICATES OF REGISTRY.—Notwithstanding section 7106 and 7107, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating may extend for one year an expiring license or certificate of registry issued for an individual under chapter 71 if the Secretary determines that extension is required to enable the Coast Guard to eliminate a backlog in processing

applications for those licenses or certificates of registry.

"(b) MERCHANT MARINER DOCUMENTS.—Notwithstanding section 7302(g), the Secretary may extend for one year an expiring merchant mariner's document issued for an individual under chapter 71 if the Secretary determines that extension is required to enable the Coast Guard to eliminate a backlog in processing applications for those documents.

"(c) MANNER OF EXTENSION.—Any extensions granted under this section may be granted to individual seamen or a specifically identified group of seamen.

"(d) EXPIRATION OF AUTHORITY.—The authority for providing an extension under this section shall expire on June 30, 2009.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for such chapter, as amended by section 322(b), is further amended by adding at the end the following:

"7508. Authority to extend the duration of licenses, certificates of registry, and merchant mariner documents.".

SEC. 324. MERCHANT MARINER DOCUMENTATION.

(a) INTERIM CLEARANCE PROCESS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall develop an interim clearance process for issuance of a merchant mariner document to enable a newly hired seaman to begin working on an offshore supply vessel or towing vessel if the Secretary makes an initial determination that the seaman does not pose a safety and security risk.

(b) CONTENTS OF PROCESS.—The process under subsection (a) shall include a check against the consolidated and integrated terrorist watch list maintained by the Federal Government, review of the seaman's criminal record, and review of the results of testing the seaman for use of a dangerous drug (as defined in section 2101 of title 46, United States Code) in violation of law or Federal regulation.

SEC. 325. MERCHANT MARINER ASSISTANCE REPORT.

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall submit to the Committee on

Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report regarding a plan—

(1) to expand the streamlined evaluation process program that was affiliated with the Houston Regional Examination Center of the Coast Guard to all processing centers of the Coast Guard nationwide;

(2) to include proposals to simplify the application process for a license as an officer, staff officer, or operator and for a merchant mariner's document to help eliminate errors by merchant mariners when completing the application form (CG–719B), including instructions attached to the application form and a modified application form for renewals with questions pertaining only to the period of time since the previous application;

(3) to provide notice to an applicant of the status of the pending application, including a process to allow the applicant

to check on the status of the application by electronic means; and

(4) to ensure that all information collected with respect to applications for new or renewed licenses, merchant mariner documents, and certificates of registry is retained in a secure electronic format.

SEC. 326. MERCHANT MARINER SHORTAGE REPORT.

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation, acting through the Administrator of the Maritime Administration, shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report concerning methods to address the current and future shortage in the number of merchant mariners, particularly entry-level mariners, including an evaluation of whether an educational loan program providing loans for the cost of on-the-job training would provide an incentive for workers and help alleviate the shortage.

SEC. 327. MERCHANT MARINER DOCUMENT STANDARDS.

Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall submit to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure and Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate—

(1) a plan to ensure that the process for an application, by an individual who has, or has applied for, a transportation security card under section 70105 of title 46, United States Code, for a merchant mariner document can be completed entirely by mail; and

(2) a report on the feasibility of, and a timeline to, redesign the merchant mariner document to comply with the requirements of such section, including a biometric identifier, and all relevant international conventions, including the International Labour Organization Convention Number 185 concerning the seafarers identity document, and include a review on whether or not such redesign

will eliminate the need for separate credentials and background screening and streamline the application process for mariners.

SEC. 328. WATERSIDE SECURITY AROUND LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS TERMINALS AND LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS TANKERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant of the Coast Guard shall be responsible for ensuring appropriate waterside security services, based on the threat, vulnerability, and consequence of a terrorist attack, around liquefied natural gas terminals and around tankers transporting liquefied natural gas in security zones established by the Coast Guard.

(b) LIMITATION ON RELIANCE ON STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—Security arrangements approved as part of the facility security plan approved under section 70103 of title 46, United States Code, for an onshore liquefied natural gas terminal may not be based upon the provision of security by a State or local government unless the State or local government has entered into a contract, cooperative agreement, or other arrangement with the

terminal operator to provide such services and the Secretary certifies that the waterborne patrols operated by State or local governments have the training, resources, personnel, equipment, and experience necessary to successfully deter and respond to transportation security incidents (as that term is defined in section 70101of title 46, United States Code).

(c) ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY ZONES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Security zones established by the Coast Guard around tankers transporting liquefied natural gas shall be enforced by the Coast Guard.

(2) UTILIZATION OF STATE AND LOCAL RESOURCES.—Subject to any contract, cooperative agreement, or other arrangement established in accordance with subsection (b), the Coast Guard may utilize State or local government resources to assist in enforcing any security zone established by the Coast Guard.

(3) REIMBURSEMENT.— Any Federal, State, or local entity enforcing a security zone established by the Coast Guard for a

liquefied natural gas terminal or for a tanker traveling to or from such a terminal, may seek appropriate reimbursement from the terminal.

(d) CERTIFICATION REQUIRED FOR NEW LNG TERMINALS.—The Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating may not approve a facility security plan under section 70103 of title 46, United States Code, for a liquefied natural gas terminal the construction of which is begun after the date of enactment of this Act unless the Secretary certifies that the Coast Guard sector in which the terminal is located has all of the assets it needs to provide waterside security around the terminal and to provide security around tankers transporting liquefied natural gas in security zones established by the Coast Guard.

TITLE IV—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SEC. 401. CERTIFICATE OF DOCUMENTATION FOR GALLANT LADY.

Section 1120(c) of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 1996 (110 Stat. 3977) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking "of Transportation" and inserting "of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating"; and

(B) by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

"(A) the vessel GALLANT LADY (Feadship hull number 672, approximately 168 feet in length).";

(2) by striking paragraphs (3) and (4) and redesignating paragraph (5) as paragraph (3); and

(3) in paragraph (3) (as so redesignated) by striking all after "shall expire" and inserting "on the date of the sale of the vessel by the owner.".

SEC. 402. WAIVER.

Notwithstanding section 12112 and chapter 551 of title 46, United States Code, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating may issue a certificate of documentation with a coastwise endorsement for the OCEAN VERITAS (IMO Number 7366805).

SEC. 403. GREAT LAKES MARITIME RESEARCH INSTITUTE.

Section 605 of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2004 (118 Stat. 1052) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(1)—

(A) by striking "The Secretary of Transportation shall conduct a study that" and inserting "The Institute shall conduct maritime transportation studies of the Great Lakes region, including studies that";

(B) in subparagraphs (A), (B), (C), (E), (F), (H), (I), and (J) by striking "evaluates" and inserting "evaluate";

(C) in subparagraphs (D) and (G) by striking "analyzes" and inserting "analyze";

(D) by striking "and" at the end of subparagraph (I);

(E) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (J) and inserting a semicolon;

(F) by adding at the end the following:

"(K) identify ways to improve the integration of the Great Lakes marine

transportation system into the national transportation system;

"(L) examine the potential of expanded operations on the Great Lakes marine transportation system;

"(M) identify ways to include intelligent transportation applications into the Great Lakes marine transportation system;

"(N) analyze the effects and impacts of aging infrastructure and port corrosion on the Great Lakes marine transportation system;

"(O) establish and maintain a model Great Lakes marine transportation system database; and

"(P) identify market opportunities for, and impediments to, the use of United States-flag vessels in trade with Canada on the Great Lakes."; and

(2) by striking subsection (b)(4) and inserting the following:

"(4) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out paragraph (1)—

"(A) $2,100,000 for fiscal year 2007;

"(B) $2,200,000 for fiscal year 2008;

"(C) $2,300,000 for fiscal year 2009;

"(D) $2,400,000 for fiscal year 2010; and

"(E) $2,500,000 for fiscal year 2011.".

SEC. 404. CONVEYANCE.

(a) STATION BRANT POINT BOAT HOUSE.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall convey to the town of Nantucket, Massachusetts, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the buildings known as the Station Brant Point Boat House located at Coast Guard Station Brant Point, Nantucket, Massachusetts, for use for a public purpose.

(2) TERMS OF CONVEYANCE.—A conveyance of the building under paragraph (1) shall be made—

(A) without the payment of consideration; and

(B) subject to appropriate terms and conditions the Secretary considers necessary.

(3) REVERSIONARY INTEREST.—All right, title, and interest in property conveyed under this subsection shall revert to the United States if any portion of the property is used other than for a public purpose.

(b) LEASE.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall enter into a lease with the town of Nantucket that authorizes the town of Nantucket to occupy the land on which the buildings conveyed under subsection (a) are located, subject to appropriate terms and conditions the Secretary considers necessary.

(2) LEASE TERM.—A lease under this subsection shall not expire before January 31, 2033.

(3) TERMINATION OF LEASE.—If the Secretary determines that the property leased under paragraph (1) is necessary for purposes of the Coast Guard, the Secretary—

(A) may terminate the lease without payment of compensation; and

(B) shall provide the town of Nantucket not less than 12 months notice of the requirement to vacate the site and move the buildings conveyed under subsection (a) to another location.

SEC. 405. CREW WAGES ON PASSENGER VESSELS.

(a) FOREIGN AND INTERCOASTAL VOYAGES.—

(1) CAP ON PENALTY WAGES.—Section 10313(g) of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking "When" and inserting "(1) Subject to paragraph (2), when"; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

"(2) The total amount required to be paid under paragraph (1) with respect to all claims in a class action suit by seamen on a passenger vessel capable of carrying more than 500 passengers for wages under this section against a vessel master, owner, or operator or the employer of the seamen shall not exceed ten times the unpaid wages that are the subject of the claims.

"(3) A class action suit for wages under this subsection must be commenced within three years after the later of—

"(A) the date of the end of the last voyage for which the wages are claimed; or

"(B) the receipt, by a seaman who is a claimant in the suit, of a payment of wages that are the subject of the suit that is made in the ordinary course of employment.".

(2) DEPOSITS.—Section 10315 of such title is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(f) DEPOSITS IN SEAMAN ACCOUNT.—A seaman employed on a passenger vessel capable of carrying more than 500 passengers may authorize, by written request signed by the seaman, the master, owner, or operator of the vessel, or the employer of the seaman, to make deposits of wages of the seaman into a checking, savings, investment, or retirement account, or other account to secure a payroll or debit card for the seaman if—

"(1) the wages designated by the seaman for such deposit are deposited in a United States or international financial institution designated by the seaman;

"(2) such deposits in the financial institution are fully guaranteed under commonly accepted international standards by the government of the country in which the financial institution is licensed;

"(3) a written wage statement or pay stub, including an accounting of any direct deposit, is delivered to the seaman no less often than monthly; and

"(4) while on board the vessel on which the seaman is employed, the seaman is able to arrange for withdrawal of all funds on deposit in the account in which the wages are deposited.".

(b) COASTWISE VOYAGES.—

(1) CAP ON PENALTY WAGES.—Section 10504(c) of such title is amended—

(A) by striking "When" and inserting "(1) Subject to subsection (d), and except as provided in paragraph (2), when"; and

(B) by inserting at the end the following:

"(2) The total amount required to be paid under paragraph (1) with respect to all claims in a class action suit by seamen on a passenger vessel capable of carrying more than 500 passengers for wages under this section against a vessel master, owner, or operator or the employer of the seamen shall not exceed ten times the unpaid wages that are the subject of the claims.

"(3) A class action suit for wages under this subsection must be commenced within three years after the later of—

"(A) the date of the end of the last voyage for which the wages are claimed; or

"(B) the receipt, by a seaman who is a claimant in the suit, of a payment of wages that are the subject of the suit that is made in the ordinary course of employment.".

(2) DEPOSITS.—Section 10504 of such title is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(f) DEPOSITS IN SEAMAN ACCOUNT.—A seaman employed on a passenger vessel capable of carrying more than 500 passengers may authorize, by written request signed by the seaman, the master, owner, or operator of the vessel, or the employer of the seaman, to make deposits of wages of the seaman into a checking, savings, investment, or retirement account, or other account to secure a payroll or debit card for the seaman if—

"(1) the wages designated by the seaman for such deposit are deposited in a United States or international financial institution designated by the seaman;

"(2) such deposits in the financial institution are fully guaranteed under commonly accepted international standards by the government of the country in which the financial institution is licensed;

"(3) a written wage statement or pay stub, including an accounting of any direct deposit, is delivered to the seaman no less often than monthly; and

"(4) while on board the vessel on which the seaman is employed, the seaman is able to arrange for withdrawal of all funds on deposit in the account in which the wages are deposited.".

SEC. 406. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.

(a) COAST GUARD AND MARITIME TRANSPORTATION ACT OF 2006.—Effective with enactment of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–241), such Act is amended—

(1) in section 311(b) (120 Stat. 530) by inserting "paragraphs (1) and (2) of" before "section 8104(o)";

(2) in section 603(a)(2) (120 Stat. 554) by striking "33 U.S.C. 2794(a)(2)" and inserting "33 U.S.C. 2704(a)(2)";

(3) in section 901(r)(2) (120 Stat. 566) by striking "the" the second place it appears;

(4) in section 902(c) (120 Stat. 566) by inserting "of the United States" after "Revised Statutes";

(5) in section 902(e) (120 Stat. 567) is amended—

(A) by inserting "and" after the semicolon at the end of paragraph (1);

(B) by striking "and" at the end of paragraph (2)(A); and

(C) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and (4) as subparagraphs (C) and (D) of paragraph (2), respectively, and aligning the left margin of such subparagraphs with the left margin of subparagraph (A) of paragraph (2);

(6) in section 902(e)(2)(C) (as so redesignated) by striking "this section" and inserting "this paragraph";

(7) in section 902(e)(2)(D) (as so redesignated) by striking "this section" and inserting "this paragraph";

(8) in section 902(h)(1) (120 Stat. 567)—

(A) by striking "Bisti/De-Na-Zin" and all that follows through "Protection" and inserting "Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management"; and

(B) by inserting a period after "Commandant of the Coast Guard";

(9) in section 902(k) (120 Stat. 568) is amended—

(A) by inserting "the Act of March 23, 1906, commonly known as" before "the General Bridge";

(B) by striking "491)" and inserting "494),"; and

(C) by inserting "each place it appears" before "and inserting"; and

(10) in section 902(o) (120 Stat. 569) by striking the period after "Homeland Security".

(b) TITLE 14.—(1) The analysis for chapter 7 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding a period at the end of the item relating to section 149.

(2) The analysis for chapter 17 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding a period at the end of the item relating to section 677.

(3) The analysis for chapter 9 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding a period at the end of the item relating to section 198.

(c) TITLE 46.—(1) The analysis for chapter 81 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding a period at the end of the item relating to section 8106.

(2) Section 70105(c)(3)(C) of such title is amended by striking "National Intelligence Director" and inserting "Director of National Intelligence".

(d) DEEPWATER PORT ACT OF 1974.—Section 5(c)(2) of the Deepwater Port Act of 1974

(33 U.S.C. 1504(c)(2)) is amended by aligning the left margin of subparagraph (K) with the left margin of subparagraph (L).

(e) OIL POLLUTION ACT OF 1990.—(1) Section 1004(a)(2) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2704(a)(2)) is amended by striking the first comma following "$800,000".

(2) The table of sections in section 2 of such Act is amended by inserting a period at the end of the item relating to section 7002.

(f) COAST GUARD AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1996.—The table of sections in section 2 of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 1996 is amended in the item relating to section 103 by striking "reports" and inserting "report".

SEC. 407. CONVEYANCE OF DECOMMISSIONED COAST GUARD CUTTER STORIS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Upon the scheduled decommissioning of the Coast Guard Cutter STORIS, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall convey, without consideration, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to that vessel to the USCG Cutter STORIS Museum and Maritime Education Center, LLC,

located in the State of Alaska if the recipient—

(1) agrees—

(A) to use the vessel for purposes of a museum and historical display;

(B) not to use the vessel for commercial transportation purposes;

(C) to make the vessel available to the United States Government if needed for use by the Commandant in time of war or a national emergency; and

(D) to hold the Government harmless for any claims arising from exposure to hazardous materials, including asbestos and polychlorinated biphenyls, after conveyance of the vessel, except for claims arising from the use by the Government under subparagraph (C);

(2) has funds available that will be committed to operate and maintain in good working condition the vessel conveyed, in the form of cash, liquid assets,

or a written loan commitment and in an amount of at least $700,000; and

(3) agrees to any other conditions the Commandant considers appropriate.

(b) MAINTENANCE AND DELIVERY OF VESSEL.—

(1) MAINTENANCE.—Before conveyance of the vessel under this section, the Commandant shall make, to the extent practical and subject to other Coast Guard mission requirements, every effort to maintain the integrity of the vessel and its equipment until the time of delivery.

(2) DELIVERY.—If a conveyance is made under this section, the Commandant shall deliver the vessel to a suitable mooring in the local area in its present condition.

(3) TREATMENT OF CONVEYANCE.—The conveyance of the vessel under this section shall not be considered a distribution in commerce for purposes of section 6(e) of Public Law 94–469 (15 U.S.C. 2605(e)).

(c) OTHER EXCESS EQUIPMENT.—The Commandant may convey to the recipient of a conveyance under subsection (a) any excess equipment or parts from other decommissioned Coast Guard vessels for use to enhance the operability and function of the vessel conveyed under subsection (a) for purposes of a museum and historical display.

SEC. 408. REPEAL OF REQUIREMENT OF LICENSE FOR EMPLOYMENT IN THE BUSINESS OF SALVAGING ON THE COAST OF FLORIDA.

Chapter 801 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking section 80102; and

(2) in the table of sections at the beginning of the chapter by striking the item relating to that section.

SEC. 409. RIGHT-OF-FIRST-REFUSAL FOR COAST GUARD PROPERTY ON JUPITER ISLAND, FLORIDA.

(a) RIGHT-OF-FIRST-REFUSAL.—Notwithstanding any other law (other than this section), the Town of Jupiter Island, Florida, shall have the right-of-first-refusal for an exchange of real property within the jurisdiction of the Town comprising Parcel #35–38–

42–004–000–02590–6 (Bon Air Beach lots 259 and 260 located at 83 North Beach Road) and Parcel #35–38–42–004–000–02610–2 (Bon Air Beach lots 261 to 267), including any improvements thereon, for other real property of equal or greater value.

(b) IDENTIFICATION OF PROPERTY.—The Commandant of the Coast Guard may identify, describe, and determine the property referred to in subsection (a) that is subject to the right of the Town under that subsection.

(c) LIMITATION.—The property referred to in subsection (a) may not be conveyed under that subsection until the Commandant of the Coast Guard determines that the property is not needed to carry out Coast Guard missions or functions.

(d) REQUIRED USE.—Any property conveyed under this section shall be used by the Town of Jupiter Island, Florida, solely for conservation of habitat and as protection against damage from wind, tidal, and wave energy.

(e) REVERSION.—Any conveyance of property under this section shall be subject to the

condition that all right, title, and interest in the property, at the option of the Commandant of the Coast Guard, shall revert to the United States Government if the property is used for purposes other than conservation.

(f) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Commandant of the Coast Guard shall upon request by the Town—

(1) promptly take those actions necessary to make property identified under subsection (b) and determined by the Commandant under subsection (c) ready for conveyance to the Town; and

(2) convey the property to the Town subject to subsections (d) and (e).

SEC. 410. CONVEYANCE OF COAST GUARD HU–25 FALCON JET AIRCRAFT.

(a) AUTHORITY TO CONVEY.—Notwithstanding any other law, the Commandant of the Coast Guard may convey to the Elizabeth City State University (in this section referred to as the "University"), a public university located in the State of North Carolina, without consideration all right, title, and interest of the United States in an HU–25 Falcon Jet air-

craft under the administrative jurisdiction of the Coast Guard that the Commandant determines—

(1) is appropriate for use by the University; and

(2) is excess to the needs of the Coast Guard.

(b) CONDITIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—As a condition of conveying an aircraft to the University under subsection (a), the Commandant shall enter into an agreement with the University under which the University agrees—

(A) to utilize the aircraft for educational purposes or other public purposes as jointly agreed upon by the Commandant and the University before conveyance; and

(B) to hold the United States harmless for any claim arising with respect to the aircraft after conveyance of the aircraft.

(2) REVERSIONARY INTEREST.—If the Commandant determines that the recipi-

ent violated subparagraph (A) or (B) of paragraph (1), then—

(A) all right, title, and interest in the aircraft shall revert to the United States;

(B) the United States shall have the right to immediate possession of the aircraft; and

(C) the recipient shall pay the United States for its costs incurred in recovering the aircraft for such violation.

(c) LIMITATION ON FUTURE TRANSFERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant shall include in the instruments for the conveyance a requirement that any further conveyance of an interest in the aircraft may not be made without the approval in advance of the Commandant.

(2) REVERSIONARY INTEREST.—If the Commandant determines that an interest in the aircraft was conveyed without such approval, then—

(A) all right, title, and interest in the aircraft shall revert to the United States;

(B) the United States shall have the right to immediate possession of the aircraft; and

(C) the recipient shall pay the United States for its costs incurred in recovering the aircraft for such a violation.

(d) DELIVERY OF AIRCRAFT.—The Commandant shall deliver the aircraft conveyed under subsection (a)—

(1) at the place where the aircraft is located on the date of the conveyance;

(2) in its condition on the date of conveyance; and

(3) without cost to the United States.

(e) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Commandant may require such additional terms and conditions in connection with the conveyance required by subsection (a) as the Commandant considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

SEC. 411. CONVEYANCE OF A COAST GUARD VESSEL.

(a) AUTHORITY TO CONVEY.—Notwithstanding the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, the Commandant of the Coast Guard may convey to the Sheriff's Department of Coahoma County, Mississippi (in this section referred to as the "Sheriff's Department"), without consideration all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to a Coast Guard trailerable boat, ranging from 17 feet to 30 feet in size, that the Commandant determines—

(1) is appropriate for use by the Sheriff's Department; and

(2) is excess to the needs of the Coast Guard and the Department of Homeland Security.

(b) CONDITION.—As a condition of conveying a vessel under the authority provided in subsection (a), the Commandant shall enter into an agreement with the Sheriff's Department under which the Sheriff's Department agrees—

(1) to utilize the vessel for homeland security and other appropriate purposes as jointly agreed upon by the Com-

mandant and the Sheriff's Department before conveyance; and

(2) to take the vessel "as is" and to hold the United States harmless for any claim arising with respect to that vessel after conveyance of the vessel, including any claims arising from the condition of the vessel and its equipment or exposure to hazardous materials.

(c) DELIVERY OF VESSEL.—The Commandant shall deliver the vessel conveyed under the authority provided in subsection (a)—

(1) at the place where the vessel is located on the date of the conveyance;

(2) in its condition on the date of conveyance; and

(3) without cost to the United States.

(d) OTHER EXCESS EQUIPMENT.—The Commandant may further convey any excess equipment or parts from other Coast Guard vessels, which are excess to the needs of the Coast Guard and the Department of Homeland Security, to the Sheriff's Department for use to enhance the operability of the vessel

conveyed under the authority provided in subsection (a).

(e) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Commandant may require such additional terms and conditions in connection with the conveyance authorized by subsection (a) as the Commandant considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

SEC. 412. CONVEYANCE OF A COAST GUARD VESSEL.

(a) AUTHORITY TO CONVEY.—Notwithstanding the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, the Commandant of the Coast Guard may convey to the Sheriff's Office of Warren County, Mississippi (in this section referred to as the "Sheriff's Office"), without consideration all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to a Coast Guard trailerable boat, ranging from 17 feet to 30 feet in size, that the Commandant determines—

(1) is appropriate for use by the Sheriff's Office; and

(2) is excess to the needs of the Coast Guard and the Department of Homeland Security.

(b) CONDITION.—As a condition of conveying a vessel under the authority provided in subsection (a), the Commandant shall enter into an agreement with the Sheriff's Office under which the Sheriff's Office agrees—

(1) to utilize the vessel for homeland security and other appropriate purposes as jointly agreed upon by the Commandant and the Sheriff's Office before conveyance; and

(2) to take the vessel "as is" and to hold the United States harmless for any claim arising with respect to that vessel after conveyance of the vessel, including any claims arising from the condition of the vessel and its equipment or exposure to hazardous materials.

(c) DELIVERY OF VESSEL.—The Commandant shall deliver the vessel conveyed under the authority provided in subsection (a)

(1) at the place where the vessel is located on the date of the conveyance;

(2) in its condition on the date of conveyance; and

(3) without cost to the United States.

(d) OTHER EXCESS EQUIPMENT.—The Commandant may further convey any excess equipment or parts from other Coast Guard vessels, which are excess to the needs of the Coast Guard and the Department of Homeland Security, to the Sheriff's Office for use to enhance the operability of the vessel conveyed under the authority provided in subsection (a).

(e) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Commandant may require such additional terms and conditions in connection with the conveyance authorized by subsection (a) as the Commandant considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

SEC. 413. CONVEYANCE OF A COAST GUARD VESSEL.

(a) AUTHORITY TO CONVEY.—Notwithstanding the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, the Commandant of the Coast Guard may convey to the Sheriff's Office of Washington County, Mississippi (in this section referred to as the "Sheriff's Office"), without consideration all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to a

Coast Guard trailerable boat, ranging from 17 feet to 30 feet in size, that the Commandant determines—

(1) is appropriate for use by the Sheriff's Office; and

(2) is excess to the needs of the Coast Guard and the Department of Homeland Security.

(b) CONDITION.—As a condition of conveying a vessel under the authority provided in subsection (a), the Commandant shall enter into an agreement with the Sheriff's Office under which the Sheriff's Office agrees—

(1) to utilize the vessel for homeland security and other appropriate purposes as jointly agreed upon by the Commandant and the Sheriff's Office before conveyance; and

(2) to take the vessel "as is" and to hold the United States harmless for any claim arising with respect to that vessel after conveyance of the vessel, including any claims arising from the condition of the vessel and its equipment or exposure to hazardous materials.

(c) DELIVERY OF VESSEL.—The Commandant shall deliver the vessel conveyed under the authority provided in subsection (a)—

(1) at the place where the vessel is located on the date of the conveyance;

(2) in its condition on the date of conveyance; and

(3) without cost to the United States.

(d) OTHER EXCESS EQUIPMENT.—The Commandant may further convey any excess equipment or parts from other Coast Guard vessels, which are excess to the needs of the Coast Guard and the Department of Homeland Security, to the Sheriff's Office for use to enhance the operability of the vessel conveyed under the authority provided in subsection (a).

(e) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Commandant may require such additional terms and conditions in connection with the conveyance authorized by subsection (a) as the Commandant considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

SEC. 414. DECOMMISSIONED COAST GUARD VESSELS FOR HAITI.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other law, upon the scheduled decommissioning of any Coast Guard 41-foot patrol boat, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall give the Government of Haiti a right-of-first-refusal for conveyance of that vessel to the Government of Haiti, if that Government of Haiti agrees—

(1) to use the vessel for the Coast Guard of Haiti;

(2) to make the vessel available to the United States Government if needed for use by the Commandant in time of war or national emergency;

(3) to hold the United States Government harmless for any claims arising from exposure to hazardous materials, including asbestos and polychlorinated biphenyls, after conveyance of the vessel, except for claims arising from the use by the United States Government under paragraph (2); and

(4) to any other conditions the Commandant considers appropriate.

(b) LIMITATION.—The Commandant may not convey more than 10 vessels to the Government of Haiti pursuant to this section.

(c) MAINTENANCE AND DELIVERY OF VESSEL.—

(1) MAINTENANCE.—Before conveyance of a vessel under this section, the Commandant shall make, to the extent practical and subject to other Coast Guard mission requirements, every effort to maintain the integrity of the vessel and its equipment until the time of delivery.

(2) DELIVERY.—If a conveyance is made under this section, the Commandant shall deliver a vessel to a suitable mooring in the local area in its present condition.

(3) TREATMENT OF CONVEYANCE.—The conveyance of a vessel under this section shall not be considered a distribution in commerce for purposes of section 6(e) of Public Law 94–469 (15 U.S.C. 2605(e)).

SEC. 415. EXTENSION OF PERIOD OF OPERATION OF VESSEL FOR SETTING, RELOCATION, OR RECOVERY OF ANCHORS OR OTHER MOORING EQUIPMENT.

Section 705(a)(2) of Public Law 109–347 (120 Stat. 1945) is amended by striking "2" and inserting "3".

SEC. 416. VESSEL TRAFFIC RISK ASSESSMENTS.

(a) REQUIREMENT.—The Commandant of the Coast Guard, acting through the appropriate Area Committee established under section 311(j)(4) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, shall prepare a vessel traffic risk assessment—

(1) for Cook Inlet, Alaska, within one year after the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) for the Aleutian Islands, Alaska, within two years after the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) CONTENTS.—Each of the assessments shall describe, for the region covered by the assessment—

(1) the amount and character of present and estimated future shipping traffic in the region; and

(2) the current and projected use and effectiveness in reducing risk, of—

(A) traffic separation schemes and routing measures;

(B) long-range vessel tracking systems developed under section 70115 of title 46, United States Code;

(C) towing, response, or escort tugs;

(D) vessel traffic services;

(E) emergency towing packages on vessels;

(F) increased spill response equipment including equipment appropriate for severe weather and sea conditions;

(G) the Automatic Identification System developed under section 70114 of title 46, United States Code;

(H) particularly sensitive sea areas, areas to be avoided, and other traffic exclusion zones;

(I) aids to navigation; and

(J) vessel response plans.

(c) RECOMMENDATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Each of the assessments shall include any appropriate recommendations to enhance the safety and security, or lessen potential adverse environmental impacts, of marine shipping.

(2) CONSULTATION.—Before making any recommendations under paragraph (1) for a region, the Area Committee shall consult with affected local, State, and Federal government agencies, representatives of the fishing industry, Alaska Natives from the region, the conservation community, and the merchant shipping and oil transportation industries.

(d) PROVISION TO CONGRESS.—The Commandant shall provide a copy of each assessment to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Commandant $1,800,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 and 2009 to the conduct the assessments.

SEC. 417. VESSEL MARYLAND INDEPENDENCE.

Notwithstanding sections 55101, 55103, and 12112 of title 46, United States Code, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating may issue a certificate of documentation with a coastwise endorsement for the vessel MARYLAND INDEPENDENCE (official number 662573). The coastwise endorsement issued under authority of this section is terminated if—

(1) the vessel, or controlling interest in the person that owns the vessel, is conveyed after the date of enactment of this Act; or

(2) any repairs or alterations are made to the vessel outside of the United States.

SEC. 418. STUDY OF RELOCATION OF COAST GUARD SECTOR BUFFALO FACILITIES.

(a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this section are—

(1) to authorize a project study to evaluate the feasibility of consolidating and relocating Coast Guard facilities at Coast Guard Sector Buffalo within the study area;

(2) to obtain a preliminary plan for the design, engineering, and construction for the consolidation of Coast Guard facilities at Sector Buffalo; and

(3) to distinguish what Federal lands, if any, shall be identified as excess after the consolidation.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COMMANDANT.—The term "Commandant" means the Commandant of the Coast Guard.

(2) SECTOR BUFFALO.—The term "Sector Buffalo" means Coast Guard Sector Buffalo of the Ninth Coast Guard District.

(3) STUDY AREA.—The term "study area" means the area consisting of approximately 31 acres of real property and any improvements thereon that are commonly identified as Coast Guard Sector Buffalo, located at 1 Fuhrmann Boulevard, Buffalo, New York, and under the administrative control of the Coast Guard.

(c) STUDY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Within 12 months after the date on which funds are first made available to carry out this section, the Commandant shall conduct a project proposal report of the study area and shall submit such report to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The project proposal report shall—

(A) evaluate the most cost-effective method for providing shore facilities to meet the operational requirements of Sector Buffalo;

(B) determine the feasibility of consolidating and relocating shore facilities on a portion of the existing site, while—

(i) meeting the operational requirements of Sector Buffalo; and

(ii) allowing the expansion of operational requirements of Sector Buffalo; and

(C) contain a preliminary plan for the design, engineering, and construction of the proposed project, including—

(i) the estimated cost of the design, engineering, and construction of the proposed project;

(ii) an anticipated timeline of the proposed project; and

(iii) a description of what Federal lands, if any, shall be considered excess to Coast Guard needs.

(d) LIMITATION.—Nothing in this section shall affect the current administration and management of the study area.

SEC. 419. COAST GUARD ASSETS FOR UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Security may station additional Coast Guard assets in the United States Virgin Islands for port security and other associated purposes.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to

the Secretary for fiscal year 2008 such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.

TITLE V—BALLAST WATER TREATMENT

SEC. 501. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "Ballast Water Treatment Act of 2007".

SEC. 502. DECLARATION OF GOALS AND PURPOSES.

Section 1002 of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 4701) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (c);

(2) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

"(b) DECLARATION OF GOALS AND PURPOSES.—The objective of this Act is to eliminate the threat and impacts of nonindigenous aquatic nuisance species in the waters of the United States. In order to achieve this objective, it is declared that, consistent with the provisions of this Act—

"(1) it is the national goal that ballast water discharged into the waters of the

United States will contain no living (viable) organisms by the year 2015;

"(2) it is the national policy that the introduction of nonindigenous aquatic nuisance species in the waters of the United States be prohibited; and

"(3) it is the national policy that Federal, State, and local governments and the private sector identify the most effective ways to coordinate prevention efforts, and harmonize environmentally sound methods to prevent, detect, monitor, and control nonindigenous aquatic nuisance species, in an expeditious manner.".

(3) in subsection (c)(1) (as redesignated by paragraph (1) of this section)—

(A) by striking "prevent" and inserting "eliminate"; and

(B) by inserting "treatment" after "ballast water";

(4) in subsection (c)(2) (as so redesignated)—

(A) by inserting ", detection, monitoring," after "prevention"; and

(B) by striking "the zebra mussel and other";

(5) in subsection (c)(3) (as so redesignated)—

(A) by inserting "detect," after "prevent,"; and

(B) by striking "from pathways other than ballast water exchange";

(6) in subsection (c)(4) (as so redesignated) by striking ", including the zebra mussel"; and

(7) in subsection (c)(5) (as so redesignated)—

(A) by inserting "prevention," after "in the";

(B) by inserting a comma after "management"; and

(C) by striking "zebra mussels" and inserting "aquatic nuisance species".

SEC. 503. BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1101 of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 4711) is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 1101. BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT.

"(a) VESSELS TO WHICH THIS SECTION APPLIES.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraphs (2), (3), (4), and (5), this section applies to a vessel that—

"(A) is designed, constructed, or adapted to carry ballast water; and

"(B)(i) is a vessel of the United States; or

"(ii) is a foreign vessel that—

"(I) is en route to a United States port or place; or

"(II) has departed from a United States port or place and is within waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

"(2) PERMANENT BALLAST WATER VESSELS.—This section does not apply to a vessel that carries all of its permanent ballast water in sealed tanks that are not subject to discharge.

"(3) ARMED FORCES VESSELS.—

"(A) EXEMPTION.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), this sec-

tion does not apply to a vessel of the Armed Forces.

"(B) BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM.—The Secretary and the Secretary of Defense, after consultation with each other and with the Under Secretary and the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies as determined by the Secretary, shall implement a ballast water management program, including the issuance of standards for ballast water exchange and treatment and for sediment management, for vessels of the Armed Forces under their respective jurisdictions designed, constructed, or adapted to carry ballast water that are—

"(i) consistent with the requirements of this section, including the deadlines established by this section; and

"(ii) at least as stringent as the requirements issued for such vessels under section 312 of the

Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1322).

"(4) SPECIAL RULE FOR SMALL RECREATIONAL VESSELS.—In applying this section to recreational vessels less than 50 meters in length that have a maximum ballast water capacity of 8 cubic meters, the Secretary may issue alternative measures for managing ballast water in a manner that is consistent with the requirements of this section.

"(5) MARAD VESSELS.—Subsection (f) does not apply to any vessel in the National Defense Reserve Fleet that is scheduled to be disposed of through scrapping or sinking.

"(b) UPTAKE AND DISCHARGE OF BALLAST WATER OR SEDIMENT.—

"(1) PROHIBITION.—The operator of a vessel to which this section applies may not conduct the uptake or discharge of ballast water or sediment in waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States except as provided in this section.

"(2) EXCEPTIONS.—Paragraph (1) does not apply to the uptake or discharge of ballast water or sediment in the following circumstances:

"(A) The uptake or discharge is solely for the purpose of—

"(i) ensuring the safety of the vessel in an emergency situation; or

"(ii) saving a life at sea.

"(B) The uptake or discharge is accidental and the result of damage to the vessel or its equipment and—

"(i) all reasonable precautions to prevent or minimize ballast water and sediment discharge have been taken before and after the damage occurs, the discovery of the damage, and the discharge; and

"(ii) the owner or officer in charge of the vessel did not willfully or recklessly cause the damage.

"(C) The uptake or discharge is solely for the purpose of avoiding or minimizing the discharge from the vessel of pollution that would otherwise violate applicable Federal or State law.

"(D) The uptake or discharge of ballast water and sediment occurs at the same location where the whole of that ballast water and that sediment originated and there is no mixing with ballast water and sediment from another area that has not been managed in accordance with the requirements of this section.

"(c) VESSEL BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The operator of a vessel to which this section applies shall conduct all ballast water management operations of that vessel in accordance with a ballast water management plan designed to minimize the discharge of aquatic nuisance species that—

"(A) meets the requirements prescribed by the Secretary by regulation; and

"(B) is approved by the Secretary.

"(2) APPROVAL CRITERIA.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may not approve a ballast water management plan unless the Secretary determines that the plan—

"(i) describes in detail the actions to be taken to implement the ballast water management requirements established under this section;

"(ii) describes in detail the procedures to be used for disposal of sediment at sea and on shore in accordance with the requirements of this section;

"(iii) describes in detail safety procedures for the vessel and crew associated with ballast water management;

"(iv) designates the officer on board the vessel in charge of en-

suring that the plan is properly implemented;

"(v) contains the reporting requirements for vessels established under this section and a copy of each form necessary to meet those requirements; and

"(vi) meets all other requirements prescribed by the Secretary.

"(B) FOREIGN VESSELS.—The Secretary may approve a ballast water management plan for a foreign vessel on the basis of a certificate of compliance with the criteria described in subparagraph (A) issued by the vessel's country of registration in accordance with regulations issued by the Secretary.

"(3) COPY OF PLAN ON BOARD VESSEL.—The owner or operator of a vessel to which this section applies shall—

"(A) maintain a copy of the vessel's ballast water management plan on board at all times; and

"(B) keep the plan readily available for examination by the Secretary and the head of the appropriate agency of the State in which the vessel is located at all reasonable times.

"(d) VESSEL BALLAST WATER RECORD BOOK.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The owner or operator of a vessel to which this section applies shall maintain, in English on board the vessel, a ballast water record book in which each operation of the vessel involving ballast water or sediment discharge is recorded in accordance with regulations issued by the Secretary.

"(2) AVAILABILITY.—The ballast water record book—

"(A) shall be kept readily available for examination by the Secretary and the head of the appropriate agency of the State in which the vessel is located at all reasonable times; and

"(B) notwithstanding paragraph (1), may be kept on the towing vessel

in the case of an unmanned vessel under tow.

"(3) RETENTION PERIOD.—The ballast water record book shall be retained—

"(A) on board the vessel for a period of 3 years after the date on which the last entry in the book is made; and

"(B) under the control of the vessel's owner for an additional period of 3 years.

"(4) REGULATIONS.—In the regulations issued under this section, the Secretary shall require, at a minimum, that—

"(A) each entry in the ballast water record book be signed and dated by the officer in charge of the ballast water operation recorded;

"(B) each completed page in the ballast water record book be signed and dated by the master of the vessel; and

"(C) the owner or operator of the vessel transmit such information to the Secretary regarding the ballast

operations of the vessel as the Secretary may require.

"(5) ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF RECORDKEEPING.—The Secretary may provide, by regulation, for alternative methods of recordkeeping, including electronic recordkeeping, to comply with the requirements of this subsection. Any electronic recordkeeping method authorized by the Secretary shall support the inspection and enforcement provisions of this Act and shall comply with applicable standards of the National Institute of Standards and Technology and the Office of Management and Budget governing reliability, integrity, identity authentication, and nonrepudiation of stored electronic data.

"(e) BALLAST WATER EXCHANGE REQUIREMENTS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—

"(A) REQUIREMENT.—Until a vessel is required to conduct ballast water treatment in accordance with subsection (f), the operator of a vessel to

which this section applies may not discharge ballast water in waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, except after—

"(i) conducting ballast water exchange as required by this subsection, in accordance with regulations issued by the Secretary;

"(ii) using ballast water treatment technology that meets the performance standards of subsection (f); or

"(iii) using environmentally sound alternative ballast water treatment technology if the Secretary determines that such treatment technology is at least as effective as the ballast water exchange required by clause (i) in preventing and controlling the introduction of aquatic nuisance species.

"(B) TECHNOLOGY EFFICACY.—For purposes of this paragraph, a ballast water treatment technology shall be

considered to be at least as effective as the ballast water exchange required by clause (i) in preventing and controlling the introduction of aquatice nuisance species if preliminary experiments prior to installation of the technology aboard the vessel demonstrate that the technology removed or killed at least 98 percent of organisms larger than 50 microns.

"(2) GUIDANCE; 5-YEAR USAGE.—

"(A) GUIDANCE.—Not later than one year after the date of enactment of the Ballast Water Treatment Act of 2007, the Secretary shall develop and issue guidance on technology that may be used under paragraph (1)(A)(iii).

"(B) 5-YEAR USAGE.—The Secretary shall allow a vessel using environmentally-sound alternative ballast treatment technology under paragraph (1)(A)(iii) to continue to use that technology for 5 years after the date on which the environmentally-

sound alternative ballast water treatment technology was first placed in service on the vessel or the date on which treatment requirements under subsection (f) become applicable, whichever is later.

"(3) EXCHANGE AREAS.—

"(A) VESSELS OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES EEZ.—The operator of a vessel en route to a United States port or place from a port or place outside the waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States shall conduct ballast water exchange—

"(i) before arriving at a United States port or place;

"(ii) at least 200 nautical miles from the nearest point of land; and

"(iii) in water at least 200 meters in depth.

"(B) COASTAL VOYAGES.—The operator of a vessel originating from a port or place within the United States exclusive economic zone, or from a

port within 200 nautical miles of the United States in Canada, Mexico, or other ports designated by the Secretary for purposes of this section, shall conduct ballast water exchange—

"(i) at least 50 nautical miles from the nearest point of land; and

"(ii) in water at least 200 meters in depth.

"(4) SAFETY OR STABILITY EXCEPTION.—

"(A) SECRETARIAL DETERMINATION.—Paragraph (3) does not apply to the discharge of ballast water if the Secretary determines that compliance with that paragraph would threaten the safety or stability of the vessel, its crew, or is passengers.

"(B) MASTER OF THE VESSEL DETERMINATION.—Paragraph (3) does not apply to the discharge of ballast water if the master of a vessel determines that compliance with that paragraph would threaten the safety

or stability of the vessel, its crew, or its passengers because of adverse weather, equipment failure, or any other relevant condition.

"(C) NOTIFICATION REQUIRED.—Whenever the master of a vessel is unable to comply with the requirements of paragraph (3) because of a determination made under subparagraph (B), the master of the vessel shall—

"(i) notify the Secretary as soon as practicable thereafter but no later than 24 hours after making that determination and shall ensure that the determination, the reasons for the determination, and the notice are recorded in the vessel's ballast water record book; and

"(ii) undertake ballast water exchange in accordance with paragraph (6) if safety or stability concerns prevent undertaking

ballast water exchange in the alternative area.

"(D) REVIEW OF CIRCUMSTANCES.—If the master of a vessel conducts a ballast water discharge under the provisions of this paragraph, the Secretary shall review the circumstances to determine whether the discharge met the requirements of this paragraph. The review under this clause shall be in addition to any other enforcement authority of the Secretary.

"(5) DISCHARGE UNDER WAIVER.—

"(A) SUBSTANTIAL BUSINESS HARDSHIP WAIVER.—If, because of the short length of a voyage, the operator of a vessel is unable to discharge ballast water in accordance with the requirements of paragraph (3)(B) without substantial business hardship, as determined under regulations issued by the Secretary, the operator may request a waiver from the Secretary and discharge the ballast water in accordance with paragraph (6). A re-

quest for a waiver under this subparagraph shall be submitted to the Secretary at such time and in such form and manner as the Secretary may require.

"(B) SUBSTANTIAL BUSINESS HARDSHIP.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the factors taken into account in determining substantial business hardship shall include whether—

"(i) compliance with the requirements of paragraph (3)(B) would require a sufficiently great change in routing or scheduling of service as to compromise the economic or commercial viability of the trade or business in which the vessel is operated; or

"(ii) it is reasonable to expect that the trade or business or service provided will be continued only if a waiver is granted under subparagraph (A).

"(6) PERMISSIBLE DISCHARGE.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The discharge of ballast water shall be considered to be carried out in accordance with this paragraph if it is—

"(i) in an area designated for that purpose by the Secretary, after consultation with the Under Secretary, the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies as determined by the Secretary, and representatives of any State that may be affected by discharge of ballast water in that area; or

"(ii) into a reception facility described in subsection (f)(2).

"(B) LIMITATION ON VOLUME.—The volume of any ballast water discharged under this paragraph may not exceed the volume necessary to ensure the safe operation of the vessel.

"(7) CERTAIN GEOGRAPHICALLY LIMITED ROUTES.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the operator of a vessel is not required to

comply with the requirements of this subsection—

"(A) if the vessel operates exclusively—

"(i) within the Great Lakes; or

"(ii) between or among the main group of the Hawaiian Islands; or

"(B) if the vessel operates exclusively within any area with respect to which the Secretary has determined, after consultation with the Under Secretary, the Administrator, and representatives of States the waters of which would be affected by the discharge of ballast water from the vessel, that the risk of introducing aquatic nuisance species through ballast water discharge in the areas in which the vessel operates is insignificant.

"(8) MARINE SANCTUARIES AND OTHER PROHIBITED AREAS.—A vessel may not conduct ballast water exchange or discharge ballast water under this subsection—

"(A) within a national marine sanctuary designated under of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act (16 U.S.C. 1431 et seq.);

"(B) in waters that are approved by the Administrator as a nondischarge zone under section 312(n)(7) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1322(n)(7)); or

"(C) in any other waters designated by the Secretary, in consultation with the Under Secretary and the Administrator.

"(9) VESSELS WITHOUT PUMPABLE BALLAST WATER.—

"(A) APPLICABILITY OF REQUIREMENTS.—Ballast water exchange requirements under this subsection shall apply to vessels that are equipped with ballast water tanks and that enter a port of the United States without pumpable ballast water.

"(B) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall issue regulations, not later than

180 days after the date of enactment of the Ballast Water Treatment Act of 2007, that are intended to minimize the introduction of nuisance species from vessels that enter the navigable waters without pumpable ballast water, including the requirements that apply under subparagraph (A), and that are at least as stringent as the regulations in effect on the date of enactment such Act.

"(C) APPLICATION OF EXISTING REGULATIONS.—The regulations issued by the Secretary under this section, as such regulations were in effect on the day before the date of enactment of the Ballast Water Treatment Act of 2007, shall continue to apply to vessels without pumpable ballast water entering or operating on the navigable waters until the earlier of—

"(i) the date on which such vessels are required to conduct ballast water treatment, in ac-

cordance with the requirements of subsection (f); or

"(ii) the effective date of final regulations required under this paragraph.

"(f) BALLAST WATER TREATMENT REQUIREMENTS.—

"(1) PERFORMANCE STANDARDS.—A vessel to which this section applies shall conduct ballast water treatment in accordance with the requirements of this subsection before discharging ballast water in waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States so that the ballast water discharged will contain—

"(A) less than 1 living organism per 10 cubic meters that is 50 or more micrometers in minimum dimension;

"(B) less than 1 living organism per 10 milliliters that is less than 50 micrometers in minimum dimension and more than 10 micrometers in minimum dimension;

"(C) concentrations of indicator microbes that are less than—

"(i) 1 colony-forming unit of toxicogenic Vibrio cholera (serotypes O1 and O139) per 100 milliliters or less than 1 colony-forming unit of that microbe per gram of wet weight of zoological samples;

"(ii) 126 colony-forming units of escherichia coli per 100 milliliters; and

"(iii) 33 colony-forming units of intestinal enterococci per 100 milliliters; and

"(D) concentrations of such additional indicator microbes as may be specified in regulations issued by the Secretary, after consultation with other appropriate Federal agencies as determined by the Secretary, that are less than the amount specified in those regulations.

"(2) RECEPTION FACILITY EXCEPTION.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) does not apply to a vessel that discharges ballast water into—

"(i) a land-based facility for the reception of ballast water that meets standards issued by the Administrator; or

"(ii) a water-based facility for the reception of ballast water that meets standards issued by the Secretary.

"(B) ISSUANCE OF STANDARDS.—Not later than one year after the date of enactment of the Ballast Water Treatment Act of 2007, the Secretary, in consultation with the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies as determined by the Secretary, shall issue standards for—

"(i) the reception of ballast water in land-based and water-based reception facilities; and

"(ii) the disposal or treatment of such ballast water in a way that does not impair or damage the environment, human health, property, or resources.

"(3) TREATMENT SYSTEM IMPLEMENTATION.—Paragraph (1) applies to a vessel to which this section applies beginning on the date of the first dry-docking of the vessel after December 31, 2008, but not later than December 31, 2013.

"(4) TREATMENT SYSTEM APPROVAL REQUIRED.—The operator of a vessel to which this section applies may not use a ballast water treatment system to comply with the requirements of this subsection unless the system is approved by the Secretary. The Secretary shall issue regulations establishing a process for such approval, after consultation with the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies as determined by the Secretary.

"(5) RELIANCE ON CERTAIN REPORTS, DOCUMENTS, AND RECORDS.—In approving a ballast water treatment system under this subsection, the Secretary may rely on reports, documents, and records of persons that meet such requirements as the Secretary may prescribe.

"(6) FEASIBILITY REVIEW.—

"(A) REQUIREMENT TO REVIEW.—The Secretary shall periodically conduct a review to determine whether appropriate technologies are available to achieve the standards set forth in paragraph (1). In reviewing technologies under this subparagraph, the Secretary, after consultation with the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies as determined by the Secretary, shall consider—

"(i) the effectiveness of a technology in achieving the standards;

"(ii) feasibility in terms of compatibility with ship design and operations;

"(iii) safety considerations;

"(iv) whether a technology has an adverse impact on the environment; and

"(v) cost effectiveness.

"(B) DEADLINES.—The Secretary shall—

"(i) complete an initial review of technologies under subparagraph (A) within 12 months after the date of the enactment of the Ballast Water Treatment Act of 2007; and

"(ii) carry out subsequent reviews of technologies under subparagraph (A) no later than 24 months after the date that the previous review was completed.

"(C) DELAY IN SCHEDULED APPLICATION.—If the Secretary determines, on the basis of the initial review or any subsequent review conducted under this paragraph, that compliance with the standards set forth in paragraph (1) is not feasible for any class of vessels, the Secretary shall—

"(i) delay the date on which such standards apply to that class of vessels for a period of not more than 24 months; and

"(ii) recommend action to ensure such compliance in accord-

ance with the revised implementation schedule for that class of vessels by the date established under clause (i).

"(7) DELAY OF APPLICATION FOR VESSEL PARTICIPATING IN PROMISING TECHNOLOGY EVALUATIONS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—If a vessel participates in a program, including the Shipboard Technology Evaluation Program established under section 1104, using a technology approved by the Secretary to test and evaluate promising ballast water treatment technologies that are likely to result in treatment technologies achieving a standard that is the same as or more stringent than the standard that applies under paragraph (1) before the first date on which paragraph (1) applies to that vessel, the Secretary shall allow the vessel to use that technology for a 10-year period and such vessel shall be deemed to be in compliance with the requirements of

paragraph (1) during that 10-year period.

"(B) VESSEL DIVERSITY.—The Secretary—

"(i) shall seek to ensure that a wide variety of vessel types and voyages are included in the program; but

"(ii) may not grant a delay under this paragraph to more than 5 percent of the vessels to which this section applies.

"(C) TERMINATION OF GRACE PERIOD.—The Secretary may terminate the 10-year grace period of a vessel under subparagraph (A) if—

"(i) the participation of the vessel in the program is terminated without the consent of the Secretary;

"(ii) the vessel does not comply with manufacturer's standards for operating the ballast water treatment technology used on such vessel; or

"(iii) the Secretary determines that the approved technology is insufficiently effective or is causing harm to the environment.

"(8) REVIEW OF STANDARDS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—In December 2012 and every third year thereafter, the Secretary shall complete review of ballast water treatment standards in effect under this subsection to determine, after consultation with the Administrator and the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies determined by the Secretary, if the standards under this subsection should be revised to reduce the amount of organisms or microbes allowed to be discharged, taking into account improvements in the scientific understanding of biological processes leading to the spread of aquatic nuisance species and improvements in ballast water treatment technology. The Secretary shall revise, by regulation, the

requirements of this subsection as necessary.

"(B) APPLICATION OF ADJUSTED STANDARDS.—In the regulations, the Secretary shall provide for the prospective application of the adjusted standards issued under this paragraph to vessels constructed after the date on which the adjusted standards apply and for an orderly phase-in of the adjusted standards to existing vessels.

"(9) HIGH-RISK VESSELS.—

"(A) VESSEL LIST.—Not later than one year after the date of enactment of the Ballast Water Treatment Act of 2007, the Secretary shall publish and regularly update a list of vessels identified by the States that, due to factors such as the origin of their voyages, the frequency of their voyages, the volume of ballast water they carry, the biological makeup of the ballast water, and the fact that they frequently discharge ballast water

under an exception to subsection (e), pose a high risk of introducing aquatic nuisance species into the waters of those States.

"(B) INCENTIVE PROGRAMS.—The Secretary shall give priority to vessels on the list for participation in a program described in paragraph (7). Any Federal agency, and any State agency with respect to vessels identified by such State to the Secretary for inclusion on a list under subparagraph (A), may develop and implement technology development programs or other incentives (whether positive or negative) in order to encourage the adoption of ballast water treatment technology by those vessels consistent with the requirements of this section on an expedited basis.

"(10) NONAPPLICABILITY OF VESSELS OPERATING EXCLUSIVELY IN DETERMINED AREA.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (D), paragraph

(1) does not apply to a vessel that operates exclusively within an area if the Secretary has determined through a rulemaking proceeding, after consultation with the Administrator and the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies as determined by the Secretary, and representatives of States the waters of which could be affected by the discharge of ballast water from the vessel, that the risk of introducing aquatic nuisance species through ballast water discharge from the vessel is insignificant.

"(B) CERTAIN VESSELS.—A vessel constructed before January 1, 2001, that operates exclusively within the Great Lakes shall be presumed not to pose a significant risk of introducing aquatic nuisance species unless the Secretary finds otherwise in a rulemaking proceeding under subparagraph (A).

"(C) BEST PRACTICES.—The Secretary shall develop, and require a vessel exempted from complying with the requirements of paragraph (1) under this paragraph to follow, best practices to minimize the spreading of aquatic nuisance species in its operation area. The best practices shall be developed in consultation with the Governors of States that may be affected.

"(D) STOPPING THE SPREAD OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.—The Secretary, at the request of the Secretary of Agriculture, shall require a vessel to which paragraph (1) does not apply in accordance with subparagraph (A) to have a ballast water treatment system approved by the Secretary under this subsection to stop the spread of infectious diseases to plants and animals as otherwise authorized by law.

"(11) LABORATORIES.—The Secretary may use any Federal, non-Federal, or foreign laboratory that meets standards es-

tablished by the Secretary for the purpose of evaluating and certifying ballast water treatment technologies that meet the requirements of this subsection.

"(12) PROGRAM TO SUPPORT THE PROMULGATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF STANDARDS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in coordination with the Under Secretary, the Task Force and other appropriate Federal agencies, shall carry out a coordinated program to support the promulgation and implementation of standards under this subsection to prevent the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species by vessels. The program established under this section shall, at a minimum—

"(i) characterize physical, chemical, and biological harbor conditions relevant to ballast discharge into United States waters to inform the design and imple-

mentation of ship vector control technologies and practices;

"(ii) develop testing protocols for determining the effectiveness of vessel vector monitoring and control technologies and practices;

"(iii) demonstrate methods for mitigating the spread of invasive species by coastal voyages, including exploring the effectiveness of alternative exchange zones in the near coastal areas and other methods proposed to reduce transfers of organisms;

"(iv) verify the practical effectiveness of any process for approving a type of alternative ballast water management as meeting standards established under this subsection, to ensure that the process produces repeatable and accurate assessments of treatment effectiveness; and

"(v) evaluate the effectiveness and residual risk and environmental impacts associated with any standard set with respect to the vessel pathways.

"(B) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In addition to other amounts authorized by this title, to carry out this paragraph there are authorized to be appropriated $1,500,000 to the Secretary and $1,500,000 to the Under Secretary for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

"(g) WARNINGS CONCERNING BALLAST WATER UPTAKE.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall notify vessel owners and operators of any area in waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States in which vessels may not uptake ballast water due to known conditions.

"(2) CONTENTS.—The notice shall include—

"(A) the coordinates of the area; and

"(B) if possible, the location of alternative areas for the uptake of ballast water.

"(h) SEDIMENT MANAGEMENT.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The operator of a vessel to which this section applies may not remove or dispose of sediment from spaces designed to carry ballast water, except—

"(A) in accordance with this subsection and the ballast water management plan approved under subsection (c); and

"(B)(i) more than 200 nautical miles from the nearest point of land; or

"(ii) into a reception facility that meets the requirements of paragraph (3).

"(2) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

"(A) NEW VESSELS.—After December 31, 2008, a vessel to which this section applies may not be operated on waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, unless that ves-

sel is designed and constructed in accordance with regulations issued under subparagraph (C) and in a manner that—

"(i) minimizes the uptake and entrapment of sediment;

"(ii) facilitates removal of sediment; and

"(iii) provides for safe access for sediment removal and sampling.

"(B) EXISTING VESSELS.—A vessel to which this section applies that was constructed before January 1, 2009, shall be modified, to the extent practicable, at the first drydocking of the vessel after December 31 2008, but not later than December 31, 2013, to achieve the objectives described in subparagraph (A).

"(C) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall issue regulations establishing design and construction standards to achieve the objectives of subparagraph (A) and providing guidance for

modifications and practices under subparagraph (B). The Secretary shall incorporate the standards and guidance in the regulations governing the ballast water management plan approved under subsection (c).

"(3) SEDIMENT RECEPTION FACILITIES.—

"(A) STANDARDS.—The Secretary, in consultation with the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies as determined by the Secretary, shall issue regulations governing facilities for the reception of vessel sediment from spaces designed to carry ballast water that provide for the disposal of such sediment in a way that does not impair or damage the environment, human health, or property or resources of the disposal area.

"(B) DESIGNATION.—The Secretary, in consultation with the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies as determined by the Secretary shall designate facilities for the reception of vessel sediment that meet the re-

quirements of the regulations issued under subparagraph (A) at ports and terminals where ballast tanks are cleaned or repaired.

"(i) EXAMINATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS.—

"(1) INITIAL EXAMINATION.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall examine vessels to which this section applies to determine whether—

"(i) there is a ballast water management plan for the vessel that is approved by the Secretary and a ballast water record book on the vessel that meets the requirements of subsection (d);

"(ii) the equipment used for ballast water and sediment management in accordance with the requirements of this section and the regulations issued under this section is installed and functioning properly.

"(B) NEW VESSELS.—For vessels constructed on or after January 1,

2009, the Secretary shall conduct the examination required by subparagraph (A) before the vessel is placed in service.

"(C) EXISTING VESSELS.—For vessels constructed before January 1, 2009, the Secretary shall—

"(i) conduct the examination required by subparagraph (A) before the date on which subsection (f)(1) applies to the vessel according to the schedule in subsection (f)(3); and

"(ii) inspect the vessel's ballast water record book required by subsection (d).

"(D) FOREIGN VESSEL.—In the case of a foreign vessel, the Secretary shall perform the examination required by this paragraph the first time the vessel enters a United States port.

"(2) SUBSEQUENT EXAMINATIONS.—In addition to the examination required by paragraph (1), the Secretary shall annually examine vessels to which this section

applies, to ensure compliance with the requirements of this section and the regulations issued under this section.

"(3) INSPECTION AUTHORITY.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may carry out inspections of any vessel to which this section applies at any time, including the taking of ballast water samples, to ensure compliance with this section. The Secretary shall use all appropriate and practical measures of detection and environmental monitoring such vessels and shall establish adequate procedures for reporting violations of this section and accumulating evidence regarding such violations.

"(B) INVESTIGATIONS.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—Upon receipt of evidence that a violation of this section or a regulation issued under this section has occurred, the Secretary shall cause the matter to be investigated.

"(ii) ISSUANCE OF SUBPOENAS.—In an investigation under this subparagraph, the Secretary may issue subpoenas to require the attendance of any witness and the production of documents and other evidence.

"(iii) COMPELLING COMPLIANCE WITH SUBPOENAS.—In case of refusal to obey a subpoena issued under this subparagraph, the Secretary may request the Attorney General to invoke the aid of the appropriate district court of the United States to compel compliance.

"(4) STATE PROGRAMS.—

"(A) SUBMISSION TO SECRETARY.—At any time after the date of issuance of ballast water treatment regulations issued under this section, the Governor of each State desiring to administer its own inspection and enforcement authority for ballast water discharges within its jurisdiction may

submit to the Secretary a complete description of the program the Governor proposes to establish and administer under State law. In addition, the Governor shall submit a statement from the attorney general that the laws of such State provide adequate authority to carry out the described program.

"(B) APPROVAL.—The Secretary shall approve a program submitted under subparagraph (A), unless the Secretary determines that adequate resources do not exist or, in the case of ballast water testing, that adequate scientific expertise does not exist—

"(i) to inspect, monitor, and board any vessel to which this section applies at any time, including the taking and testing of ballast water samples, to ensure the vessel's compliance with this section;

"(ii) to ensure that any ballast water discharged within the wa-

ters subject to the jurisdiction of the State meet the ballast water requirements of this section and the regulations issued under this section, including any revisions to such requirements and regulations;

"(iii) to establish adequate procedures for reporting violations of this section;

"(iv) to investigate and abate violations of this section, including civil and criminal penalties and other ways and means of enforcement; and

"(v) to ensure that the Secretary receives notice of each violation of the ballast water treatment requirements issued under this section in an expeditious manner.

"(C) SUSPENSION OF FEDERAL AUTHORITIES.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which a State submits a program (or revision thereof)

under this paragraph, the Secretary shall suspend its authorities under subsections (k) and (l) in such State, unless the Secretary determines that the State program does not meet the requirements of this paragraph. If the Secretary so determines, the Secretary shall notify the State of any revisions or modifications necessary to conform to such requirements.

"(D) COMPLIANCE.—Any State program approved under this paragraph shall at all times be conducted in accordance with this section and regulations issued under this section.

"(E) WITHDRAWAL OF APPROVAL.—Whenever the Secretary determines, after public hearing, that a State is not administering a program approved under this paragraph in accordance with this section and regulations issued under this section, the Secretary shall notify the State and, if appropriate corrective action is not taken within a reasonable period of

time not to exceed 90 days, the Secretary shall withdraw approval of the program. The Secretary shall not withdraw approval of any program unless the Secretary shall first have notified the State, and made public, in writing, the reasons for such withdrawal.

"(F) LIMITATION ON STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this paragraph shall limit the authority of the Secretary carry out inspections and investigations of any vessels under paragraph (3).

"(5) REQUIRED CERTIFICATE.—If, on the basis of an initial examination under paragraph (1), the Secretary finds that a vessel complies with the requirements of this section and the regulations issued under this section, the Secretary shall issue a certificate under this paragraph as evidence of such compliance. The certificate shall be valid for a period of not more than 5 years, as specified by the

Secretary. The certificate or a true copy shall be maintained on board the vessel.

"(6) NOTIFICATION OF VIOLATIONS.—If the Secretary finds, on the basis of an examination under paragraph (1) or (2), investigation under paragraph (3), or any other information, that a vessel is being operated in violation of any requirement of this section or regulation issued under this section, the Secretary shall—

"(A) notify, in writing—

"(i) the master of the vessel; and

"(ii) the captain of the port at the vessel's next port of call;

"(B) remove from the vessel the certificate issued under paragraph (5);

"(C) take such other action as may be appropriate.

"(7) COMPLIANCE MONITORING.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish, by regulation, sampling and other procedures to monitor compliance with the require-

ments of this section and the regulations issued under this section.

"(B) USE OF MARKERS.—The Secretary may verify compliance with the discharge requirements of subsection (f) and the regulations issued under this section with respect to such requirements through identification of markers associated with a treatment technology's effectiveness, such as the presence of indicators associated with a certified treatment technology.

"(8) EDUCATION AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.—The Secretary may carry out education and technical assistance programs and other measures to promote compliance with the requirements of this section and the regulations issued under this section.

"(j) DETENTION OF VESSELS.—The Secretary, by notice to the owner, charterer, managing operator, agent, master, or other individual in charge of a vessel, may detain that

vessel if the Secretary has reasonable cause to believe that—

"(1) the vessel is a vessel to which this section applies; and

"(2) the vessel does not comply with any requirement of this section or regulation issued under this section or is being operated in violation of such a requirement or regulation.

"(k) SANCTIONS.—

"(1) CIVIL PENALTIES.—Any person who violates this section (including a regulation issued under this section) shall be liable for a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed $32,500. Each day of a continuing violation constitutes a separate violation. A vessel operated in violation of this section (including a regulation issued under this section) is liable in rem for any civil penalty assessed under this subsection for that violation.

"(2) CRIMINAL PENALTIES.—Whoever knowingly violates this section (including a regulation issued under this section) shall be fined under title 18, United

States, or imprisoned not more than 12 years, or both.

"(3) REVOCATION OF CLEARANCE.—Except as provided in subsection (j)(2), upon request of the Secretary, the Secretary of the Treasury shall withhold or revoke the clearance of a vessel required by section 60105 of title 46, United States Code, if the owner or operator of that vessel is in violation of this section or a regulation issued under this section.

"(l) ENFORCEMENT.—

"(1) ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS.—If the Secretary finds, after notice and an opportunity for a hearing, that a person has violated this section or a regulation issued under this section, the Secretary may assess a civil penalty for that violation. In determining the amount of the civil penalty, the Secretary shall take into account the nature, circumstances, extent, and gravity of the prohibited acts committed and, with respect to the violator, the degree of culpability, any history

of prior violations, and such other matters as justice may require.

"(2) CIVIL ACTIONS.—At the request of the Secretary, the Attorney General may bring a civil action in an appropriate district court of the United States to enforce this section or any regulation issued under this section. Any court before which such an action is brought may award appropriate relief, including temporary or permanent injunctions and civil penalties.

"(m) CONSULTATION WITH CANADA, MEXICO, AND OTHER FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS.—In developing the guidelines and regulations to be issued under this section, the Secretary is encouraged to consult with the Government of Canada, the Government of Mexico and any other government of a foreign country that the Secretary, after consultation with the Task Force, determines to be necessary to develop and implement an effective international program for preventing the unintentional introduction and spread of aquatic nuisance species through ballast water.

"(n) INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.—The Secretary, in cooperation with the Under Secretary, the Secretary of State, the Administrator, the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, the International Maritime Organization of the United Nations, and the Commission on Environmental Cooperation established pursuant to the North American Free Trade Agreement, is encouraged to enter into negotiations with the governments of foreign countries to develop and implement an effective international program for preventing the unintentional introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species. The Secretary is particularly encouraged to seek bilateral or multilateral agreements with Canada, Mexico, and other nations in the Wider Caribbean Region (as defined in the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean, signed at Cartagena on March 24, 1983 (TIAF 11085)), to carry out the objectives of this section.

"(o) NONDISCRIMINATION.—The Secretary shall ensure that foreign vessels do not receive more favorable treatment than vessels

of the United States when the Secretary performs studies, reviews compliance, determines effectiveness, establishes requirements, or performs any other responsibilities under this Act.

"(p) CONSULTATION WITH TASK FORCE.—The Secretary shall consult with the Task Force in carrying out this section.

"(q) PREEMPTION.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (i)(4) but notwithstanding any other provision of law, the provisions of subsections (e) and (f) supersede any provision of State or local law that is inconsistent with the requirements of those subsections or that conflicts with the requirements of those subsections.

"(2) GREATER PENALTIES OR FEES.—For purpose of paragraph (1), the imposition by State or local law of greater penalties or fees for acts or omissions that are violations of such law and also violations of this Act or the imposition by a State of incentives under subsection (f)(9)(B) shall not be considered to be inconsistent, or

to conflict, with the requirements of subsections (e) and (f).

"(3) RECEPTION FACILITIES.—The standards issued by the Secretary or the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies under subsection (f)(2) do not supersede any more stringent standard under any otherwise applicable Federal, State, or local law.

"(r) COAST GUARD REPORT ON OTHER SOURCES OF VESSEL-BOURNE NUISANCE SPECIES.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—

"(A) HULL-FOULING AND OTHER VESSEL SOURCES.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Ballast Water Treatment Act of 2007, the Secretary shall transmit a report to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives on vessel-related pathways of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens other than

ballast water and sediment, including vessel hulls and equipment, and from vessels equipped with ballast tanks that carry no ballast water on board.

"(B) BEST PRACTICES.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable, the Secretary shall develop best practices standards and procedures designed to reduce the introduction and spread of invasive species into and within the United States from vessels and establish a timeframe for implementation of those standards and procedures by vessels. Such standards and procedures shall include designation of geographical locations for uptake and discharge of untreated ballast water, as well as standards and procedure for other vessel pathways of aquatic invasive species.

"(ii) REPORT.—The Secretary shall transmit a report to the

committees referred to in subparagraph (A) describing the standards and procedures developed under this subparagraph and the implementation timeframe, together with such recommendations as the Secretary determines appropriate.

"(iii) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary may issue regulations to incorporate and enforce standards and procedures developed under this paragraph.

"(2) TRANSITING VESSELS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Ballast Water Treatment Act of 2007, the Secretary shall transmit a report to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives containing—

"(A) an assessment of the magnitude and potential adverse impacts of ballast water operations from for-

eign vessels designed, adapted, or constructed to carry ballast water that are transiting waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States; and

"(B) recommendations, including legislative recommendations if appropriate, of options for addressing ballast water operations of those vessels.".

(b) DEFINITIONS.—Section 1003 of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 4702) is amended—

(1) by redesignating—

(A) paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) as paragraphs (2), (3), and (4), respectively;

(B) paragraphs (4), (5), and (6) as paragraphs (8), (9), and (10), respectively;

(C) paragraphs (7), (8), (9), and (10) as paragraphs (12), (13), (14), and (15), respectively;

(D) paragraphs (11) and (12) as paragraphs (17) and (18), respectively;

(E) paragraphs (13), (14), and (15) as paragraphs (20), (21), and (22), respectively;

(F) paragraph (16) as paragraph (27); and

(G) paragraph (17) as paragraph (23);

(2) by moving paragraph (23), as so redesignated, after paragraph (22), as so redesignated;

(3) by inserting before paragraph (2), as so redesignated, the following:

"(1) 'Administrator' means the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency;";

(4) by striking paragraph (4), as so redesignated, and inserting the following:

"(4) 'ballast water' means—

"(A) water taken on board a vessel to control trim, list, draught, stability, or stresses of the vessel, includ-

ing matter suspended in such water; or

"(B) any water placed into a ballast tank during cleaning, maintenance, or other operations;";

(5) by inserting after paragraph (4), as so redesignated and amended, the following:

"(5) 'ballast water capacity' means the total volumetric capacity of any tanks, spaces, or compartments on a vessel that is used for carrying, loading, or discharging ballast water, including any multi-use tank, space, or compartment designed to allow carriage of ballast water;

"(6) 'ballast water management' means mechanical, physical, chemical, and biological processes used, either singularly or in combination, to remove, render harmless, or avoid the uptake or discharge of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens within ballast water and sediment;

"(7) 'constructed' means a state of construction of a vessel at which—

"(A) the keel is laid;

"(B) construction identifiable with the specific vessel begins;

"(C) assembly of the vessel has begun comprising at least 50 tons or 1 percent of the estimated mass of all structural material of the vessel, whichever is less; or

"(D) the vessel undergoes a major conversion;";

(6) by inserting after paragraph (10), as so redesignated, the following:

"(11) 'foreign vessel' has the meaning such term has under section 110 of title 46, United States Code;";

(7) by inserting after paragraph (15), as so redesignated, the following:

"(16) 'major conversion' means a conversion of a vessel, that—

"(A) changes its ballast water carrying capacity by at least 15 percent;

"(B) changes the vessel class;

"(C) is projected to prolong the vessel's life by at least 10 years (as determined by the Secretary); or

"(D) results in modifications to the vessel's ballast water system, except—

"(i) component replacement-in-kind; or

"(ii) conversion of a vessel to meet the requirements of section 1101(e);";

(8) by inserting after paragraph (18), as so redesignated, the following:

"(19) 'sediment' means matter that has settled out of ballast water within a vessel;";

(9) in paragraph (12), as so redesignated, by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(10) by inserting after paragraph (23), as so redesignated and moved, the following:

"(24) 'United States port' means a port, river, harbor, or offshore terminal under the jurisdiction of the United

States, including ports located in Puerto Rico, Guam, and the United States Virgin Islands;

"(25) 'vessel of the Armed Forces' means—

"(A) any vessel owned or operated by the Department of Defense, other than a time or voyage chartered vessel; and

"(B) any vessel owned or operated by the Department of Homeland Security that is designated by the Secretary as a vessel equivalent to a vessel described in subparagraph (A);

"(26) 'vessel of the United States' has the meaning such term has under section 116 of title 46, United States Code;";

(11) in paragraph (23), as so redesignated, by striking the period at the end and inserting ";"; and

(12) by inserting after paragraph (27), as so redesignated and amended, the following:

"(28) 'waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States' means navi-

gable waters and the territorial sea of the United States, the exclusive economic zone, and the Great Lakes.".

(c) REPEAL OF SECTION 1103.—Section 1103 of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 4713) is repealed.

(d) INTERIM FINAL RULE.—The Secretary shall issue an interim final rule as a temporary regulation implementing the amendments made by this section as soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this section, without regard to the provisions of chapter 5 of title 5, United States Code. All regulations issued under the authority of this subsection that are not earlier superseded by final regulations shall expire not later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 504. NATIONAL BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT INFORMATION.

Section 1102 (16 U.S.C. 4712) is amended—

(1) by adding at the end the following:

"(g) BALLAST WATER SURVEYS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct the following ballast water surveys:

"(A) A survey of the number of living organisms in untreated ballast water of a representative number of vessels, as determined by the Secretary.

"(B) A survey of the number of living organisms in the ballast water of a representative number of vessels, as determined by the Secretary, that has been exchanged on the high seas.

"(C) Surveys of the number of living organisms in the ballast water of vessels that are participating in a program to test and evaluate promising ballast water treatment, as approved by the Secretary.

"(2) REPORTS.—The Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate—

"(A) a report on the results of the surveys under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1) by not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of the Ballast Water Treatment Act of 2007; and

"(B) a report on the results of the surveys required under subparagraph (C) of paragraph (1) upon completion of each demonstration concerned.";

(2) in subsection (b)(1)(B)(ii), by striking "guidelines issued and";

(3) in subsection (b)(2)(B)(ii), by striking "voluntary guidelines issued, and regulations promulgated," and inserting "regulations promulgated";

(4) in subsection (c)(1), by striking "section 1101(b)" and inserting "section 1101(a)"; and

(5) in subsection (f)(1)(B), by striking "guidelines issued pursuant to section 1101(c)" and inserting "regulations issued pursuant to section 1101".

SEC. 505. BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT EVALUATION AND DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.

Section 1104 (16 U.S.C. 4714) is amended—

(1) by striking the section heading and inserting the following:

"SEC. 1104. BALLAST WATER TREATMENT TECHNOLOGY EVALUATION AND DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS.";

(2) by striking subsection (a);

(3) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (a);

(4) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d);

(5) in subsection (a), as so redesignated—

(A) by striking so much as precedes paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

"(a) SHIPBOARD TECHNOLOGY EVALUATION PROGRAM.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a Shipboard Technology Evaluation Program to evaluate alternative ballast water management methods aboard vessels to prevent aquatic nuisance species from being introduced into

and spread through discharges of ballast water in waters of the United States."; and

(B) in paragraph (2) by striking "of the technologies and practices used in the demonstration program" and inserting "of alternative ballast water management methods used in the program";

(6) in subsection (a)(3), as so redesignated, by striking "technologies and practices" and all that follows through "shall—" and inserting "ballast water treatment technologies on vessels under this subsection, the Secretary shall—";

(7) in subsection (a)(3)(A), as so redesignated, by striking clause (i) and by redesignating clauses (ii) and (iii) in order as clauses (i) and (ii);

(8) by amending subsection (a)(3)(A)(i), as so redesignated, to read as follows:

"(i) have ballast water systems conducive to testing aboard the vessel; and";

(9) by amending subsection (a)(3)(C), as so redesignated, to read as follows:

"(C) seek to use a variety of vessel types.";

(10) by amending subsection (a)(4), as so redesignated, to read as follows:

"(4) SELECTION OF ALTERNATIVE BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT METHODS.—In order for a ballast water treatment technology to be eligible to be installed on vessels for evaluation under this section, such technology must be, at a minimum—

"(A) determined by the Secretary to have the demonstrated potential to reduce the number of organisms greater than or equal to 50 microns in minimum dimension in discharged ballast water to fewer than 10 living organisms per cubic meter of water;

"(B) cost-effective;

"(C) environmentally sound;

"(D) operationally practical;

"(E) able to be retrofitted on existing vessels or incorporated in new vessel design (or both);

"(F) safe for a vessel and crew; and

"(G) accessible to monitoring.";

(11) in subsection (a), as so redesignated, by adding at the end the following:

"(6) AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY TO REVIEW AND REVISE CRITERIA.—The Secretary may review and revise the criteria described in paragraph (4)(A) to require ballast water treatment technologies to meet a more stringent ballast water discharge standard, including standards promulgated under section 1101(f), before being eligible for installation aboard vessels under the program.";

(12) by inserting after subsection (a), as so redesignated, the following:

"(b) SHIPBOARD TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Under Secretary, with the concurrence of and in cooperation with the Secretary, shall conduct a program to demonstrate ballast water treatment technologies evaluated aboard vessels under subsection (a) to

prevent aquatic nuisance species from being introduced into and spread through ballast water in waters of the United States.

"(2) LOCATION.—The installation and construction of ballast water treatment technologies used in the demonstration program under this subsection shall be performed in the United States.

"(3) VESSEL ELIGIBILITY.—Vessels eligible to participate in the demonstration program under this subsection shall consist only of vessels that have been accepted into and are actively participating in the Shipboard Technology Evaluation Program under subsection (a).

"(4) GRANTS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Under Secretary shall establish a grant program to provide funding for acquiring, installing, and operating ballast water treatment technologies aboard vessels participating in the program under this subsection.

"(B) MATCHING REQUIREMENTS.—The amount of Federal funds used for any demonstration project under this subsection—

"(i) shall not exceed $1,000,000; and

"(ii) shall not exceed 50 percent of the total cost of such project.

"(c) ALTERNATIVE SHIP PATHWAY PROGRAM.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Under Secretary, with the concurrence of and in cooperation with the Secretary, shall conduct a program to demonstrate and verify technologies and practices to monitor and control the introduction of aquatic invasive species by ship pathways other than the release of ballast water.

"(2) SELECTION OF METHODS.—The Under Secretary may not select technologies and practices for demonstration or verification under paragraph (1) unless such technologies and practices, in

the determination of the Under Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary, meet the criteria outlined in subparagraphs (B) through (G) of subsection (a)(4).

"(3) LOCATION.—The installation and construction of technologies and practices for demonstration and verification under this subsection shall be performed in the United States."; and

(13) in subsection (d), as so redesignated, by striking "Secretary of the Interior" each place it appears and inserting "Secretary, in consultation with the Under Secretary,".

SEC. 506. RAPID RESPONSE PLAN.

Subtitle C of title I of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 4721 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"SEC. 1210. RAPID RESPONSE PLAN.

"(a) PREPARATION BY PRESIDENT.—The President shall prepare and publish a national rapid response plan for killing, removing, or minimizing the spread of aquatic nui-

1 **sance species in the waters of the United**
2 **States in accordance with this section.**
3 **"(b) CONTENTS.—The national rapid re-**
4 **sponse plan shall provide for efficient, coordi-**
5 **nated, and effective action to minimize dam-**
6 **age from aquatic nuisance species in the navi-**
7 **gable waters of the United States, including**
8 **killing, containing, and removal of the aquat-**
9 **ic nuisance species, and shall include the fol-**
10 **lowing:**
11 **"(1) Assignment of duties and respon-**
12 **sibilities among Federal departments and**
13 **agencies in coordination with State and**
14 **local agencies and port authorities and**
15 **private entities.**
16 **"(2) Identification, procurement,**
17 **maintenance, and storage of equipment**
18 **and supplies needed to facilitate the kill-**
19 **ing, containment, and removal of aquatic**
20 **nuisance species under this section.**
21 **"(3) Establishment or designation by**
22 **the President of Federal aquatic nuisance**
23 **species response teams, consisting of—**
24 **"(A) personnel who shall be**
25 **trained and prepared by the Presi-**

dent and shall be available to provide necessary services to carry out the national rapid response plan;

"(B) adequate equipment and material needed to facilitate the killing, containment, and removal of aquatic nuisance species under this section; and

"(C) a detailed plans to kill, contain, and remove aquatic nuisance species, including measures to protect fisheries and wildlife.

"(4) A system of surveillance and notice designed to safeguard against, as well as ensure earliest possible notice of, the introduction of aquatic nuisance species and imminent threats of such introduction to the appropriate State and Federal agencies.

"(5) Establishment by the President of a national center to provide coordination and direction for operations in carrying out the plan.

"(6) Procedures and techniques to be employed in identifying, containing, kill-

ing, and removing aquatic nuisance species in the waters of the United States.

"(7) A schedule, prepared by the President in cooperation with the States, identifying—

"(A) mitigating devices and substances, if any, that may be used in carrying out the plan;

"(B) the waters in which such mitigating devices and substances may be used; and

"(C) the quantities of such mitigating device or substance which can be used safely in such waters.

"(8) A system whereby the State or States affected by an aquatic nuisance species may act where necessary to remove such species.

"(9) Establishment by the President of criteria and procedures to ensure immediate and effective Federal identification of, and response to, an introduction of aquatic nuisance species.

"(10) Designation by the President of the Federal official who shall be the Fed-

eral on-scene coordinator for measures taken to kill, contain, and remove aquatic nuisance species under this section.

"(11) A fish and wildlife response plan for the immediate and effective protection, rescue, and rehabilitation of, and the minimization of risk of damage to, fish and wildlife resources and their habitat that are harmed or that may be jeopardized by an introduction of an aquatic nuisance species.

"(c) FEDERAL REMOVAL AUTHORITY.—

"(1) REMOVAL REQUIREMENT.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The President shall ensure, in accordance with the national rapid response plan, effective and immediate killing, containing, and removal of the aquatic nuisance species in the waters of the United States.

"(B) DISCRETIONARY AUTHORITY.—In carrying out this paragraph, the President may—

"(i) kill, contain, and remove an aquatic nuisance species, at any time; and

"(ii) direct or monitor all Federal, State, and private actions to kill, contain, and remove the aquatic nuisance species.

"(2) ACTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH NATIONAL RAPID RESPONSE PLAN.—Each Federal agency, State, owner or operator, or other person participating in efforts under this subsection shall act in accordance with the national rapid response plan or as directed by the President to carry out the plan.".

SEC. 507. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 1301(a) of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 4741(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking "and" after the semicolon in paragraph (4)(B);

(2) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (5)(B) and inserting a semicolon; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(6) $20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012 to the Secretary to carry out section 1101;

"(7) $500,000 to the Secretary for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2013 to carry out section 1102(f);

"(8) $6,000,000 to the Under Secretary for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2013 to carry out paragraph (4) of section 1104(b); and

"(9) $1,500,000 to the Under Secretary for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2013 to carry out section 1104(c).".

TITLE VI—ALIEN SMUGGLING

SEC. 601. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "Maritime Law Enforcement Improvement Act of 2007".

SEC. 602. MARITIME LAW ENFORCEMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle VII of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"CHAPTER 707—MARITIME LAW ENFORCEMENT

"Sec.
"70701. Offense.
"70702. Attempt or conspiracy.
"70703. Affirmative defenses.
"70704. Penalties.
"70705. Criminal forfeiture.
"70706. Civil forfeiture.
"70707. Extension beyond territorial jurisdiction.
"70708. Claim of failure to comply with international law; jurisdiction of court.
"70709. Federal activities.
"70710. Definitions.

"§ 70701. Offense

"It shall be unlawful for any person on board a covered vessel to transport or facilitate the transportation, harboring, or concealment of an alien on board such vessel knowing or having reason to believe that the alien is attempting to unlawfully enter the United States.

"§ 70702. Attempt or conspiracy

"Any person on board a covered vessel who attempts or conspires to commit a violation of section 70701 shall be subject to the same penalties as those prescribed for the violation, the commission of which was the object of the attempt or conspiracy.

"§ 70703. Affirmative defenses

"It is an affirmative defense to a prosecution under this section, which the defendant must prove by a preponderance of the evidence, that—

"(1)(A) the alien was on board pursuant to a rescue at sea, or was a stowaway; or

"(B) the entry into the United States was a necessary response to an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury to the alien;

"(2) the defendant, as soon as reasonably practicable, informed the Coast Guard of the presence of the alien on the vessel and the circumstances of the rescue; and

"(3) the defendant complied with all orders given by law enforcement officials of the United States.

"§ 70704. Penalties

"Any person who commits a violation of this chapter shall be imprisoned for not less than 3 nor more than 20 years or fined not more than $100,000, or both; except that—

"(1) in any case in which the violation causes serious bodily injury to any person, regardless of where the injury occurs, the person shall be imprisoned for not less than 7 nor more than 30 years or fined not more than $500,000, or both; and

"(2) in any case in which the violation causes or results in the death of any person regardless of where the death occurs, the person shall be imprisoned for not less than 10 years nor more than life or fined not more than $1,000,000, or both.

"§ 70705. Criminal forfeiture

"The court, at the time of sentencing a person convicted of an offense under this chapter, shall order forfeited to the United States any vessel used in the offense in the same manner and to the same extent as if it were a vessel used in an offense under section 274 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1324).

"§ 70706. Civil forfeiture

"A vessel that has been used in the commission of a violation of this chapter shall be

seized and subject to forfeiture in the same manner and to the same extent as if it were used in the commission of a violation of section 274(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1324(a)).

"§ 70707. Extension beyond territorial jurisdiction

"Sections 70701 and 70702 apply even though the act is committed outside the territorial jurisdiction of the United States.

"§ 70708. Claim of failure to comply with international law; jurisdiction of court

"A claim of failure to comply with international law in the enforcement of this chapter may be invoked as a basis for a defense solely by a foreign nation. A failure to comply with international law shall not divest a court of jurisdiction or otherwise constitute a defense to any proceeding under this chapter.

"§ 70709. Federal activities

"Nothing in this chapter applies to otherwise lawful activities carried out by or at the direction of the United States Government.

"§ 70710. Definitions

"In this chapter, the following definitions apply:

"(1) ALIEN.—The term 'alien' has the meaning given that term in section 70105(f).

"(2) COVERED VESSEL.—The term 'covered vessel' means a vessel of the United States, or a vessel subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, that is less than 300 gross tons (or an alternate tonnage prescribed by the Secretary under section 14104 of this title) as measured under section 14502 of this title.

"(3) SERIOUS BODILY INJURY.—The term 'serious bodily injury' has the meaning given that term in section 1365 of title 18, United States Code.

"(4) UNITED STATES.—The term 'United States' has the meaning given that term is section 114.

"(5) VESSEL OF THE UNITED STATES.—The term 'vessel of the United States' has the meaning given that term in section 70502.

"(6) VESSEL SUBJECT TO THE JURISDICTION OF THE UNITED STATES.—The term 'vessel subject to the jurisdiction of the

United States' has the meaning given that term in section 70502.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for such subtitle is amended by inserting after the item relating to chapter 705 the following:

"707. Maritime Law Enforcement .....70701".

TITLE VII—MISCELLANEOUS HOMELAND SECURITY PROVISIONS

SEC. 701. MARITIME HOMELAND SECURITY PUBLIC AWARENESS PROGRAM.

The Secretary of Homeland Security shall establish a program to help prevent acts of terrorism and other activity that jeopardizes maritime homeland security, by seeking the cooperation of the commercial and recreational boating industries and the public to improve awareness of activity in the maritime domain and report suspicious and unusual activity.

SEC. 702. TRANSPORTATION WORKER IDENTIFICATION CREDENTIAL.

(a) ASSESSMENT OF TWIC PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after implementing the Transpor-

tation Worker Identification Credential program (in this section referred to as "TWIC") at the ten ports designated top priority by the Secretary of Homeland Security, as required by section 70105(i)(2)(A) of title 46, United States Code, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Represetatives, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and to the Comptroller General of the United States a report containing an assessment of the progress of the program's implementation. The report shall include—

(A) the number of workers enrolled in the program to date and the extent to which key metrics and contract requirements have been met; and

(B) an overview of the challenges encountered during implementation of the enrollment process, and plans for how these challenges will be addressed as the program is implemented at additional ports.

(2) GAO ASSESSMENT.—The Comptroller General shall review the report and submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Represetatives, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate an assessment of the report's findings and recommendations.

(b) ASSESSMENT OF TWIC PILOT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after completing the pilot program under section 70105(k)(1) of title 46, United States Code, to test TWIC access control technologies at port facilities and vessels nationwide, the Secretary of

Homeland Security shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Represetatives, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and to the Comptroller General a report containing an assessment of the results of the pilot. The report shall include—

(A) the findings of the pilot program with respect to key technical and operational aspects of implementing TWIC technologies in the maritime sector;

(B) a comprehensive listing of the extent to which established metrics were achieved during the pilot program; and

(C) an analysis of the viability of those technologies for use in the marine environment, including any challenges to implementing those tech-

nologies and strategies for mitigating identified challenges.

(2) GAO ASSESSMENT.—The Comptroller General shall review the report and submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Represetatives, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate an assessment of the report's findings and recommendations.

SEC. 703. STUDY TO IDENTIFY REDUNDANT BACKGROUND RECORDS CHECKS.

(a) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study comparing those background records checks required under section 70105 of title 46, United States Code, and those conducted by States for similar homeland security purposes.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States

shall submit a report to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Represetatives, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate on the results of the study, including—

(1) an identification of redundancies and inefficiencies in connection with such checks referred to in subsection (a); and

(2) recommendations for eliminating such redundancies and inefficiencies.

SEC. 704. REVIEW OF INTERACENCY OPERATIONAL CENTERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Within 180 days of enactment of this Act, the Department of Homeland Security Inspector General shall provide a report to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate concerning the

establishment of Interagency Operational Centers for Port Security required by section 108 of the SAFE Port Act (Public Law 109–347).

(b) REPORT.—The report shall include—

(1) an examination of the Department's efforts to establish the Interagency Operational Centers;

(2) a timeline for construction;

(3) a detailed breakdown, by center, as to the incorporation of those representatives required by section 70107A(b)(3) of title 46, United States Code;

(4) an analysis of the hurdles faced by the Department in developing these centers;

(5) information on the number of security clearances attained by State, local, and tribal officials participating in the program; and

(6) an examination of the relationship between the Interagency Operational Centers and State, local and regional fusion centers participating in the Depart-

ment of Homeland Security's State, Local, and Regional Fusion Center Initiative under section 511 of the Implementing the Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (Public Law 110–53), with a particular emphasis on—

(A) how the centers collaborate and coordinate their efforts; and

(B) the resources allocated by the Coast Guard to both initiatives.

SEC. 705. MARITIME SECURITY RESPONSE TEAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 70106 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

"(c) MARITIME SECURITY RESPONSE TEAMS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—In addition to the maritime safety and security teams, the Secretary shall establish no less than two maritime security response teams to act as the Coast Guard's rapidly deployable counterterrorism and law enforcement response units that can apply advanced interdiction skills in response to threats of maritime terrorism.

"(2) MINIMIZATION OF RESPONSE TIME.—The maritime security response teams shall be stationed in such a way to minimize, to the extent practicable, the response time to any reported maritime terrorist threat.

"(d) COORDINATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES.—To the maximum extent feasible, each maritime safety and security team and maritime security response team shall coordinate its activities with other Federal, State, and local law enforcement and emergency response agencies.".

SEC. 706. COAST GUARD DETECTION CANINE TEAM PROGRAM EXPANSION.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section:

(1) CANINE DETECTION TEAM.—The term "detection canine team" means a canine and a canine handler that are trained to detect narcotics or explosives, or other threats as defined by the Secretary.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Homeland Security.

(b) DETECTION CANINE TEAMS.—

(1) INCREASED CAPACITY.—Not later than 240 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall—

(A) begin to increase the number of detection canine teams certified by the Coast Guard for the purposes of maritime-related security by no fewer than 10 canine teams annually through fiscal year 2012; and

(B) encourage owners and operators of port facilities, passenger cruise liners, oceangoing cargo vessels, and other vessels identified by the Secretary to strengthen security through the use of highly trained detection canine teams.

(2) CANINE PROCUREMENT.—The Secretary, acting through the Commandant of the Coast Guard, shall—

(A) procure detection canine teams as efficiently as possible, in-

cluding, to the greatest extent possible, through increased domestic breeding, while meeting the performance needs and criteria established by the Commandant;

(B) support expansion and upgrading of existing canine training facilities operated by the department in which the Coast Guard is operating; and

(C) as appropriate, partner with other Federal, State, or local agencies, nonprofit organizations, universities, or the private sector to increase the breeding and training capacity for Coast Guard canine detection teams.

(c) DEPLOYMENT.—The Secretary shall prioritize deployment of the additional canine teams to ports based on risk, consistent with the Security and Accountability For Every Port Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–347).

(d) AUTHORIZATION.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary such sums

as may be necessary to carry out this section for fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

SEC. 707. COAST GUARD PORT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

Section 70110 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(f) COAST GUARD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may lend, lease, donate, or otherwise provide equipment, and provide technical training and support, to the owner or operator of a foreign port or facility—

"(A) to assist in bringing the port or facility into compliance with applicable International Ship and Port Facility Code standards;

"(B) to assist the port or facility in meeting standards established under section 70109A of this chapter; and

"(C) to assist the port or facility in exceeding the standards described in subparagraphs (A) and (B).

"(2) CONDITIONS.—The Secretary—

"(A) shall provide such assistance based upon an assessment of the risks to the security of the United States and the inability of the owner or operator of the port or facility otherwise to bring the port or facility into compliance with those standards and to maintain compliance with them;

"(B) may not provide such assistance unless the port or facility has been subjected to a comprehensive port security assessment by the Coast Guard or a third party entity certified by the Secretary under section 70110A(b) to validate foreign port or facility compliance with International Ship and Port Facility Code standards; and

"(C) may only lend, lease, or otherwise provide equipment that the Secretary has first determined is not required by the Coast Guard for the performance of its missions.".

SEC. 708. HOMELAND SECURITY IMPACT REVIEW OF LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS FACILITIES.

(a) REQUIREMENT OF APPROVAL.—No Federal agency shall license, approve, or otherwise authorize the construction, expansion, or operation of an offshore or waterfront facility for the transfer of liquefied natural gas from ships to land or from land to ships unless the Secretary of Homeland Security has approved such construction, expansion, or operation under this section.

(b) HOMELAND SECURITY IMPACT REVIEW.—Upon receipt of notice of an application for a license, approval, or other authorization described in subsection (a), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall conduct a comprehensive homeland security impact review of the proposed construction, expansion, or operation, including proposed shipping routes to or from the facility.

(c) FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED.—In conducting the review under subsection (b), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall consider—

(1) the potential for muliple, simultaneous, coordinated attacks on facilities;

(2) the potential for assistance in an attack from several persons employed at the facility;

(3) the potential for suicide attacks;

(4) water-based and air-based threats;

(5) the potential use of explosive devices of considerable size and other modern weaponry;

(6) the potential for attacks by persons with a sophisticated knowledge of facility operations;

(7) the threat of fires and large explosions; and

(8) special threats and vulnerabilities affecting facilities located in or within 2 miles of a densely populated urban area.

(d) APPROVAL.—Upon completion of a review under subsection (b), if the Secretary of Homeland Security determines that the proposed construction, expansion, or operation of the facility does not pose a substantial risk to life and property, the Secretary in coordination with appropriate Federal agencies with regulatory responsibility over liquefied natural gas facilities shall approve the pro-

posed construction, expansion, or operation. Except as provided in subsection (a), approval under this subsection shall not affect any other requirement under law to obtain a license, approval, or other authorization for the construction, expansion, or operation of an offshore or waterfront facility for the transfer of liquefied natural gas from ships to land or from land to ships.

(e) RESULTS OF REVIEW.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall provide the results of a review conducted under subsection (b)—

(1) to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

(2) to each Federal agency responsible for licensing, approval, or other authorization for the construction, expansion, or operation; and

(3) to the extent consistent with the protection of homeland security, to af-

fected State and local officials and the public.

SEC. 709. MARITIME BIOMETRIC IDENTIFICATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Security, through the Commandant of the Coast Guard, may conduct, in the maritime environment, a pilot program for the mobile biometric identification of suspected individuals, including terrorists, to enhance border security and for other purposes.

(b) REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall ensure that the pilot program is coordinated with other biometric identification programs within the Department of Homeland Security and shall evaluate the costs and feasibility of expanding the capability to all Coast Guard cutters, stations and deployable maritime teams, and other appropriate Department of Homeland Security maritime vessels and units.

(c) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the term "biometric identification" means use of fingerprint and digital photography images.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized such sums as appropriate to carry out this section.

SEC. 710. REVIEW OF POTENTIAL THREATS.

Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to Congress a report analyzing the threat, vulnerability, and consequence of a terrorist attack on gasoline and chemical cargo shipments in port activity areas in the United States.

SEC. 711. PORT SECURITY PILOT.

The Secretary of Homeland Security shall establish a pilot program to test and deploy preventive radiological/nuclear detection equipment on Coast Guard vessels and other locations in select port regions to enhance border security and for other purposes. The pilot program shall leverage existing Federal grant funding to support this program and the procurement of additional equipment.

SEC. 712. ADVANCE NOTICE OF PORT ARRIVAL OF SIGNIFICANT OR FATAL INCIDENTS INVOLVING U.S. PERSONS.

(a) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall require the owner or operator of a cruise ship that embarks or disembarks passengers in a United States port to notify the Secretary of any covered security incident that occurs on the cruise ship in the course of the voyage (or voyage segment) in which a U.S. person is involved, in conjunction with any advance notice of arrival to a United States port required by part 160 of title 33, Code of Federal Regulations.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—For the purposes of this section:

(1) COVERED SECURITY INCIDENT.—The term "covered security incident" means any act or omission that results in death, serious bodily injury, sexual assault, or a missing person, or poses a significant threat to the cruise ship, any cruise ship passenger, any port facility, or any person in or near the port.

(2) CRUISE SHIP.—The term "cruise ship" means a vessel on an international

voyage that embarks or disembarks passengers at a port of United States jurisdiction to which subpart C of part 160 of title 33, Code of Federal Regulations, applies and that provides overnight accommodations.

(3) U.S. PERSON.—The term "U.S. person" means a citizen of the United States and an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence (as defined in section 101(a)(20) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 (a)(20)).

(4) UNITED STATES.—The term "United States" means the 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and any other territory or possession of the United States.

(c) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to discourage immediate notification to the Secretary of a covered security incident, nor shall this section prohibit earlier notifications of covered secu-

rity incidents otherwise required by law or regulation.

SEC. 713. SAFETY AND SECURITY ASSISTANCE FOR FOREIGN PORTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 70110(e)(1) of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking the second sentence and inserting the following: "The Secretary shall establish a strategic plan to utilize those assistance programs to assist ports and facilities that are found by the Secretary under subsection (a) not to maintain effective antiterrorism measures in the implementation of port security antiterrorism measures.".

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 70110 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by inserting "OR FACILITIES" after "PORTS" in the section heading;

(B) by inserting "or facility" after "port" each place it appears; and

(C) by striking "PORTS" in the heading for subsection (e) and inserting "PORTS, FACILITIES,".

(2) The chapter analysis for chapter 701 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to section 70110 and inserting the following:

"70110. Actions and assistance for foreign ports or facilities and United States territories.".

SEC. 714. SEASONAL WORKERS.

(a) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study on the effects that the Transportation Worker Identification Card (in this section referred to as "TWIC") required by section 70105 of title 46, United States Code, has on companies that employ seasonal employees.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall submit a report to Congress on the results of the study, including—

(1) costs associated in requiring seasonal employees to obtain TWIC cards on companies

(2) whether the Coast Guard and Transportation Security Administration are processing TWIC applications quickly

enough for seasonal workers to obtain TWIC certification;

(3) whether TWIC compliance costs or other factors have led to a reduction in service;

(4) the impact of TWIC on the recruiting and hiring of seasonal and other temporary employees; and

(5) an assessment of possible alternatives to TWIC certification that may be used for seasonal employees including any security vulnerabilities created by those alternatives.

SEC. 715. COMPARATIVE RISK ASSESSMENT OF VESSEL-BASED AND FACILITY-BASED LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS REGASIFICATION PROCESSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Within 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall enter into an arrangement for the performance of an independent study to conduct a comparative risk assessment examining the relative safety and security risk associated with vessel-based and facility-based liquefied natural gas regasification processes conducted within 3

miles from land versus such processes conducted more than 3 miles from land.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commandant shall provide a report on the findings and conclusions of the study required by this section to the Committees on Homeland Security, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives, and the Committees on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate.

SEC. 716. SAVINGS CLAUSE.

Nothing in this Act shall be construed to diminish or affect the authority of the Secretary of Homeland Security or the Commandant of the Coast Guard pursuant to the Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–295), the Ports and Waterways Safety Act (33 U.S.C. 1221 et seq.), the SAFE Port Act (Public Law 109–347), the Homeland Security Act of 2002, or the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (Public Law 110–53).

TITLE VIII—COAST GUARD INTEGRATED DEEPWATER PROGRAM

SEC. 801. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "Integrated Deepwater Program Reform Act".

SEC. 802. IMPLEMENTATION OF COAST GUARD INTEGRATED DEEPWATER ACQUISITION PROGRAM.

(a) USE OF PRIVATE SECTOR ENTITY AS A LEAD SYSTEMS INTEGRATOR.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the Secretary may not use a private sector entity as a lead systems integrator for procurements under, or in support of, the Deepwater Program beginning on the earlier of October 1, 2011, or the date on which the Secretary certifies in writing to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate that the Coast Guard has available

and can retain sufficient contracting personnel and expertise within the Coast Guard, through an arrangement with other Federal agencies, or through contracts or other arrangements with private sector entities, to perform the functions and responsibilities of the lead system integrator in an efficient and cost-effective manner.

(2) COMPLETION OF EXISTING DELIVERY ORDERS AND TASK ORDERS.—The Secretary may use a private sector entity as a lead systems integrator to complete any delivery order or task order under the Deepwater Program that was issued to the lead systems integrator on or before the date of enactment of this Act.

(3) ASSISTANCE OF OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.—In any case in which the Secretary is the systems integrator under the Deepwater Program, the Secretary may obtain any type of assistance the Secretary considers appropriate, with any systems integration functions, from any Federal agency with experience in

systems integration involving maritime vessels and aircraft.

(4) ASSISTANCE OF PRIVATE SECTOR ENTITIES.—In any case in which the Secretary is the systems integrator under the Deepwater Program, the Secretary may, subject to the availability of appropriations, obtain by grant, contract, or cooperative agreement any type of assistance the Secretary considers appropriate, with any systems integration functions, from any private sector entity with experience in systems integration involving maritime vessels and aircraft.

(b) COMPETITION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the Secretary shall use full and open competition for each class of asset acquisitions under the Deepwater Program for which an outside contractor is used, if the asset is procured directly by the Coast Guard or by the Integrated Coast Guard System acting under a contract with the Coast Guard.

(2) EXCEPTION.—The Secretary may use a procurement method that is less than full and open competition to procure an asset under the Deepwater Program, if—

(A) the Secretary determines that such method is in the best interests of the Federal Government; and

(B) by not later than 30 days before the date of the award of a contract for the procurement, the Secretary submits to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report explaining why such procurement is in the best interests of the Federal Government.

(3) LIMITATION ON APPLICATION.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to a contract, subcontract, or task order that was issued before the date of enactment of this Act, if there is no change in the

quantity of assets or the specific type of assets procured.

(c) REQUIRED CONTRACT TERMS.—The Secretary shall include in each contract, subcontract, and task order issued under the Deepwater Program after the date of the enactment of this Act the following provisions, as applicable:

(1) TECHNICAL REVIEWS.—A requirement that the Secretary shall conduct a technical review of all proposed designs, design changes, and engineering changes, and a requirement that the contractor must specifically address all engineering concerns identified in the technical reviews, before any funds may be obligated.

(2) RESPONSIBILITY FOR TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS.—A requirement that the Secretary shall maintain the authority to establish, approve, and maintain technical requirements.

(3) COST ESTIMATE OF MAJOR CHANGES.—A requirement that an independent cost estimate must be prepared and approved by the Secretary before the

execution of any change order costing more than 5 percent of the unit cost approved in the Deepwater Program baseline in effect as of May 2007.

(4) PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT.—A requirement that any measurement of contractor and subcontractor performance must be based on the status of all work performed, including the extent to which the work performed met all cost, schedule, and mission performance requirements outlined in the Deepwater Program contract.

(5) EARLY OPERATIONAL ASSESSMENT.—For the acquisition of any cutter class for which an Early Operational Assessment has not been developed—

(A) a requirement that the Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall cause an Early Operational Assessment to be conducted by the Department of the Navy after the development of the preliminary design of the cutter and before the conduct of the

critical design review of the cutter; and

(B) a requirement that the Coast Guard shall develop a plan to address the findings presented in the Early Operational Assessment.

(6) TRANSIENT ELECTROMAGNETIC PULSE EMANATION.—For the acquisition or upgrade of air, surface, or shore assets for which compliance with transient electromagnetic pulse emanation (TEMPEST) is a requirement, a provision specifying that the standard for determining such compliance shall be the air, surface, or shore asset standard then used by the Department of the Navy.

(7) OFFSHORE PATROL CUTTER UNDERWAY REQUIREMENT.—For any contract issued to acquire an Offshore Patrol Cutter, provisions specifying the service life, fatigue life, days underway in general Atlantic and North Pacific Sea conditions, maximum range, and maximum speed the cutter shall be built to achieve.

(8) INSPECTOR GENERAL ACCESS.—A requirement that the Department of Homeland Security's Office of the Inspector General shall have access to all records maintained by all contractors working on the Deepwater Program, and shall have the right to privately interview any contractor personnel.

(d) LIFE CYCLE COST ESTIMATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall develop an authoritative life cycle cost estimate for the Deepwater Program.

(2) CONTENTS.—The life cycle cost estimate shall include asset acquisition and logistics support decisions and planned operational tempo and locations as of the date of enactment of this Act.

(3) SUBMITTAL.—The Secretary shall—

(A) submit the life cycle cost estimate to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate

within 4 months after the date of enactment of this Act; and

(B) submit updates of the life cycle cost estimate to such Committees annually.

(e) CONTRACT OFFICERS.—The Secretary shall assign a separate contract officer for each class of cutter and aircraft acquired or rehabilitated under the Deepwater Program, including the National Security Cutter, the Offshore Patrol Cutter, the Fast Response Cutter A, the Fast Response Cutter B, maritime patrol aircraft, the aircraft HC–130J, the helicopter HH–65, the helicopter HH–60, and the vertical unmanned aerial vehicle.

(f) TECHNOLOGY RISK REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report identifying the technology risks and level of maturity for major technologies used on each class of asset acquisitions under the Deepwater Program, includ-

ing the Fast Response Cutter A (FRC–A), the Fast Response Cutter B (FRC–B), the Offshore Patrol Cutter (OPC), and the Vertical Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (VUAV), not later than 90 days before the date of award of a contract for such an acquisition.

(g) SUBMISSION OF ASSESSMENT RESULTS AND PLANS TO CONGRESS.—The Commandant of the Coast Guard shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate—

(1) the results of each Early Operational Assessment conducted pursuant to subsection (c)(5)(A) and the plan approved by the Commandant pursuant to subsection (c)(5)(B) for addressing the findings of such assessment, within 30 days after the Commandant approves the plan; and

(2) a report describing how the recommendations of each Early Operational Assessment conducted pursuant to sub-

section (c)(5)(A) on the first in class of a new cutter class have been addressed in the design on which construction is to begin, within 30 days before initiation of construction.

SEC. 803. CHIEF ACQUISITION OFFICER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 3 of title 14, United States Code, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 56. Chief Acquisition Officer

"(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF AGENCY CHIEF ACQUISITION OFFICER.—The Commandant shall appoint or designate a career reserved employee as Chief Acquisition Officer for the Coast Guard, who shall—

"(1) have acquisition management as that official's primary duty; and

"(2) report directly to the Commandant to advise and assist the Commandant to ensure that the mission of the Coast Guard is achieved through the management of the Coast Guard's acquisition activities.

"(b) AUTHORITY AND FUNCTIONS OF THE CHIEF ACQUISITION OFFICER.—The functions of the Chief Acquisition Officer shall include—

"(1) monitoring the performance of acquisition activities and acquisition programs of the Coast Guard, evaluating the performance of those programs on the basis of applicable performance measurements, and advising the Commandant regarding the appropriate business strategy to achieve the mission of the Coast Guard;

"(2) increasing the use of full and open competition in the acquisition of property and services by the Coast Guard by establishing policies, procedures, and practices that ensure that the Coast Guard receives a sufficient number of sealed bids or competitive proposals from responsible sources to fulfill the Government's requirements (including performance and delivery schedules) at the lowest cost or best value considering the nature of the property or service procured;

"(3) ensuring the use of detailed performance specifications in instances in which performance-based contracting is used;

"(4) making acquisition decisions consistent with all applicable laws and establishing clear lines of authority, accountability, and responsibility for acquisition decisionmaking within the Coast Guard;

"(5) managing the direction of acquisition policy for the Coast Guard, including implementation of the unique acquisition policies, regulations, and standards of the Coast Guard;

"(6) developing and maintaining an acquisition career management program in the Coast Guard to ensure that there is an adequate professional workforce; and

"(7) as part of the strategic planning and performance evaluation process required under section 306 of title 5 and sections 1105(a)(28), 1115, 1116, and 9703 of title 31—

"(A) assessing the requirements established for Coast Guard per-

sonnel regarding knowledge and skill in acquisition resources management and the adequacy of such requirements for facilitating the achievement of the performance goals established for acquisition management;

"(B) in order to rectify any deficiency in meeting such requirements, developing strategies and specific plans for hiring, training, and professional development; and

"(C) reporting to the Commandant on the progress made in improving acquisition management capability.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is further amended by adding at the end the following:

"56. Chief Acquisition Officer.".

(c) SPECIAL RATE SUPPLEMENTS.—

(1) REQUIREMENT TO ESTABLISH.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act and in accordance with part 9701.333 of title 5, Code of Federal Regulations, the Commandant of the

Coast Guard shall establish special rate supplements that provide higher pay levels for employees necessary to carry out the amendment made by this section.

(2) SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATIONS.—The requirement under paragraph (1) is subject to the availability of appropriations.

SEC. 804. TESTING AND CERTIFICATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—

(1) cause each cutter, other than a National Security Cutter, acquired by the Coast Guard and delivered after the date of enactment of this Act to be classed by the American Bureau of Shipping, before acceptance of delivery;

(2) cause the design and construction of each National Security Cutter, other than National Security Cutter 1 and 2, to be certified by an independent third party with expertise in vessel design and construction certification to be able to meet a 185-underway-day requirement under general Atlantic and North Pacific sea conditions for a period of at least 30 years;

(3) cause all electronics on all aircraft, surface, and shore assets that require TEMPEST certification and that are delivered after the date of enactment of this Act to be tested and certified in accordance with TEMPEST standards and communications security (COMSEC) standards by an independent third party that is authorized by the Federal Government to perform such testing and certification; and

(4) cause all aircraft and aircraft engines acquired by the Coast Guard and delivered after the date of enactment of this Act to be certified for airworthiness by an independent third party with expertise in aircraft and aircraft engine certification, before acceptance of delivery.

(b) FIRST IN CLASS OF A MAJOR ASSET ACQUISITION.—The Secretary shall cause the first in class of a major asset acquisition of a cutter or an aircraft to be subjected to an assessment of operational capability conducted by the Secretary of the Navy.

(c) FINAL ARBITER.—The Secretary shall be the final arbiter of all technical disputes regarding designs and acquisitions of vessels and aircraft for the Coast Guard.

SEC. 805. NATIONAL SECURITY CUTTERS.

(a) NATIONAL SECURITY CUTTERS 1 AND 2.—

(1) REPORT ON OPTIONS UNDER CONSIDERATION.—The Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate—

(A) within 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, a report describing in detail the cost increases that have been experienced on National Security Cutters 1 and 2 since the date of the issuance of the task orders for construction of those cutters and explaining the causes of these cost increases; and

(B) within 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, a report on

the options that the Coast Guard is considering to strengthen the hulls of National Security Cutter 1 and National Security Cutter 2, including—

(i) the costs of each of the options under consideration;

(ii) a schedule for when the hull strengthening repairs are anticipated to be performed; and

(iii) the impact that the weight likely to be added to each the cutter by each option will have on the cutter's ability to meet both the original performance requirements included in the Deepwater Program contract and the performance requirements created by contract Amendment Modification 00042 dated February 7, 2007.

(2) DESIGN ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 30 days before the Coast Guard signs any contract, delivery order, or task order to strengthen the hull of either of National Security Cutter 1 or 2 to resolve

the structural design and performance issues identified in the Department of Homeland Security Inspector General's report OIG–07–23 dated January 2007, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate all results of an assessment of the proposed hull strengthening design conducted by the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Carderock Division, including a description in detail of the extent to which the hull strengthening measures to be implemented on those cutters will enable the cutters to meet a 185-underway-day requirement under general Atlantic and North Pacific sea conditions for a period of at least 30 years.

(b) NATIONAL SECURITY CUTTERS 3 THROUGH 8.—Not later than 30 days before the Coast Guard signs any contract, delivery order, or task order authorizing construction

of National Security Cutters 3 through 8, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate all results of an assessment of the proposed designs to resolve the structural design, safety, and performance issues identified by the Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General report OIG–07–23 for the hulls of those cutters conducted by the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Carderock Division, including a description in detail of the extent to which such designs will enable the cutters to meet a 185-underway-day requirement under general Atlantic and North Pacific sea conditions.

SEC. 806. MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall submit the following reports to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee

on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate:

(1) Within 4 months after the date of enactment of this Act, a justification for why 8 National Security Cutters are required to meet the operational needs of the Coast Guard, including—

(A) how many days per year each National Security Cutter will be underway at sea;

(B) where each National Security Cutter will be home ported;

(C) the amount of funding that will be required to establish home port operations for each National Security Cutter;

(D) the extent to which 8 National Security Cutters deployed without vertical unmanned aerial vehicles (VUAV) will meet or exceed the mission capability (including surveillance capacity) of the 12 Hamilton-class high endurance cutters that the National Security Cutters will replace;

(E) the business case in support of constructing National Security Cutters 3 through 8, including a cost-benefit analysis; and

(F) an analysis of how many Offshore Patrol Cutters would be required to provide the patrol coverage provided by a National Security Cutter.

(2) Within 4 months after the date of enactment of this Act, a report on—

(A) the impact that deployment of a National Security Cutter and other cutter assets without the vertical unmanned aerial vehicle (VUAV) will have on the amount of patrol coverage that will be able to be provided during missions conducted by the National Security Cutter and all other cutters planned to be equipped with a VUAV;

(B) how the coverage gap will be made up;

(C) an update on the current status of the development of the VUAV; and

(D) the timeline detailing the major milestones to be achieved during development of the VUAV and identifying the delivery date for the first and last VUAV.

(3) Within 30 days after the elevation to flag-level for resolution of any design or other dispute regarding the Deepwater Program contract or an item to be procured under that contract, including a detailed description of the issue and the rationale underlying the decision taken by the flag officer to resolve the issue.

(4) Within 4 months after the date of enactment of this Act, a report detailing the total number of change orders that have been created by the Coast Guard under the Deepwater Program before the date of enactment of this Act, the total cost of these change orders, and their impact on the Deepwater Program schedule.

(5) Within 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, a report detailing the technology risks and level of maturity for major technologies used on maritime patrol aircraft, the HC–130J, and the National Security Cutter.

(6) Not less than 60 days before signing a contract to acquire any vessel or aircraft, a report comparing the cost of purchasing that vessel or aircraft directly from the manufacturer or shipyard with the cost of procuring it through the Integrated Coast Guard System.

(7) Within 30 days after the Program Executive Officer of the Deepwater Program becomes aware of a likely cost overrun exceeding 5 percent of the overall asset acquisition contract cost or schedule delay exceeding 5 percent of the estimated asset construction period under the Deepwater Program, a report by the Commandant containing a description of the cost overrun or delay, an explanation of the overrun or delay, a description of Coast Guard's response, and a descrip-

tion of significant delays in the procurement schedule likely to be caused by the overrun or delay.

(8) Within 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, articulation of a doctrine and description of an anticipated implementation of a plan for management of acquisitions programs, financial management (including earned value management and cost estimating), engineering and logistics management, and contract management, that includes—

(A) a description of how the Coast Guard will cultivate among uniformed personnel expertise in acquisitions management and financial management;

(B) a description of the processes that will be followed to draft and ensure technical review of procurement packages, including statements of work, for any class of assets acquired by the Coast Guard;

(C) a description of how the Coast Guard will conduct an independent

cost estimating process, including independently developing cost estimates for major change orders; and

(D) a description of how Coast Guard will strengthen the management of change orders.

(9) Within 4 months after the date of enactment of this Act, a report on the development of a new acquisitions office within the Coast Guard describing the specific staffing structure for that directorate, including—

(A) identification of all managerial positions proposed as part of the office, the functions that each managerial position will fill, and the number of employees each manager will supervise; and

(B) a formal organizational chart and identification of when managerial positions are to be filled.

(10) Ninety days prior to the issuance of a Request for Proposals for construction of an Offshore Patrol Cutter, a report detailing the service life, fatigue life,

maximum range, maximum speed, and number of days underway under general Atlantic and North Pacific Sea conditions the cutter shall be built to achieve.

(11) The Secretary shall report annually on the percentage of the total amount of funds expended on procurements under the Deepwater Program that has been paid to each of small businesses and minority-owned businesses.

(12) Within 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, a report on any Coast Guard mission performance gap due to the removal of Deepwater Program assets from service. The report shall include the following:

(A) A description of the mission performance gap detailing the geographic regions and Coast Guard capabilities affected.

(B) An analysis of factors affecting the mission performance gap that are unrelated to the Deepwater Program, including deployment of Coast

Guard assets overseas and continuous vessel shortages.

(C) A description of measures being taken in the near term to fill the mission performance gap, including what those measures are and when they will be implemented.

(D) A description of measures being taken in the long term to fill the mission performance gap, including what those measures are and when they will be implemented.

(E) A description of the potential alternatives to fill the mission performance gap, including any acquisition or lease considered and the reasons they were not pursued.

(b) REPORT REQUIRED ON ACCEPTANCE OF DELIVERY OF INCOMPLETE ASSET.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary accepts delivery of an asset after the date of enactment of this Act for which a contractually required certification cannot be achieved within 30 days after the date of delivery or with any system that is not

fully functional for the mission for which it was intended, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the United States Senate within 30 days after accepting delivery of the asset a report explaining why acceptance of the asset in such a condition is in the best interests of the United States Government.

(2) CONTENTS.—The report shall—

(A) specify the systems that are not able to achieve contractually required certifications within 30 days after the date of delivery and the systems that are not fully functional at the time of delivery for the missions for which they were intended;

(B) identify milestones for the completion of required certifications and to make all systems fully functional; and

(C) identify when the milestones will be completed, who will complete them, and the cost to complete them.

SEC. 807. USE OF THE NAVAL SEA SYSTEMS COMMAND, THE NAVAL AIR SYSTEMS COMMAND, AND THE SPACE AND NAVAL WARFARE SYSTEMS COMMAND TO ASSIST THE COAST GUARD IN EXERCISING TECHNICAL AUTHORITY FOR THE DEEPWATER PROGRAM AND OTHER COAST GUARD ACQUISITION PROGRAMS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that the Coast Guard's use of the technical, contractual, and program management oversight expertise of the Department of the Navy in ship and aircraft production complements and augments the Coast Guard's organic expertise as it procures assets for the Deepwater Program.

(b) INTER-SERVICE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary may enter into a memorandum of understanding or a memorandum of agreement with the Secretary of the Navy to provide for the use of the Navy Systems Commands to assist the Coast Guard with the oversight of Coast Guard major acquisition

programs. Such memorandum of understanding or memorandum of agreement shall, at a minimum provide for—

(1) the exchange of technical assistance and support that the Coast Guard Chief Engineer and the Coast Guard Chief Information Officer, as Coast Guard Technical Authorities, may identify;

(2) the use, as appropriate, of Navy technical expertise; and

(3) the temporary assignment or exchange of personnel between the Coast Guard and the Navy Systems Commands to facilitate the development of organic capabilities in the Coast Guard.

(c) TECHNICAL AUTHORITIES.—The Coast Guard Chief Engineer, Chief Information Officer, and Chief Acquisition Officer shall adopt, to the extent practicable, procedures that are similar to those used by the Navy Senior Acquisition Official to ensure the Coast Guard Technical Authorities, or designated Technical Warrant Holders, approve all technical requirements.

(d) COORDINATION.—The Secretary, acting through the Commandant of the Coast Guard, may coordinate with the Secretary of the Navy, acting through the Chief of Naval Operations, to develop processes by which the assistance will be requested from the Navy Systems Commands and provided to the Coast Guard.

(e) REPORT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act and every twelve months thereafter, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall report to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate on the activities undertaken pursuant to such memorandum of understanding or memorandum of agreement.

SEC. 808. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) DEEPWATER PROGRAM.—The term "Deepwater Program" means the Integrated Deepwater Systems Program described by the Coast Guard in its report

to Congress entitled "Revised Deepwater Implementation Plan 2005", dated March 25, 2005. The Deepwater Program primarily involves the procurement of cutter and aviation assets that operate more than 50 miles offshore.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating.

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2007".

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.
Sec. 2. Table of contents.

TITLE I—AUTHORIZATION

Sec. 101. Authorization of appropriations.
Sec. 102. Authorized levels of military strength and training.
Sec. 103. Transfer of bridge administration program authority and functions.

TITLE II—COAST GUARD

Sec. 201. Appointment of civilian Coast Guard judges.
Sec. 202. Industrial activities.
Sec. 203. Reimbursement for medical-related travel expenses.
Sec. 204. Commissioned officers.
Sec. 205. Coast Guard participation in the Armed Forces Retirement Home (AFRH) system.
Sec. 206. Grants to international maritime organizations.
Sec. 207. Emergency leave retention authority.
Sec. 208. Enforcement authority.
Sec. 209. Repeal.
Sec. 210. Admirals and Vice Admirals.

Sec. 211. Merchant Mariner Medical Advisory Committee.
Sec. 212. Reserve commissioned warrant officer to lieutenant program.
Sec. 213. Enhanced status quo officer promotion system.
Sec. 214. Laser Training System.
Sec. 215. Coast Guard vessels and aircraft.
Sec. 216. Coast Guard District Ombudsmen.

TITLE III—SHIPPING AND NAVIGATION

Sec. 301. Vessel size limits.
Sec. 302. Goods and services.
Sec. 303. Seaward extension of anchorage grounds jurisdiction.
Sec. 304. Maritime Drug Law Enforcement Act amendment-simple possession.
Sec. 305. Technical amendments to tonnage measurement law.
Sec. 306. Access for seamen.
Sec. 307. Fishing vessel safety.
Sec. 308. Mariner records.
Sec. 309. Deletion of exemption of license requirement for operators of certain towing vessels.
Sec. 310. Adjustment of liability limits for natural gas deepwater ports.
Sec. 311. Period of limitations for claims against Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund.
Sec. 312. Log books.
Sec. 313. Unsafe operation.
Sec. 314. Approval of survival craft.
Sec. 315. Safety management.
Sec. 316. Protection against discrimination.
Sec. 317. Dry bulk cargo residue.
Sec. 318. Clarification of delegation of authority to classification societies.
Sec. 319. Registry endorsement for LNG vessels.
Sec. 320. Oaths.
Sec. 321. Duration of credentials.
Sec. 322. Fingerprinting.
Sec. 323. Authorization to extend the duration of licenses, certificates of registry, and merchant mariners' documents.
Sec. 324. Merchant mariner documentation.
Sec. 325. Merchant mariner assistance report.
Sec. 326. Merchant mariner shortage report.
Sec. 327. Merchant mariner document standards.
Sec. 328. Waterside security around liquefied natural gas terminals and liquefied natural gas tankers.

TITLE IV—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Sec. 401. Certificate of documentation for GALLANT LADY.
Sec. 402. Waiver.
Sec. 403. Great Lakes Maritime Research Institute.
Sec. 404. Conveyance.
Sec. 405. Crew wages on passenger vessels.
Sec. 406. Technical corrections.

Sec. 407. Conveyance of decommissioned Coast Guard Cutter STORIS.
Sec. 408. Repeal of requirement of license for employment in the business of salvaging on the coast of Florida.
Sec. 409. Right-of-first-refusal for Coast Guard property on Jupiter Island, Florida.
Sec. 410. Conveyance of Coast Guard HU–25 Falcon Jet aircraft.
Sec. 411. Conveyance of a Coast Guard vessel.
Sec. 412. Conveyance of a Coast Guard vessel.
Sec. 413. Conveyance of a Coast Guard vessel.
Sec. 414. Decommissioned Coast Guard vessels for Haiti.
Sec. 415. Extension of period of operation of vessel for setting, relocation, or recovery of anchors or other mooring equipment.
Sec. 416. Vessel traffic risk assessments.
Sec. 417. Vessel MARYLAND INDEPENDENCE.
Sec. 418. Study of relocation of Coast Guard Sector Buffalo facilities.
Sec. 419. Coast Guard assets for United States Virgin Islands.

TITLE V—BALLAST WATER TREATMENT

Sec. 501. Short title.
Sec. 502. Declaration of goals and purposes.
Sec. 503. Ballast water management.
Sec. 504. National ballast water management information.
Sec. 505. Ballast water management evaluation and demonstration program.
Sec. 506. Rapid response plan.
Sec. 507. Authorization of appropriations.

TITLE VI—ALIEN SMUGGLING

Sec. 601. Maritime law enforcement.
Sec. 602. Amendment to the sentencing guidelines.

TITLE VII—MISCELLANEOUS HOMELAND SECURITY PROVISIONS

Sec. 701. Maritime homeland security public awareness program.
Sec. 702. Transportation Worker Identification Credential.
Sec. 703. Study to identify redundant background records checks.
Sec. 704. Review of interacency operational centers.
Sec. 705. Maritime security response teams.
Sec. 706. Coast Guard detection canine team program expansion.
Sec. 707. Coast Guard port assistance program.
Sec. 708. Homeland security impact review of liquefied natural gas facilities.
Sec. 709. Maritime biometric identification.
Sec. 710. Review of potential threats.
Sec. 711. Port security pilot.
Sec. 712. Advance notice of port arrival of significant or fatal incidents involving U.S. persons.

Sec. 713. Safety and security assistance for foreign ports.
Sec. 714. Seasonal workers.
Sec. 715. Comparative risk assessment of vessel-based and facility-based liquefied natural gas regasification processes.
Sec. 716. Savings clause.

TITLE VIII—COAST GUARD INTEGRATED DEEPWATER PROGRAM

Sec. 801. Short title.
Sec. 802. Implementation of Coast Guard Integrated Deepwater Acquisition Program.
Sec. 803. Chief Acquisition Officer.
Sec. 804. Testing and certification.
Sec. 805. National Security Cutters.
Sec. 806. Miscellaneous reports.
Sec. 807. Use of the Naval Sea Systems Command, the Naval Air Systems Command, and the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command to assist the Coast Guard in exercising technical authority for the Deepwater Program and other Coast Guard acquisition programs.
Sec. 808. Definitions.

TITLE I—AUTHORIZATION

SEC. 101. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Funds are authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2008 for necessary expenses of the Coast Guard as follows:

(1) For the operation and maintenance of the Coast Guard, $5,965,742,000, of which—

(A) $24,500,000 is authorized to be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to carry out the purposes of section 1012(a)(5) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2712(a)(5));

(B) not less than $631,000,000 shall be available for paying for search and rescue programs;

(C) not less than $527,000,000 shall be available for paying for marine safety programs; and

(D) not less than $80,500,000 shall be available only for paying for operating expenses of the Integrated Deepwater System program.

(2) For the acquisition, construction, rebuilding, and improvement of aids to navigation, shore and offshore facilities, vessels, and aircraft, including equipment related thereto, $1,234,774,000, of which—

(A) $20,000,000 shall be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to carry out the purposes of section 1012(a)(5) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, to remain available until expended;

(B) $1,065,872,000 is authorized for the Integrated Deepwater System Program; and

(C) $44,597,000 is authorized for shore facilities and aids to navigation.

(3) To the Commandant of the Coast Guard for research, development, test, and evaluation of technologies, materials, and human factors directly relating to improving the performance of the Coast Guard's mission in search and rescue, aids to navigation, marine safety, marine environmental protection, enforcement of laws and treaties, ice operations, oceanographic research, and defense readiness, $18,583,000, to remain available until expended, of which $2,000,000 shall be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to carry out the purposes of section 1012(a)(5) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990.

(4) For retired pay (including the payment of obligations otherwise chargeable to lapsed appropriations for this purpose), payments under the Retired Serviceman's Family Protection and Survivor Benefit Plans, and payments for medical care of retired personnel and their de-

pendents under chapter 55 of title 10, United States Code, $1,184,720,000, to remain available until expended.

(5) For alteration or removal of bridges over navigable waters of the United States constituting obstructions to navigation, and for personnel and administrative costs associated with the Bridge Alteration Program, $16,000,000.

(6) For environmental compliance and restoration at Coast Guard facilities (other than parts and equipment associated with operation and maintenance), $12,079,000, to remain available until expended.

(7) For the Coast Guard Reserve program, including personnel and training costs, equipment, and services, $126,883,000.

SEC. 102. AUTHORIZED LEVELS OF MILITARY STRENGTH AND TRAINING.

(a) ACTIVE DUTY STRENGTH.—The Coast Guard is authorized an end-of-year strength for active duty personnel of 45,500 for the fiscal year ending on September 30, 2008.

1 *(b) MILITARY TRAINING STUDENT LOADS.—*
2 *For fiscal year 2008, the Coast Guard is au-*
3 *thorized average military training student*
4 *loads as follows:*
5 *(1) For recruit and special training,*
6 *2,500 student years.*
7 *(2) For flight training, 165 student*
8 *years.*
9 *(3) For professional training in mili-*
10 *tary and civilian institutions, 350 student*
11 *years.*
12 *(4) For officer acquisition, 1,200 stu-*
13 *dent years.*
14 *SEC. 103. TRANSFER OF BRIDGE ADMINISTRATION PRO-*
15 *GRAM AUTHORITY AND FUNCTIONS.*
16 *(a) TRANSFER.—*
17 *(1) AUTHORITY AND FUNCTIONS.—Not-*
18 *withstanding section 888(b) of the Home-*
19 *land Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 468(b))*
20 *or any other provision of law, the authori-*
21 *ties of the Secretary of Homeland Security*
22 *to approve the construction, alteration, or*
23 *operation of a bridge, drawbridge, or*
24 *causeway across or over the navigable wa-*
25 *ters of the United States and to require*

the alteration, repair, or removal of that bridge, drawbridge, or causeway, pursuant to the Bridge Act of 1906 (34 Stat. 84; 33 U.S.C. 491 et seq.), the General Bridge Act of 1946 (60 Stat. 847, 33 U.S.C. 525 note), the Truman-Hobbs Act (54 Stat. 497; 33 U.S.C. 511 et seq.), and the International Bridge Act of 1972 (60 Stat. 847; 33 U.S.C. 525 et seq.), and the functions related thereto, are hereby transferred to the Secretary of Transportation.

(2) TRANSFER AND ADMINISTRATION OF BALANCES.—Any unobligated balances of prior appropriations provided for the alteration of bridges are transferred and shall be available to the Secretary of Transportation to carry out the functions and authorities transferred by subsection (a).

TITLE II—COAST GUARD

SEC. 201. APPOINTMENT OF CIVILIAN COAST GUARD JUDGES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 7 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 153. Appointment of judges

"The Secretary may appoint civilian employees of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating as appellate military judges, available for assignment to the Coast Guard Court of Criminal Appeals as provided for in section 866(a) of title 10.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following:

"153. Appointment of judges.".

SEC. 202. INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES.

Section 151 of title 14, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting "(a) IN GENERAL.—" before "All orders"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(b) ORDERS AND AGREEMENTS FOR INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES.—Under this section, the Coast Guard industrial activities may accept orders and enter into reimbursable agreements with establishments, agencies, and departments of the Department of Defense.".

SEC. 203. REIMBURSEMENT FOR MEDICAL-RELATED TRAVEL EXPENSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 13 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 518. Reimbursement for medical-related travel expenses for certain persons residing on islands in the continental United States

"In any case in which a covered beneficiary (as defined in section 1072(5) of title 10) resides on an island that is located in the 48 contiguous States and the District of Columbia and that lacks public access roads to the mainland and is referred by a primary care physician to a specialty care provider (as defined in section 1074i(b) of title 10) on the mainland who provides services less than 100 miles from the location where the beneficiary resides, the Secretary shall reimburse the reasonable travel expenses of the covered beneficiary and, when accompaniment by an adult is necessary, for a parent or guardian of the covered beneficiary or another member of the covered beneficiary's family who is at least 21 years of age.".

1 ***(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis***
2 ***for such chapter is amended by adding at the***
3 ***end the following:***

"518. Reimbursement for medical-related travel expenses for certain persons residing on islands in the continental United States.".

4 ***SEC. 204. COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.***

5 ***(a) ACTIVE DUTY PROMOTION LIST.—Section***
6 ***42 of title 14, United States Code, is amended***
7 ***to read as follows:***

8 ***"§ 42. Number and distribution of commissioned offi-***
9 ***cers on active duty promotion list***

10 ***"(a) MAXIMUM TOTAL NUMBER.—The total***
11 ***number of Coast Guard commissioned officers***
12 ***on the active duty promotion list, excluding***
13 ***warrant officers, shall not exceed 6,700; except***
14 ***that the Commandant may temporarily in-***
15 ***crease that number by up to 2 percent for no***
16 ***more than 60 days following the date of the***
17 ***commissioning of a Coast Guard Academy***
18 ***class.***

19 ***"(b) DISTRIBUTION PERCENTAGES BY***
20 ***GRADE.—***

21 ***"(1) REQUIRED.—The total number of***
22 ***commissioned officers authorized by this***
23 ***section shall be distributed in grade in***
24 ***the following percentages: 0.375 percent***

for rear admiral; 0.375 percent for rear admiral (lower half); 6.0 percent for captain; 15.0 percent for commander; and 22.0 percent for lieutenant commander.

"(2) DISCRETIONARY.—The Secretary shall prescribe the percentages applicable to the grades of lieutenant, lieutenant (junior grade), and ensign.

"(3) AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY TO REDUCE PERCENTAGE.—The Secretary—

"(A) may reduce, as the needs of the Coast Guard require, any of the percentages set forth in paragraph (1); and

"(B) shall apply that total percentage reduction to any other lower grade or combination of lower grades.

"(c) COMPUTATIONS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall compute, at least once each year, the total number of commissioned officers authorized to serve in each grade by applying the grade distribution percentages established by or under this section to the total

number of commissioned officers listed on the current active duty promotion list.

"(2) ROUNDING FRACTIONS.—Subject to subsection (a), in making the computations under paragraph (1), any fraction shall be rounded to the nearest whole number.

"(3) TREATMENT OF OFFICERS SERVING OUTSIDE COAST GUARD.—The number of commissioned officers on the active duty promotion list below the rank of rear admiral (lower half) serving with other Federal departments or agencies on a reimbursable basis or excluded under section 324(d) of title 49 shall not be counted against the total number of commissioned officers authorized to serve in each grade.

"(d) USE OF NUMBERS; TEMPORARY INCREASES.—The numbers resulting from computations under subsection (c) shall be, for all purposes, the authorized number in each grade; except that the authorized number for a grade is temporarily increased during the period between one computation and the next by the number of officers originally appointed

in that grade during that period and the number of officers of that grade for whom vacancies exist in the next higher grade but whose promotion has been delayed for any reason.

"(e) OFFICERS SERVING COAST GUARD ACADEMY AND RESERVE.—The number of officers authorized to be serving on active duty in each grade of the permanent commissioned teaching staff of the Coast Guard Academy and of the Reserve serving in connection with organizing, administering, recruiting, instructing, or training the reserve components shall be prescribed by the Secretary.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 3 of such title is amended by striking the item relating to section 42 and inserting the following:

"42. Number and distribution of commissioned officers on active duty promotion list.".

SEC. 205. COAST GUARD PARTICIPATION IN THE ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOME (AFRH) SYSTEM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1502 of the Armed Forces Retirement Home Act of 1991 (24 U.S.C. 401) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (4);

(2) in paragraph (5)—

(A) by striking "and" at the end of subparagraph (C);

(B) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (D) and inserting "; and"; and

(C) by inserting at the end the following:

"(E) the Assistant Commandant of the Coast Guard for Human Resources."; and

(3) by adding at the end of paragraph (6) the following:

"(E) The Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard.".

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—(1) Section 2772 of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in subsection (a) by inserting "or, in the case of the Coast Guard, the Commandant" after "concerned"; and

(B) by striking subsection (c).

(2) Section 1007(i) of title 37, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in paragraph (3) by inserting "or, in the case of the Coast Guard, the Commandant" after "Secretary of Defense";

(B) by striking paragraph (4); and

(C) by redesignating paragraph (5) as paragraph (4).

SEC. 206. GRANTS TO INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATIONS.

Section 149 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(c) GRANTS TO INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATIONS.—After consultation with the Secretary of State, the Commandant may make grants to, or enter into cooperative agreements, contracts, or other agreements with, international maritime organizations for the purpose of acquiring information or data about merchant vessel inspections, security, safety, classification, and port State or flag State law enforcement or oversight.".

SEC. 207. EMERGENCY LEAVE RETENTION AUTHORITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 11 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 425 the following:

"§ 426. Emergency leave retention authority

"With regard to a member of the Coast Guard who serves on active duty, a duty assignment in support of a declaration of a major disaster or emergency by the President under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) shall be treated, for the purpose of section 701(f)(2) of title 10, a duty assignment in support of a contingency operation.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for such chapter is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 425 the following new item:

"426. Emergency leave retention authority.".

SEC. 208. ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 5 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 99. Enforcement authority

"Subject to guidelines approved by the Secretary, members of the Coast Guard, in the performance of official duties, may—

"(1) carry a firearm; and

"(2) while at a facility (as defined in section 70101 of title 46)—

"(A) make an arrest without warrant for any offense against the United States committed in their presence; and

"(B) seize property as otherwise provided by law.".

(b) CONFORMING REPEAL.—The first section added to title 46, United States Code, by the amendment made by subsection (a) of section 801 of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2004 (118 Stat. 1078), and the item relating to such first section enacted by the amendment made by subsection (b) of such section 801, are repealed.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following:

"99. Enforcement authority.".

SEC. 209. REPEAL.

Section 216 of title 14, United States Code, and the item relating to such section in the analysis for chapter 11 of such title, are repealed.

SEC. 210. ADMIRALS AND VICE ADMIRALS.

(a) VICE COMMANDANT.—Section 47 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking "vice admiral" and inserting "admiral".

(b) VICE ADMIRALS.—Section 50 of title 14, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"§ 50. Vice admirals

"(a)(1) The President may designate 4 positions of importance and responsibility that shall be held by officers who—

"(A) while so serving, shall have the grade of vice admiral, with the pay and allowances of that grade; and

"(B) shall perform any duties as the Commandant may prescribe.

"(2) The 4 vice admiral positions authorized under paragraph (1) are, respectively, the following:

"(A) The Deputy Commandant for Mission Support.

"(B) The Deputy Commandant for National Operations and Policy.

"(C) The Commander, Force Readiness Command.

"(D) The Commander, Operations Command.

"(3) The President may appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and reappoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to each of the positions designated under paragraph (1) an officer of the Coast Guard who is serving on active duty above the grade of captain. The Commandant shall make recommendations for those appointments.

"(b)(1) The appointment and the grade of vice admiral under this section shall be effective on the date the officer assumes that duty and, except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection or in section 51(d) of this title, shall terminate on the date the officer is detached from that duty.

"(2) An officer who is appointed to a position designated under subsection (a) shall continue to hold the grade of vice admiral—

"(A) while under orders transferring the officer to another position designated under subsection (a), beginning on the date the officer is detached from duty and

terminating on the date before the day the officer assumes the subsequent duty, but not for more than 60 days;

"(B) while hospitalized, beginning on the day of the hospitalization and ending on the day the officer is discharged from the hospital, but not for more than 180 days; and

"(C) while awaiting retirement, beginning on the date the officer is detached from duty and ending on the day before the officer's retirement, but not for more than 60 days.

"(c)(1) An appointment of an officer under subsection (a) does not vacate the permanent grade held by the officer.

"(2) An officer serving in a grade above rear admiral who holds the permanent grade of rear admiral (lower half) shall be considered for promotion to the permanent grade of rear admiral as if the officer was serving in the officer's permanent grade.

"(d) Whenever a vacancy occurs in a position designated under subsection (a), the Commandant shall inform the President of the

qualifications needed by an officer serving in that position to carry out effectively the duties and responsibilities of that position.".

(c) REPEAL.—Section 50a of title 14, United States Code, is repealed.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 51(d)(2) of that title is amended by striking "Area Commander, or Chief of Staff" and inserting "or Vice Admirals".

(e) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(1) The heading for section 47 of that title is amended by striking "assignment" and inserting "appointment".

(2) The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 3 of that title is amended—

(A) by striking the item relating to section 47 and inserting the following: "47. Vice Commandant; appointment.";

(B) by striking the item relating to section 50 and inserting the following: "50. Vice admirals.";

and

(C) by striking the item relating to section 50a.

1 *(f) TECHNICAL CORRECTION.—Section 47 of*
2 *that title is further amended in the fifth sen-*
3 *tence by striking "subsection" and inserting*
4 *"section".*

5 *SEC. 211. MERCHANT MARINER MEDICAL ADVISORY COM-*
6 *MITTEE.*

7 *(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 71 of title 46,*
8 *United States Code, is amended by adding at*
9 *the end the following new section:*

10 *"§ 7115. Merchant Mariner Medical Advisory Com-*
11 *mittee*

12 *"(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—*

13 *"(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established*
14 *a Merchant Mariner Medical Advisory*
15 *Committee (in this section referred to as*
16 *the 'Committee').*

17 *"(2) FUNCTIONS.—The Committee shall*
18 *advise the Secretary on matters relating*
19 *to—*

20 *"(A) medical certification deter-*
21 *minations for issuance of merchant*
22 *mariner credentials;*

23 *"(B) medical standards and guide-*
24 *lines for the physical qualifications of*
25 *operators of commercial vessels;*

1 *"(C) medical examiner education;*
2 *and*
3 *"(D) medical research.*
4 *"(b) MEMBERSHIP.—*
5 *"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Committee shall*
6 *consist of twelve members, none of whom*
7 *is a Federal employee, and shall include—*
8 *"(A) ten who are health-care pro-*
9 *fessionals with particular expertise,*
10 *knowledge, or experience regarding*
11 *the medical examinations of merchant*
12 *mariners or occupational medicine;*
13 *and*
14 *"(B) two who are professional*
15 *mariners with knowledge and experi-*
16 *ence in mariner occupational require-*
17 *ments.*
18 *"(2) STATUS OF MEMBERS.—Members of*
19 *the Committee shall not be considered*
20 *Federal employees or otherwise in the*
21 *service or the employment of the Federal*
22 *Government, except that members shall be*
23 *considered special Government employees,*
24 *as defined in section 202(a) of title 18,*
25 *United States Code, and shall be subject*

to any administrative standards of conduct applicable to the employees of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating.

"(c) APPOINTMENTS; TERMS; VACANCIES.—

"(1) APPOINTMENTS.—The Secretary shall appoint the members of the Committee, and each member shall serve at the pleasure of the Secretary.

"(2) TERMS.—Each member shall be appointed for a term of three years, except that, of the members first appointed, three members shall be appointed for a term of two years and three members shall be appointed for a term of one year.

"(3) VACANCIES.—Any member appointed to fill the vacancy prior to the expiration of the term for which that member's predecessor was appointed shall be appointed for the remainder of that term.

"(d) CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN.—The Secretary shall designate one member of the Committee as the Chairman and one member as the Vice Chairman. The Vice Chairman shall act as Chairman in the absence or inca-

pacity of, or in the event of a vacancy in the office of, the Chairman.

"(e) COMPENSATION; REIMBURSEMENT.—Members of the Committee shall serve without compensation, except that, while engaged in the performance of duties away from their homes or regular places of business of the member, the member of the Committee may be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by section 5703 of title 5.

"(f) STAFF; SERVICES.—The Secretary shall furnish to the Committee the personnel and services as are considered necessary for the conduct of its business.".

(b) FIRST MEETING.—No later than six months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Merchant Mariner Medical Advisory Committee established by the amendment made by this section shall hold its first meeting.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 71 of that title is amended by adding at the end the following:

"7115. Merchant Mariner Medical Advisory Committee.".

SEC. 212. RESERVE COMMISSIONED WARRANT OFFICER TO LIEUTENANT PROGRAM.

Section 214(a) of title 14, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"(a) The president may appoint temporary commissioned officers—

"(1) in the Regular Coast Guard in a grade, not above lieutenant, appropriate to their qualifications, experience, and length of service, as the needs of the Coast Guard may require, from among the commissioned warrant officers, warrant officers, and enlisted members of the Coast Guard, and from holders of licenses issued under chapter 71 of title 46; and

"(2) in the Coast Guard Reserve in a grade, not above lieutenant, appropriate to their qualifications, experience, and length of service, as the needs of the Coast Guard may require, from among the commissioned warrant officers of the Coast Guard Reserve.".

SEC. 213. ENHANCED STATUS QUO OFFICER PROMOTION SYSTEM.

Chapter 11 of title 14, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 253(a)—

(A) by inserting "and" after "considered,"; and

(B) by striking ", and the number of officers the board may recommend for promotion";

(2) in section 258—

(A) by inserting "(a) IN GENERAL.—" before the existing text;

(B) in subsection (a) (as so designated) by striking the colon at the end of the material preceding paragraph (1) and inserting "—"; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

"(b) PROVISION OF DIRECTION AND GUIDANCE.—

"(1) In addition to the information provided pursuant to subsection (a), the Secretary may furnish the selection board—

"(A) specific direction relating to the needs of the Coast Guard for officers having particular skills, including direction relating to the need for a

minimum number of officers with particular skills within a specialty; and

"(B) any other guidance that the Secretary believes may be necessary to enable the board to properly perform its functions.

"(2) Selections made based on the direction and guidance provided under this subsection shall not exceed the maximum percentage of officers who may be selected from below the announced promotion zone at any given selection board convened under section 251 of this title.";

(3) in section 259(a), by inserting after "whom the board" the following: ", giving due consideration to the needs of the Coast Guard for officers with particular skills so noted in specific direction furnished to the board by the Secretary under section 258 of this title,"; and

(4) in section 260(b), by inserting after "qualified for promotion" the following: "to meet the needs of the service (as noted in specific direction furnished the board

by the Secretary under section 258 of this title)".

SEC. 214. LASER TRAINING SYSTEM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Within one year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard shall test an integrated laser engagement system for the training of members of the Coast Guard assigned to small vessels in the use of individual weapons and machine guns on those vessels. The test shall be conducted on vessels on the Great Lakes using similar laser equipment used by other Federal agencies. However, that equipment shall be adapted for use in the marine environment.

(b) REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit a report to Congress within 6 months after the conclusions of the test required under subsection (a) on the costs and benefits of using the system regionally and nationwide to train members of the Coast Guard in the use of individual weapons and machine guns.

SEC. 215. COAST GUARD VESSELS AND AIRCRAFT.

(a) AUTHORITY TO FIRE AT OR INTO A VESSEL.—Section 637(c) of title 14, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking "; or" and inserting a semicolon;

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; or"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(3) any other vessel or aircraft owned by a government and used for noncommercial service when—

"(A) the vessel or aircraft is under the tactical control of the Coast Guard; and

"(B) at least one member of the Coast Guard is assigned and conducting a Coast Guard mission on the vessel or aircraft.".

(b) AUTHORITY TO DISPLAY COAST GUARD ENSIGNS AND PENNANTS.—Section 638(a) of title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking "Coast Guard vessels and aircraft" and inserting "Vessels and aircraft authorized by the Secretary".

1 ***SEC. 216. COAST GUARD DISTRICT OMBUDSMEN.***

2 ***(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 3 of title 14,***
3 ***United States Code, is amended by adding at***
4 ***the end the following new section:***

5 ***"§ 55. District Ombudsmen***

6 ***"(a) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant may***
7 ***appoint in each Coast Guard District a Dis-***
8 ***trict Ombudsman to serve as a liaison between***
9 ***representatives of port stakeholders, including***
10 ***the Area Maritime Security Advisory Commit-***
11 ***tees required by section 70112 of title 46 and***
12 ***the Coast Guard.***

13 ***"(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the Dis-***
14 ***trict Ombudsman shall be the following:***

15 ***"(1) To support the operations of the***
16 ***Coast Guard in each port in the District***
17 ***for which the District Ombudsman is ap-***
18 ***pointed.***

19 ***"(2) To improve communications be-***
20 ***tween and among port stakeholders in-***
21 ***cluding, but not limited to, port and ter-***
22 ***minal operators, ship owners, labor rep-***
23 ***resentatives, and the Coast Guard.***

24 ***"(3) To ensure timely resolution of dis-***
25 ***putes between the Coast Guard and all pe-***

titioners regarding requirements imposed or services provided by the Coast Guard.

"(c) FUNCTIONS.—

"(1) INVESTIGATIONS.—The District Ombudsman may investigate complaints brought to the attention of the District Ombudsman by a petitioner operating in a port provided such a complaint is not the subject of an administrative, civil, or criminal investigation or other legal proceeding and provided the District Ombudsman receives no benefit, either direct or indirect, from the outcome of the complaint.

"(2) GUIDELINES FOR DISPUTES.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant of the Coast Guard shall develop guidelines regarding disputes with respect to which the District Ombudsman will provide assistance.

"(B) LIMITATION.—The District Ombudsman shall not provide assistance with respect to a dispute if such a dispute is the subject of an administrative, civil, or criminal investigation or

other legal proceeding or if the District Ombudsman receives a benefit, either direct or indirect, from the outcome of the dispute.

"(C) PRIORITY.—In providing such assistance, the District Ombudsman shall give priority to complaints brought by petitioners who will suffer a significant hardship as the result of implementing a Coast Guard requirement or being denied a Coast Guard service.

"(3) CONSULTATION.—The District Ombudsman may consult with any Coast Guard personnel who can aid in the investigation of a complaint provided such persons are reasonably available.

"(4) ACCESS TO INFORMATION.—Unless otherwise prohibited by law or regulation, the District Ombudsman shall have access to any document, including any record or report, that will aid the District Ombudsman in obtaining the information needed to conduct an investigation of a compliant.

1 *"(5) REPORTS.—At the conclusion of an*
2 *investigation, the District Ombudsman*
3 *shall submit a report on the findings and*
4 *recommendations of the District Ombuds-*
5 *man, to the Commander of the District in*
6 *which the petitioner who brought the com-*
7 *plaint is located or operating.*
8 *"(6) DEADLINE.—The District Ombuds-*
9 *man shall seek to resolve each complaint*
10 *brought in accordance with the guide-*
11 *lines—*
12 *"(A) in a timely fashion; and*
13 *"(B) to the maximum extent prac-*
14 *ticable, not later than 4 months after*
15 *the complaint is officially accepted by*
16 *the District Ombudsman.*
17 *"(d) APPOINTMENT.—The Commandant*
18 *shall appoint as the District Ombudsman an*
19 *appropriately cleared civilian who has experi-*
20 *ence in port and transportation systems and*
21 *knowledge of port operations or of maritime*
22 *commerce (or both).*
23 *"(e) ANNUAL REPORTS.—The Secretary shall*
24 *report annually to the Committees on Home-*
25 *land Security and Transportation and Infra-*

structure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate on the matters brought before the District Ombudsmen, including—

"(1) the number of matters brought before each District Ombudsman;

"(2) a brief summary of each such matter; and

"(3) the eventual resolution of each such matter.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

"55. District Ombudsmen.".

TITLE III—SHIPPING AND NAVIGATION

SEC. 301. VESSEL SIZE LIMITS.

(a) LENGTH, TONNAGE, AND HORSEPOWER.—Section 12113(d)(2) of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting "and" after the semicolon at the end of subparagraph (A)(i);

(2) by striking "and" at the end of subparagraph (A)(ii);

(3) by striking subparagraph (A)(iii);

(4) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (B) and inserting "; or"; and

(5) by inserting at the end the following:

"(C) the vessel is either a rebuilt vessel or a replacement vessel under section 208(g) of the American Fisheries Act (title II of division C of Public Law 105–277; 112 Stat. 2681–627) and is eligible for a fishery endorsement under this section.".

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) VESSEL REBUILDING AND REPLACEMENT.—Section 208(g) of the American Fisheries Act (title II of division C of Public Law 105–277; 112 Stat. 2681–627) is amended to read as follows:

"(g) VESSEL REBUILDING AND REPLACEMENT.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—

"(A) REBUILD OR REPLACE.—Notwithstanding any limitation to the contrary on replacing, rebuilding, or lengthening vessels or transferring

permits or licenses to a replacement vessel contained in sections 679.2 and 679.4 of title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on the date of enactment of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2007 and except as provided in paragraph (4), the owner of a vessel eligible under subsection (a), (b), (c), (d), or (e) (other than paragraph (21)), in order to improve vessel safety and operational efficiencies (including fuel efficiency), may rebuild or replace that vessel (including fuel efficiency) with a vessel documented with a fishery endorsement under section 12113 of title 46, United States Code.

"(B) SAME REQUIREMENTS.—The rebuilt or replacement vessel shall be eligible in the same manner and subject to the same restrictions and limitations under such subsection as the vessel being rebuilt or replaced.

"(C) TRANSFER OF PERMITS AND LICENSES.—Each fishing permit and li-

cense held by the owner of a vessel or vessels to be rebuilt or replaced under subparagraph (A) shall be transferred to the rebuilt or replacement vessel.

"(2) RECOMMENDATIONS OF NORTH PACIFIC COUNCIL.—The North Pacific Council may recommend for approval by the Secretary such conservation and management measures, including size limits and measures to control fishing capacity, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Act as it considers necessary to ensure that this subsection does not diminish the effectiveness of fishery management plans of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area or the Gulf of Alaska.

"(3) SPECIAL RULE FOR REPLACEMENT OF CERTAIN VESSELS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the requirements of subsections (b)(2), (c)(1), and (c)(2) of section 12113 of title 46, United States Code, a vessel that is eligible under subsection (a), (b), (c), (d), or (e) (other than paragraph (21)) and that

qualifies to be documented with a fishery endorsement pursuant to section 203(g) or 213(g) may be replaced with a replacement vessel under paragraph (1) if the vessel that is replaced is validly documented with a fishery endorsement pursuant to section 203(g) or 213(g) before the replacement vessel is documented with a fishery endorsement under section 12113 of title 46, United States Code.

"(B) APPLICABILITY.—A replacement vessel under subparagraph (A) and its owner and mortgagee are subject to the same limitations under section 203(g) or 213(g) that are applicable to the vessel that has been replaced and its owner and mortgagee.

"(4) SPECIAL RULES FOR CERTAIN CATCHER VESSELS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—A replacement for a covered vessel described in subparagraph (B) is prohibited from harvesting fish in any fishery (except for the Pacific whiting fishery) managed

under the authority of any regional fishery management council (other than the North Pacific Council) established under section 302(a) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

"(B) COVERED VESSELS.—A covered vessel referred to in subparagraph (A) is—

"(i) a vessel eligible under subsection (a), (b), or (c) that is replaced under paragraph (1); or

"(ii) a vessel eligible under subsection (a), (b), or (c) that is rebuilt to increase its registered length, gross tonnage, or shaft horsepower.

"(5) LIMITATION ON FISHERY ENDORSEMENTS.—Any vessel that is replaced under this subsection shall thereafter not be eligible for a fishery endorsement under section 12113 of title 46, United States Code, unless that vessel is also a replacement vessel described in paragraph (1).

"(6) GULF OF ALASKA LIMITATION.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the Sec-

retary shall prohibit from participation in the groundfish fisheries of the Gulf of Alaska any vessel that is rebuilt or replaced under this subsection and that exceeds the maximum length overall specified on the license that authorizes fishing for groundfish pursuant to the license limitation program under part 679 of title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on the date of enactment of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2007.

"(7) AUTHORITY OF PACIFIC COUNCIL.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to diminish or otherwise affect the authority of the Pacific Council to recommend to the Secretary conservation and management measures to protect fisheries under its jurisdiction (including the Pacific whiting fishery) and participants in such fisheries from adverse impacts caused by this Act.".

(2) EXEMPTION OF CERTAIN VESSELS.—Section 203(g) of the American Fisheries Act (title II of division C of Public Law 105–277; 112 Stat. 2681–620) is amended—

(A) by inserting "and" after "(United States official number 651041)";

(B) by striking ", NORTHERN TRAVELER (United States official number 635986), and NORTHERN VOYAGER (United States official number 637398) (or a replacement vessel for the NORTHERN VOYAGER that complies with paragraphs (2), (5), and (6) of section 208(g) of this Act)"; and

(C) by striking ", in the case of the NORTHERN" and all that follows through "PHOENIX,".

(3) FISHERY COOPERATIVE EXIT PROVISIONS.—Section 210(b) of the American Fisheries Act (title II of division C of Public Law 105–277; 112 Stat. 2681–629) is amended—

(A) by moving the matter beginning with "the Secretary shall" in paragraph (1) 2 ems to the right;

(B) by adding at the end the following:

1 *"(7) FISHERY COOPERATIVE EXIT PROVI-*
2 *SIONS.—*
3 *"(A) FISHING ALLOWANCE DETER-*
4 *MINATION.—For purposes of deter-*
5 *mining the aggregate percentage of*
6 *directed fishing allowances under*
7 *paragraph (1), when a catcher vessel*
8 *is removed from the directed pollock*
9 *fishery, the fishery allowance for pol-*
10 *lock for the vessel being removed—*
11 *"(i) shall be based on the*
12 *catch history determination for*
13 *the vessel made pursuant to sec-*
14 *tion 679.62 of title 50, Code of Fed-*
15 *eral Regulations, as in effect on*
16 *the date of enactment of the Coast*
17 *Guard Authorization Act of 2007;*
18 *and*
19 *"(ii) shall be assigned, for all*
20 *purposes under this title, in the*
21 *manner specified by the owner of*
22 *the vessel being removed to any*
23 *other catcher vessel or among*
24 *other catcher vessels participating*
25 *in the fishery cooperative if such*

vessel or vessels remain in the fishery cooperative for at least one year after the date on which the vessel being removed leaves the directed pollock fishery.

"(B) ELIGIBILITY FOR FISHERY ENDORSEMENT.—Except as provided in subparagraph (C), a vessel that is removed pursuant to this paragraph shall be permanently ineligible for a fishery endorsement, and any claim (including relating to catch history) associated with such vessel that could qualify any owner of such vessel for any permit to participate in any fishery within the exclusive economic zone of the United States shall be extinguished, unless such removed vessel is thereafter designated to replace a vessel to be removed pursuant to this paragraph.

"(C) LIMITATIONS ON STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed—

"(i) to make the vessels AJ (United States official number 905625), DONA MARTITA (United States official number 651751), NORDIC EXPLORER (United States official number 678234), and PROVIDIAN (United States official number 1062183) ineligible for a fishery endorsement or any permit necessary to participate in any fishery under the authority of the New England Fishery Management Council or the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council established, respectively, under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 302(a)(1) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act; or

"(ii) to allow the vessels referred to in clause (i) to participate in any fishery under the authority of the Councils referred to in clause (i) in any manner that is not consistent with the fishery management plan for the fishery

developed by the Councils under section 303 of the Magnuson-Stevens Act.".

SEC. 302. GOODS AND SERVICES.

Section 4(b) of the Act of July 5, 1884, commonly known as the Rivers and Harbors Appropriation Act of 1884 (33 U.S.C. 5(b)), is amended—

(1) by striking "or" at the end of paragraph (2)(C);

(2) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (3) and inserting "; or"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(4) sales taxes on goods and services provided to or by vessels or watercraft (other than vessels or watercraft primarily engaged in foreign commerce).".

SEC. 303. SEAWARD EXTENSION OF ANCHORAGE GROUNDS JURISDICTION.

Section 7 of the Rivers and Harbors Appropriations Act of 1915 (33 U.S.C. 471) is amended—

(1) by striking "That the" and inserting the following:

"(a) IN GENERAL.—The".

(2) in subsection (a) (as designated by paragraph (1)) by striking "$100; and the" and inserting "up to $10,000. Each day during which a violation continues shall constitute a separate violation. The";

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(b) DEFINITION.—As used in this section 'navigable waters of the United States' includes all waters of the territorial sea of the United States as described in Presidential Proclamation No. 5928 of December 27, 1988.".

SEC. 304. MARITIME DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT AMENDMENT-SIMPLE POSSESSION.

Section 70506 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(c) SIMPLE POSSESSION.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Any individual on a vessel subject to the jurisdiction of the United States who is found by the Secretary, after notice and an opportunity for a hearing, to have knowingly or intentionally possessed a controlled substance within the meaning of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812) shall be liable

to the United States for a civil penalty of not to exceed $10,000 for each violation. The Secretary shall notify the individual in writing of the amount of the civil penalty.

"(2) DETERMINATION OF AMOUNT.—In determining the amount of the penalty, the Secretary shall consider the nature, circumstances, extent, and gravity of the prohibited acts committed and, with respect to the violator, the degree of culpability, any history of prior offenses, ability to pay, and other matters that justice requires.

"(3) TREATMENT OF CIVIL PENALTY ASSESSMENT.—Assessment of a civil penalty under this subsection shall not be considered a conviction for purposes of State or Federal law but may be considered proof of possession if such a determination is relevant.".

SEC. 305. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS TO TONNAGE MEASUREMENT LAW.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 14101(4) of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking "engaged" the first place it appears and inserting "that engages";

(2) in subparagraph (A), by striking "arriving" and inserting "that arrives";

(3) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) by striking "making" and inserting "that makes"; and

(B) by striking "(except a foreign vessel engaged on that voyage)";

(4) in subparagraph (C), by striking "departing" and inserting "that departs"; and

(5) in subparagraph (D), by striking "making" and inserting "that makes".

(b) DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY.—Section 14103(c) of that title is amended by striking "intended to be engaged on" and inserting "that engages on".

(c) APPLICATION.—Section 14301 of that title is amended—

(1) by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

"(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, this chapter applies to any vessel for

which the application of an international agreement or other law of the United States to the vessel depends on the vessel's tonnage.";

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking the period at the end and inserting ", unless the government of the country to which the vessel belongs elects to measure the vessel under this chapter.";

(B) in paragraph (3), by inserting "of United States or Canadian registry or nationality, or a vessel operated under the authority of the United States or Canada, and that is" after "vessel";

(C) in paragraph (4), by striking "a vessel (except a vessel engaged" and inserting "a vessel of United States registry or nationality, or one operated under the authority of the United States (except a vessel that engages";

(D) by striking paragraph (5);

(E) by redesignating paragraph (6) as paragraph (5); and

(F) by amending paragraph (5), as so redesignated, to read as follows:

"(5) a barge of United States registry or nationality, or a barge operated under the authority of the United States (except a barge that engages on a foreign voyage) unless the owner requests.";

(3) by striking subsection (c);

(4) by redesignating subsections (d) and (e) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively; and

(5) in subsection (c), as redesignated, by striking "After July 18, 1994, an existing vessel (except an existing vessel referred to in subsection (b)(5)(A) or (B) of this section)" and inserting "An existing vessel that has not undergone a change that the Secretary finds substantially affects the vessel's gross tonnage (or a vessel to which IMO Resolutions A.494 (XII) of November 19, 1981, A.540 (XIII) of November 17, 1983, or A.541 (XIII) of November 17, 1983 apply)".

1 *(d) MEASUREMENT.—Section 14302(b) of*
2 *that title is amended to read as follows:*
3 *"(b) A vessel measured under this chapter*
4 *may not be required to be measured under an-*
5 *other law.".*
6 *(e) TONNAGE CERTIFICATE.—*
7 *(1) ISSUANCE.—Section 14303 of title*
8 *46, United States Code, is amended—*
9 *(A) in subsection (a), by adding at*
10 *the end the following: "For a vessel to*
11 *which the Convention does not apply,*
12 *the Secretary shall prescribe a certifi-*
13 *cate to be issued as evidence of a ves-*
14 *sel's measurement under this chap-*
15 *ter.";*
16 *(B) in subsection (b), by inserting*
17 *"issued under this section" after "cer-*
18 *tificate"; and*
19 *(C) in the section heading by strik-*
20 *ing "International" and "(1969)".*
21 *(2) MAINTENANCE.—Section 14503 of*
22 *that title is amended—*
23 *(A) by designating the existing*
24 *text as subsection (a); and*

(B) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(b) The certificate shall be maintained as required by the Secretary.".

(3) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis at the beginning of chapter 143 of that title is amended by striking the item relating to section 14303 and inserting the following:

"14303. Tonnage Certificate.".

(f) OPTIONAL REGULATORY MEASUREMENT.—Section 14305(a) of that title is amended by striking "documented vessel measured under this chapter," and inserting "vessel measured under this chapter that is of United States registry or nationality, or a vessel operated under the authority of the United States,".

(g) APPLICATION.—Section 14501 of that title is amended—

(1) by amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

"(1) A vessel not measured under chapter 143 of this title if the application of an international agreement or other law of the United States to the vessel depends on the vessel's tonnage."; and

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking "a vessel" and inserting "A vessel".

(h) DUAL TONNAGE MEASUREMENT.—Section 14513(c) of that title is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking "vessel's tonnage mark is below the uppermost part of the load line marks," and inserting "vessel is assigned two sets of gross and net tonnages under this section,"; and

(B) by inserting "vessel's tonnage" before "mark" the second place such term appears; and

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end and inserting "as assigned under this section.".

(i) RECIPROCITY FOR FOREIGN VESSELS.—Subchapter II of chapter 145 of that title is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 14514. Reciprocity for foreign vessels

"For a foreign vessel not measured under chapter 143, if the Secretary finds that the laws and regulations of a foreign country related to measurement of vessels are substan-

tially similar to those of this chapter and the regulations prescribed under this chapter, the Secretary may accept the measurement and certificate of a vessel of that foreign country as complying with this chapter and the regulations prescribed under this chapter.".

(j) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for subchapter II of chapter 145 of such title is amended by adding at the end the following:

"14514. Reciprocity for foreign vessels.".

SEC. 306. ACCESS FOR SEAMEN.

A seaman assigned to a vessel docked at a facility with a security plan approved under section 70103(c) of title 46, United States Code, and pilots and representatives of seamen's welfare and labor organizations, who board and depart from the vessel in compliance with the provisions of the facility security plan shall be provided access through the facility at no cost to the individual.

SEC. 307. FISHING VESSEL SAFETY.

(a) SAFETY STANDARDS.—Section 4502 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by—

(A) striking paragraphs (6) and (7) and inserting the following:

"(6) other equipment required to minimize the risk of injury to the crew during vessel operations, if the Secretary determines that a risk of serious injury exists that can be eliminated or mitigated by that equipment; and"; and

(B) redesignating paragraph (8) as paragraph (7);

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking "documented";

(B) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking "the Boundary Line" and inserting "3 nautical miles from the baseline from which the territorial sea of the United States is measured or beyond 3 nautical miles from the coastline of the Great Lakes";

(C) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking "lifeboats or liferafts" and inserting "a survival craft that ensures that no part of an individual is immersed in water";

(D) in paragraph (2)(D), by inserting "marine" before "radio";

(E) in paragraph (2)(E), by striking "radar reflectors, nautical charts, and anchors" and inserting "nautical charts, and publications";

(F) in paragraph (2)(F), by striking ", including medicine chests" and inserting "and medical supplies sufficient for the size and area of operation of the vessel" and

(G) by amending paragraph (2)(G) to read as follows:

"(G) ground tackle sufficient for the vessel.";

(3) by amending subsection (f) to read as follows:

"(f) To ensure compliance with the requirements of this chapter, the Secretary—

"(1) shall require the individual in charge of a vessel described in subsection (b) to keep a record of equipment maintenance, and required instruction and drills; and

"(2) shall examine at dockside a vessel described in subsection (b) at least twice every 5 years, and shall issue a certificate of compliance to a vessel meeting the requirements of this chapter."; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

"(g)(1) The individual in charge of a vessel described in subsection (b) must pass a training program approved by the Secretary that meets the requirements in paragraph (2) of this subsection and hold a valid certificate issued under that program.

"(2) The training program shall—

"(A) be based on professional knowledge and skill obtained through sea service and hands-on training, including training in seamanship, stability, collision prevention, navigation, fire fighting and prevention, damage control, personal survival, emergency medical care, and weather;

"(B) require an individual to demonstrate ability to communicate in an emergency situation and understand in-

formation found in navigation publications;

"(C) recognize and give credit for recent past experience in fishing vessel operation; and

"(D) provide for issuance of a certificate to an individual that has successfully completed the program.

"(3) The Secretary shall prescribe regulations implementing this subsection. The regulations shall require that individuals who are issued a certificate under paragraph (2)(D) must complete refresher training at least once every 5 years as a condition of maintaining the validity of the certificate.

"(4) The Secretary shall establish a publicly accessible electronic database listing the names of individuals who have participated in and received a certificate confirming successful completion of a training program approved by the Secretary under this section.

"(h) A vessel to which this chapter applies shall be constructed in a manner that provides a level of safety equivalent to the minimum safety standards the Secretary may estab-

lished for recreational vessels under section 4302, if—

"(1) subsection (b) of this section applies to the vessel;

"(2) the vessel is less than 50 feet overall in length; and

"(3) the vessel is built after January 1, 2008.

"(i)(1) The Secretary shall establish a Fishing Safety Training Grants Program to provide funding to municipalities, port authorities, other appropriate public entities, not-for-profit organizations, and other qualified persons that provide commercial fishing safety training—

"(A) to conduct fishing vessel safety training that meets the requirements of subsection (g); and

"(B) for purchase of safety equipment and training aids for use in those fishing vessel safety training programs.

"(2) The Secretary shall award grants under this subsection on a competitive basis.

1 *"(3) The Federal share of the cost of any*
2 *activity carried out with a grant under this*
3 *subsection shall not exceed 75 percent.*
4 *"(4) There is authorized to be appropriated*
5 *$3,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through*
6 *2012 for grants under this subsection.*
7 *"(j)(1) The Secretary shall establish a*
8 *Fishing Safety Research Grant Program to*
9 *provide funding to individuals in academia,*
10 *members of non-profit organizations and busi-*
11 *nesses involved in fishing and maritime mat-*
12 *ters, and other persons with expertise in fish-*
13 *ing safety, to conduct research on methods of*
14 *improving the safety of the commercial fishing*
15 *industry, including vessel design, emergency*
16 *and survival equipment, enhancement of ves-*
17 *sel monitoring systems, communications de-*
18 *vices, de-icing technology, and severe weather*
19 *detection.*
20 *"(2) The Secretary shall award grants*
21 *under this subsection on a competitive basis.*
22 *"(3) The Federal share of the cost of any*
23 *activity carried out with a grant under this*
24 *subsection shall not exceed 75 percent.".*

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 4506(b) of title 46, United States Code, is repealed.

(c) ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—

(1) CHANGE OF NAME.—Section 4508 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking the section heading and inserting the following:

"§ 4508. Commercial Fishing Safety Advisory Committee";

and

(B) in subsection (a) by striking "Industry Vessel".

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of section at the beginning of chapter 45 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to such section and inserting the following:

"4508. Commercial Fishing Safety Advisory Committee.".

(d) LOADLINES FOR VESSELS OVER 79 FEET.—Section 5102(b)(3) of title 46, United States Code, is amended by inserting after "vessel" the following ", unless the vessel is built or undergoes a major conversion completed after January 1, 2008".

(e) CLASSING OF VESSELS.—

1 *(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 4503 of title*
2 *46, United States Code, is amended—*
3 *(A) by striking the section heading*
4 *and inserting the following:*
5 *"§ 4503. Fishing, fish tender, and fish processing ves-*
6 *sel certification";*
7 *(B) in subsection (a) by striking*
8 *"fish processing"; and*
9 *(C) by adding at the end the fol-*
10 *lowing:*
11 *"(c) This section applies to a vessel to*
12 *which section 4502(b) of this title applies*
13 *that—*
14 *"(1) is at least 50 feet overall in*
15 *length;*
16 *"(2) is built after January 1, 2008; or*
17 *"(3) undergoes a major conversion*
18 *completed after that date.*
19 *"(d) After January 1, 2018, this section ap-*
20 *plies to a fishing vessel or fish tender vessel*
21 *that is built before January 1, 2008, and is 25*
22 *years of age or older, unless the vessel complies*
23 *with an alternate safety compliance program*
24 *prescribed by the Secretary.".*

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of section at the beginning of chapter 45 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to such section and inserting the following:

"4503. Fishing, fish tender, and fish processing vessel certification.".

(f) ALTERNATIVE SAFETY COMPLIANCE PROGRAM.—No later than January 1, 2015, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall prescribe an alternative safety compliance program referred to in section 4503(d) of the title 46, United States Code, as amended by this section.

SEC. 308. MARINER RECORDS.

Section 7502 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting "(a)" before "The";

(2) by striking "computerized records" and inserting "records, including electronic records,"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(b) The Secretary may prescribe regulations requiring a vessel owner or managing operator of a commercial vessel, or the employer of a seaman on that vessel, to maintain

1 ***records of each individual engaged on the ves-***
2 ***sel on matters of engagement, discharge, and***
3 ***service for not less than 5 years after the date***
4 ***of the completion of the service of that indi-***
5 ***vidual on the vessel. The regulations may re-***
6 ***quire that a vessel owner, managing operator,***
7 ***or employer shall make these records avail-***
8 ***able to the individual and the Coast Guard on***
9 ***request.***
10 ***"(c) A person violating this section, or a***
11 ***regulation prescribed under this section, is***
12 ***liable to the United States Government for a***
13 ***civil penalty of not more than $5,000.".***
14 ***SEC. 309. DELETION OF EXEMPTION OF LICENSE REQUIRE-***
15 ***MENT FOR OPERATORS OF CERTAIN TOWING***
16 ***VESSELS.***
17 ***Section 8905 of title 46, United States Code,***
18 ***is amended—***
19 ***(1) by striking subsection (b); and***
20 ***(2) by redesignating subsection (c) as***
21 ***subsection (b).***

SEC. 310. ADJUSTMENT OF LIABILITY LIMITS FOR NATURAL GAS DEEPWATER PORTS.

Section 1004(d)(2) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2704(d)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(D) The Secretary may establish, by regulation, a limit of liability of not less than $12,000,000 for a deepwater port used only in connection with transportation of natural gas.".

SEC. 311. PERIOD OF LIMITATIONS FOR CLAIMS AGAINST OIL SPILL LIABILITY TRUST FUND.

Section 1012(h)(1) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2712(h)(1)) is amended by striking "6" and inserting "3".

SEC. 312. LOG BOOKS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 113 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 11304. Additional logbook and entry requirements

"(a) A vessel of the United States that is subject to inspection under section 3301 of this title, except a vessel on a voyage from a port in the United States to a port in Canada, shall have an official logbook.

"(b) The log book required by subsection (a) shall include the following entries:

"(1) The time when each seaman and each officer assumed or relieved the watch.

"(2) The number of hours in service to the vessels of each seaman and each officer.

"(3) An account of each accident, illness, and injury that occurs during each watch.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following:

"11304. Additional logbook and entry requirements.".

SEC. 313. UNSAFE OPERATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 21 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"§ 2116. Termination for unsafe operation

"An individual authorized to enforce this title—

"(1) may remove a certificate required by this title from a vessel that is operating in a condition that does not comply with the provisions of the certificate;

"(2) may order the individual in charge of a vessel that is operating that does not have on board the certificate required by this title to return the vessel to a mooring and to remain there until the vessel is in compliance with this title; and

"(3) may direct the individual in charge of a vessel to which this title applies to immediately take reasonable steps necessary for the safety of individuals on board the vessel if the official observes the vessel being operated in an unsafe condition that the official believes creates an especially hazardous condition, including ordering the individual in charge to return the vessel to a mooring and to remain there until the situation creating the hazard is corrected or ended.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following:

"Sec. 2116. Termination for unsafe operation.".

SEC. 314. APPROVAL OF SURVIVAL CRAFT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 31 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"§ 3104. Survival craft

"(a) Except as provided in subsection (b), the Secretary may not approve a survival craft as a safety device for purposes of this part, unless the craft ensures that no part of an individual is immersed in water.

"(b) The Secretary may authorize a survival craft that does not provide protection described in subsection (a) to remain in service until not later than January 1, 2013, if—

"(1) it was approved by the Secretary before January 1, 2008; and

"(2) it is in serviceable condition.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following:

"Sec. 3104. Survival craft.".

SEC. 315. SAFETY MANAGEMENT.

(a) VESSELS TO WHICH REQUIREMENTS APPLY.—Section 3202 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a) by striking the heading and inserting "FOREIGN VOYAGES AND FOREIGN VESSELS.—";

(2) by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively;

(3) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

"(b) OTHER PASSENGER VESSELS.—This chapter applies to a vessel that is—

"(1) a passenger vessel or small passenger vessel; and

"(2) is transporting more passengers than a number prescribed by the Secretary based on the number of individuals on the vessel that could be killed or injured in a marine casualty.";

(4) in subsection (d), as so redesignated, by striking "subsection (b)" and inserting "subsection (c)";

(5) in subsection (d)(4), as so redesignated, by inserting "that is not described in subsection (b) of this section" after "waters".

(b) SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.—Section 3203 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(c) In prescribing regulations for passenger vessels and small passenger vessels, the Secretary shall consider the characteristics, methods of operation, and nature of the service of these vessels.".

SEC. 316. PROTECTION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2114 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1)(A), by striking "or" after the semicolon;

(2) in subsection (a)(1)(B), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(3) by adding at the end of subsection (a)(1) the following new subparagraphs:

"(C) the seaman testified in a proceeding brought to enforce a maritime safety law or regulation prescribed under that law;

"(D) the seaman notified, or attempted to notify, the vessel owner or the Secretary of a work-related personal injury or work-related illness of a seaman;

"(E) the seaman cooperated with a safety investigation by the Secretary or

the National Transportation Safety Board;

"(F) the seaman furnished information to the Secretary, the National Transportation Safety Board, or any other public official as to the facts relating to any marine casualty resulting in injury or death to an individual or damage to property occurring in connection with vessel transportation; or

"(G) the seaman accurately reported hours of duty under this part."; and

(4) by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

"(b) A seaman alleging discharge or discrimination in violation of subsection (a) of this section, or another person at the seaman's request, may file a complaint with respect to such allegation in the same manner as a complaint may be filed under subsection (b) of section 31105 of title 49. Such complaint shall be subject to the procedures, requirements, and rights described in that section, including with respect to the right to file an objection, the right of a person to file for a petition for

review under subsection (c) of that section, and the requirement to bring a civil action under subsection (d) of that section.".

(b) EXISTING ACTIONS.—This section shall not affect the application of section 2114(b) of title 46, United States Code, as in effect before the date of enactment of this Act, to an action filed under that section before that date.

SEC. 317. DRY BULK CARGO RESIDUE.

Section 623(a)(2) of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2004 (33 U.S.C. 1901 note) is amended by striking "2008" and inserting "2009".

SEC. 318. CLARIFICATION OF DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES.

Section 3316 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(1), by inserting "or for a floating installation" after "chapter 121 of this title";

(2) in subsection (b)(2)(A), by inserting "or for floating installations" after "vessels documented in that country";

(3) in subsection (b)(3)(A), by inserting "or floating installation" after "after the vessel"; and

(4) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(d) For purposes of this section, the term 'floating installation' means any installation, structure, or other device that floats and that either dynamically holds position or is temporarily or permanently attached to the seabed or subsoil under the territorial sea of the United States or the outer Continental Shelf (as that term is defined in section 2 of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331)), and is used for the purpose of exploring for, developing, producing, or storing the resources from that seabed or subsoil.".

SEC. 319. REGISTRY ENDORSEMENT FOR LNG VESSELS.

Section 12111 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(d) A vessel or facility for which a registry endorsement is not issued may not engage in regassifying on navigable waters unless the

1 ***vessel or facility transported the gas from a***
2 ***foreign port.".***

3 ***SEC. 320. OATHS.***

4 ***Sections 7105 and 7305 of title 46, United***
5 ***States Code, and the items relating to such sec-***
6 ***tions in the analysis for chapters 71 and 73 of***
7 ***such title, are repealed.***

8 ***SEC. 321. DURATION OF CREDENTIALS.***

9 ***(a) MERCHANT MARINER'S DOCUMENTS.—***
10 ***Section 7302(f) of title 46, United States Code,***
11 ***is amended to read as follows:***

12 ***"(f) PERIODS OF VALIDITY AND RENEWAL OF***
13 ***MERCHANT MARINERS' DOCUMENTS.—***

14 ***"(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided***
15 ***in subsection (g), a merchant mariner's***
16 ***document issued under this chapter is***
17 ***valid for a 5-year period and may be re-***
18 ***newed for additional 5-year periods.***

19 ***"(2) ADVANCE RENEWALS.—A renewed***
20 ***merchant mariner's document may be***
21 ***issued under this chapter up to 8 months***
22 ***in advance but is not effective until the***
23 ***date that the previously issued merchant***
24 ***mariner's document expires.".***

(b) DURATION OF LICENSES.—Section 7106 of such title is amended to read as follows:

"§ 7106. Duration of licenses

"(a) IN GENERAL.—A license issued under this part is valid for a 5-year period and may be renewed for additional 5-year periods; except that the validity of a license issued to a radio officer is conditioned on the continuous possession by the holder of a first-class or second-class radiotelegraph operator license issued by the Federal Communications Commission.

"(b) ADVANCE RENEWALS.—A renewed license issued under this part may be issued up to 8 months in advance but is not effective until the date that the previously issued license expires.".

(c) CERTIFICATES OF REGISTRY.—Section 7107 of such title is amended to read as follows:

"§ 7107. Duration of certificates of registry

"(a) IN GENERAL.—A certificate of registry issued under this part is valid for a 5-year period and may be renewed for additional 5-year periods; except that the validity of a certificate

issued to a medical doctor or professional nurse is conditioned on the continuous possession by the holder of a license as a medical doctor or registered nurse, respectively, issued by a State.

"(b) ADVANCE RENEWALS.—A renewed certificate of registry issued under this part may be issued up to 8 months in advance but is not effective until the date that the previously issued certificate of registry expires.".

SEC. 322. FINGERPRINTING.

(a) MERCHANT MARINER LICENSES AND DOCUMENTS.—Chapter 75 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 7507. Fingerprinting

"The Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating may not require an individual to be fingerprinted for the issuance or renewal of a license, a certificate of registry, or a merchant mariner's document under chapter 71 or 73 if the individual was fingerprinted when the individual applied for a transportation security card under section 70105.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following:

"7507. Fingerprinting.".

SEC. 323. AUTHORIZATION TO EXTEND THE DURATION OF LICENSES, CERTIFICATES OF REGISTRY, AND MERCHANT MARINERS' DOCUMENTS.

(a) MERCHANT MARINER LICENSES AND DOCUMENTS.—Chapter 75 of title 46, United States Code, as amended by section 322(a) of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 7508. Authority to extend the duration of licenses, certificates of registry, and merchant mariner documents

"(a) LICENSES AND CERTIFICATES OF REGISTRY.—Notwithstanding section 7106 and 7107, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating may extend for one year an expiring license or certificate of registry issued for an individual under chapter 71 if the Secretary determines that extension is required to enable the Coast Guard to eliminate a backlog in processing applications for those licenses or certificates of registry.

1 *"(b) MERCHANT MARINER DOCUMENTS.—Not-*
2 *withstanding section 7302(g), the Secretary*
3 *may extend for one year an expiring merchant*
4 *mariner's document issued for an individual*
5 *under chapter 71 if the Secretary determines*
6 *that extension is required to enable the Coast*
7 *Guard to eliminate a backlog in processing*
8 *applications for those documents.*
9 *"(c) MANNER OF EXTENSION.—Any exten-*
10 *sions granted under this section may be grant-*
11 *ed to individual seamen or a specifically iden-*
12 *tified group of seamen.*
13 *"(d) EXPIRATION OF AUTHORITY.—The au-*
14 *thority for providing an extension under this*
15 *section shall expire on June 30, 2009.".*
16 *(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis*
17 *for such chapter, as amended by section*
18 *322(b), is further amended by adding at the*
19 *end the following:*

"7508. Authority to extend the duration of licenses, certificates of registry, and merchant mariner documents.".

20 *SEC. 324. MERCHANT MARINER DOCUMENTATION.*
21 *(a) INTERIM CLEARANCE PROCESS.—Not*
22 *later than 180 days after the date of enactment*
23 *of this Act, the Secretary of the department in*
24 *which the Coast Guard is operating shall de-*

velop an interim clearance process for issuance of a merchant mariner document to enable a newly hired seaman to begin working on an offshore supply vessel or towing vessel if the Secretary makes an initial determination that the seaman does not pose a safety and security risk.

(b) CONTENTS OF PROCESS.—The process under subsection (a) shall include a check against the consolidated and integrated terrorist watch list maintained by the Federal Government, review of the seaman's criminal record, and review of the results of testing the seaman for use of a dangerous drug (as defined in section 2101 of title 46, United States Code) in violation of law or Federal regulation.

SEC. 325. MERCHANT MARINER ASSISTANCE REPORT.

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report regarding a plan—

(1) to expand the streamlined evaluation process program that was affiliated with the Houston Regional Examination Center of the Coast Guard to all processing centers of the Coast Guard nationwide;

(2) to include proposals to simplify the application process for a license as an officer, staff officer, or operator and for a merchant mariner's document to help eliminate errors by merchant mariners when completing the application form (CG–719B), including instructions attached to the application form and a modified application form for renewals with questions pertaining only to the period of time since the previous application;

(3) to provide notice to an applicant of the status of the pending application, including a process to allow the applicant to check on the status of the application by electronic means; and

(4) to ensure that all information collected with respect to applications for new

or renewed licenses, merchant mariner documents, and certificates of registry is retained in a secure electronic format.

SEC. 326. MERCHANT MARINER SHORTAGE REPORT.

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation, acting through the Administrator of the Maritime Administration, shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report concerning methods to address the current and future shortage in the number of merchant mariners, particularly entry-level mariners, including an evaluation of whether an educational loan program providing loans for the cost of on-the-job training would provide an incentive for workers and help alleviate the shortage.

SEC. 327. MERCHANT MARINER DOCUMENT STANDARDS.

Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall submit to the Committees on

Transportation and Infrastructure and Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate—

(1) a plan to ensure that the process for an application, by an individual who has, or has applied for, a transportation security card under section 70105 of title 46, United States Code, for a merchant mariner document can be completed entirely by mail; and

(2) a report on the feasibility of, and a timeline to, redesign the merchant mariner document to comply with the requirements of such section, including a biometric identifier, and all relevant international conventions, including the International Labour Organization Convention Number 185 concerning the seafarers identity document, and include a review on whether or not such redesign will eliminate the need for separate credentials and background screening and streamline the application process for mariners.

SEC. 328. WATERSIDE SECURITY AROUND LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS TERMINALS AND LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS TANKERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant of the Coast Guard shall be responsible for ensuring appropriate waterside security services, based on the threat, vulnerability, and consequence of a terrorist attack, around liquefied natural gas terminals and around tankers transporting liquefied natural gas in security zones established by the Coast Guard.

(b) LIMITATION ON RELIANCE ON STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—Security arrangements approved as part of the facility security plan approved under section 70103 of title 46, United States Code, for an onshore liquefied natural gas terminal may not be based upon the provision of security by a State or local government unless the State or local government has entered into a contract, cooperative agreement, or other arrangement with the terminal operator to provide such services and the Secretary certifies that the waterborne patrols operated by State or local governments have the training, resources, personnel, equipment, and experience necessary to successfully

deter and respond to transportation security incidents (as that term is defined in section 70101of title 46, United States Code).

(c) ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY ZONES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Security zones established by the Coast Guard around tankers transporting liquefied natural gas shall be enforced by the Coast Guard.

(2) UTILIZATION OF STATE AND LOCAL RESOURCES.—Subject to any contract, cooperative agreement, or other arrangement established in accordance with subsection (b), the Coast Guard may utilize State or local government resources to assist in enforcing any security zone established by the Coast Guard.

(3) REIMBURSEMENT.— Any Federal, State, or local entity enforcing a security zone established by the Coast Guard for a liquefied natural gas terminal or for a tanker traveling to or from such a terminal, may seek appropriate reimbursement from the terminal.

(d) CERTIFICATION REQUIRED FOR NEW LNG TERMINALS.—The Secretary of the department

in which the Coast Guard is operating may not approve a facility security plan under section 70103 of title 46, United States Code, for a liquefied natural gas terminal the construction of which is begun after the date of enactment of this Act unless the Secretary certifies that the Coast Guard sector in which the terminal is located has all of the assets it needs to provide waterside security around the terminal and to provide security around tankers transporting liquefied natural gas in security zones established by the Coast Guard.

TITLE IV—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SEC. 401. CERTIFICATE OF DOCUMENTATION FOR GALLANT LADY.

Section 1120(c) of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 1996 (110 Stat. 3977) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking "of Transportation" and inserting "of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating"; and

(B) by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

"(A) the vessel GALLANT LADY (Feadship hull number 672, approximately 168 feet in length).";

(2) by striking paragraphs (3) and (4) and redesignating paragraph (5) as paragraph (3); and

(3) in paragraph (3) (as so redesignated) by striking all after "shall expire" and inserting "on the date of the sale of the vessel by the owner.".

SEC. 402. WAIVER.

Notwithstanding section 12112 and chapter 551 of title 46, United States Code, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating may issue a certificate of documentation with a coastwise endorsement for the OCEAN VERITAS (IMO Number 7366805).

SEC. 403. GREAT LAKES MARITIME RESEARCH INSTITUTE.

Section 605 of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2004 (118 Stat. 1052) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(1)—

(A) by striking "The Secretary of Transportation shall conduct a study that" and inserting "The Institute shall conduct maritime transportation studies of the Great Lakes region, including studies that";

(B) in subparagraphs (A), (B), (C), (E), (F), (H), (I), and (J) by striking "evaluates" and inserting "evaluate";

(C) in subparagraphs (D) and (G) by striking "analyzes" and inserting "analyze";

(D) by striking "and" at the end of subparagraph (I);

(E) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (J) and inserting a semicolon;

(F) by adding at the end the following:

"(K) identify ways to improve the integration of the Great Lakes marine transportation system into the national transportation system;

"(L) examine the potential of expanded operations on the Great Lakes marine transportation system;

"(M) identify ways to include intelligent transportation applications into the Great Lakes marine transportation system;

"(N) analyze the effects and impacts of aging infrastructure and port corrosion on the Great Lakes marine transportation system;

"(O) establish and maintain a model Great Lakes marine transportation system database; and

"(P) identify market opportunities for, and impediments to, the use of United States-flag vessels in trade with Canada on the Great Lakes."; and

(2) by striking subsection (b)(4) and inserting the following:

"(4) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out paragraph (1)—

"(A) $2,100,000 for fiscal year 2007;

"(B) $2,200,000 for fiscal year 2008;

"(C) $2,300,000 for fiscal year 2009;

"(D) $2,400,000 for fiscal year 2010; and

"(E) $2,500,000 for fiscal year 2011.".

SEC. 404. CONVEYANCE.

(a) STATION BRANT POINT BOAT HOUSE.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall convey to the town of Nantucket, Massachusetts, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the buildings known as the Station Brant Point Boat House located at Coast Guard Station Brant Point, Nantucket, Massachusetts, for use for a public purpose.

(2) TERMS OF CONVEYANCE.—A conveyance of the building under paragraph (1) shall be made—

(A) without the payment of consideration; and

(B) subject to appropriate terms and conditions the Secretary considers necessary.

(3) REVERSIONARY INTEREST.—All right, title, and interest in property conveyed under this subsection shall revert to the United States if any portion of the property is used other than for a public purpose.

(b) LEASE.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall enter into a lease with the town of Nantucket that authorizes the town of Nantucket to occupy the land on which the buildings conveyed under subsection (a) are located, subject to appropriate terms and conditions the Secretary considers necessary.

(2) LEASE TERM.—A lease under this subsection shall not expire before January 31, 2033.

(3) TERMINATION OF LEASE.—If the Secretary determines that the property leased under paragraph (1) is necessary for purposes of the Coast Guard, the Secretary—

(A) may terminate the lease without payment of compensation; and

(B) shall provide the town of Nantucket not less than 12 months notice of the requirement to vacate the site and move the buildings conveyed under subsection (a) to another location.

SEC. 405. CREW WAGES ON PASSENGER VESSELS.

(a) FOREIGN AND INTERCOASTAL VOYAGES.—

(1) CAP ON PENALTY WAGES.—Section 10313(g) of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking "When" and inserting "(1) Subject to paragraph (2), when"; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

"(2) The total amount required to be paid under paragraph (1) with respect to all claims in a class action suit by seamen on a passenger

vessel capable of carrying more than 500 passengers for wages under this section against a vessel master, owner, or operator or the employer of the seamen shall not exceed ten times the unpaid wages that are the subject of the claims.

"(3) A class action suit for wages under this subsection must be commenced within three years after the later of—

"(A) the date of the end of the last voyage for which the wages are claimed; or

"(B) the receipt, by a seaman who is a claimant in the suit, of a payment of wages that are the subject of the suit that is made in the ordinary course of employment.".

(2) DEPOSITS.—Section 10315 of such title is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(f) DEPOSITS IN SEAMAN ACCOUNT.—A seaman employed on a passenger vessel capable of carrying more than 500 passengers may authorize, by written request signed by the seaman, the master, owner, or operator of the vessel, or the employer of the seaman, to make de-

1 ***posits of wages of the seaman into a checking,***
2 ***savings, investment, or retirement account, or***
3 ***other account to secure a payroll or debit card***
4 ***for the seaman if—***
5 ***"(1) the wages designated by the sea-***
6 ***man for such deposit are deposited in a***
7 ***United States or international financial***
8 ***institution designated by the seaman;***
9 ***"(2) such deposits in the financial in-***
10 ***stitution are fully guaranteed under com-***
11 ***monly accepted international standards***
12 ***by the government of the country in which***
13 ***the financial institution is licensed;***
14 ***"(3) a written wage statement or pay***
15 ***stub, including an accounting of any di-***
16 ***rect deposit, is delivered to the seaman no***
17 ***less often than monthly; and***
18 ***"(4) while on board the vessel on***
19 ***which the seaman is employed, the sea-***
20 ***man is able to arrange for withdrawal of***
21 ***all funds on deposit in the account in***
22 ***which the wages are deposited.".***
23 ***(b) COASTWISE VOYAGES.—***
24 ***(1) CAP ON PENALTY WAGES.—Section***
25 ***10504(c) of such title is amended—***

(A) by striking "When" and inserting "(1) Subject to subsection (d), and except as provided in paragraph (2), when"; and

(B) by inserting at the end the following:

"(2) The total amount required to be paid under paragraph (1) with respect to all claims in a class action suit by seamen on a passenger vessel capable of carrying more than 500 passengers for wages under this section against a vessel master, owner, or operator or the employer of the seamen shall not exceed ten times the unpaid wages that are the subject of the claims.

"(3) A class action suit for wages under this subsection must be commenced within three years after the later of—

"(A) the date of the end of the last voyage for which the wages are claimed; or

"(B) the receipt, by a seaman who is a claimant in the suit, of a payment of wages that are the subject of the suit that is made in the ordinary course of employment.".

(2) DEPOSITS.—Section 10504 of such title is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(f) DEPOSITS IN SEAMAN ACCOUNT.—A seaman employed on a passenger vessel capable of carrying more than 500 passengers may authorize, by written request signed by the seaman, the master, owner, or operator of the vessel, or the employer of the seaman, to make deposits of wages of the seaman into a checking, savings, investment, or retirement account, or other account to secure a payroll or debit card for the seaman if—

"(1) the wages designated by the seaman for such deposit are deposited in a United States or international financial institution designated by the seaman;

"(2) such deposits in the financial institution are fully guaranteed under commonly accepted international standards by the government of the country in which the financial institution is licensed;

"(3) a written wage statement or pay stub, including an accounting of any di-

rect deposit, is delivered to the seaman no less often than monthly; and

"(4) while on board the vessel on which the seaman is employed, the seaman is able to arrange for withdrawal of all funds on deposit in the account in which the wages are deposited.".

SEC. 406. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.

(a) COAST GUARD AND MARITIME TRANSPORTATION ACT OF 2006.—Effective with enactment of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–241), such Act is amended—

(1) in section 311(b) (120 Stat. 530) by inserting "paragraphs (1) and (2) of" before "section 8104(o)";

(2) in section 603(a)(2) (120 Stat. 554) by striking "33 U.S.C. 2794(a)(2)" and inserting "33 U.S.C. 2704(a)(2)";

(3) in section 901(r)(2) (120 Stat. 566) by striking "the" the second place it appears;

(4) in section 902(c) (120 Stat. 566) by inserting "of the United States" after "Revised Statutes";

(5) in section 902(e) (120 Stat. 567) is amended—

(A) by inserting "and" after the semicolon at the end of paragraph (1);

(B) by striking "and" at the end of paragraph (2)(A); and

(C) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and (4) as subparagraphs (C) and (D) of paragraph (2), respectively, and aligning the left margin of such subparagraphs with the left margin of subparagraph (A) of paragraph (2);

(6) in section 902(e)(2)(C) (as so redesignated) by striking "this section" and inserting "this paragraph";

(7) in section 902(e)(2)(D) (as so redesignated) by striking "this section" and inserting "this paragraph";

(8) in section 902(h)(1) (120 Stat. 567)—

(A) by striking "Bisti/De-Na-Zin" and all that follows through "Protection" and inserting "Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management"; and

(B) by inserting a period after "Commandant of the Coast Guard";

(9) in section 902(k) (120 Stat. 568) is amended—

(A) by inserting "the Act of March 23, 1906, commonly known as" before "the General Bridge";

(B) by striking "491)" and inserting "494),"; and

(C) by inserting "each place it appears" before "and inserting"; and

(10) in section 902(o) (120 Stat. 569) by striking the period after "Homeland Security".

(b) TITLE 14.—(1) The analysis for chapter 7 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding a period at the end of the item relating to section 149.

(2) The analysis for chapter 17 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding a period at the end of the item relating to section 677.

(3) The analysis for chapter 9 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding a

period at the end of the item relating to section 198.

(c) TITLE 46.—(1) The analysis for chapter 81 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding a period at the end of the item relating to section 8106.

(2) Section 70105(c)(3)(C) of such title is amended by striking "National Intelligence Director" and inserting "Director of National Intelligence".

(d) DEEPWATER PORT ACT OF 1974.—Section 5(c)(2) of the Deepwater Port Act of 1974 (33 U.S.C. 1504(c)(2)) is amended by aligning the left margin of subparagraph (K) with the left margin of subparagraph (L).

(e) OIL POLLUTION ACT OF 1990.—(1) Section 1004(a)(2) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2704(a)(2)) is amended by striking the first comma following "$800,000".

(2) The table of sections in section 2 of such Act is amended by inserting a period at the end of the item relating to section 7002.

(f) COAST GUARD AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1996.—The table of sections in section 2 of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 1996 is

amended in the item relating to section 103 by striking "reports" and inserting "report".

SEC. 407. CONVEYANCE OF DECOMMISSIONED COAST GUARD CUTTER STORIS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Upon the scheduled decommissioning of the Coast Guard Cutter STORIS, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall convey, without consideration, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to that vessel to the USCG Cutter STORIS Museum and Maritime Education Center, LLC, located in the State of Alaska if the recipient—

(1) agrees—

(A) to use the vessel for purposes of a museum and historical display;

(B) not to use the vessel for commercial transportation purposes;

(C) to make the vessel available to the United States Government if needed for use by the Commandant in time of war or a national emergency; and

(D) to hold the Government harmless for any claims arising from exposure to hazardous materials, including asbestos and polychlorinated

biphenyls, after conveyance of the vessel, except for claims arising from the use by the Government under subparagraph (C);

(2) has funds available that will be committed to operate and maintain in good working condition the vessel conveyed, in the form of cash, liquid assets, or a written loan commitment and in an amount of at least $700,000; and

(3) agrees to any other conditions the Commandant considers appropriate.

(b) MAINTENANCE AND DELIVERY OF VESSEL.—

(1) MAINTENANCE.—Before conveyance of the vessel under this section, the Commandant shall make, to the extent practical and subject to other Coast Guard mission requirements, every effort to maintain the integrity of the vessel and its equipment until the time of delivery.

(2) DELIVERY.—If a conveyance is made under this section, the Commandant shall deliver the vessel to a suitable moor-

ing in the local area in its present condition.

(3) TREATMENT OF CONVEYANCE.—The conveyance of the vessel under this section shall not be considered a distribution in commerce for purposes of section 6(e) of Public Law 94–469 (15 U.S.C. 2605(e)).

(c) OTHER EXCESS EQUIPMENT.—The Commandant may convey to the recipient of a conveyance under subsection (a) any excess equipment or parts from other decommissioned Coast Guard vessels for use to enhance the operability and function of the vessel conveyed under subsection (a) for purposes of a museum and historical display.

SEC. 408. REPEAL OF REQUIREMENT OF LICENSE FOR EMPLOYMENT IN THE BUSINESS OF SALVAGING ON THE COAST OF FLORIDA.

Chapter 801 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking section 80102; and

(2) in the table of sections at the beginning of the chapter by striking the item relating to that section.

SEC. 409. RIGHT-OF-FIRST-REFUSAL FOR COAST GUARD PROPERTY ON JUPITER ISLAND, FLORIDA.

(a) RIGHT-OF-FIRST-REFUSAL.—Notwithstanding any other law (other than this section), the Town of Jupiter Island, Florida, shall have the right-of-first-refusal for an exchange of real property within the jurisdiction of the Town comprising Parcel #35–38–42–004–000–02590–6 (Bon Air Beach lots 259 and 260 located at 83 North Beach Road) and Parcel #35–38–42–004–000–02610–2 (Bon Air Beach lots 261 to 267), including any improvements thereon, for other real property of equal or greater value.

(b) IDENTIFICATION OF PROPERTY.—The Commandant of the Coast Guard may identify, describe, and determine the property referred to in subsection (a) that is subject to the right of the Town under that subsection.

(c) LIMITATION.—The property referred to in subsection (a) may not be conveyed under that subsection until the Commandant of the Coast Guard determines that the property is not needed to carry out Coast Guard missions or functions.

(d) REQUIRED USE.—Any property conveyed under this section shall be used by the Town of Jupiter Island, Florida, solely for conservation of habitat and as protection against damage from wind, tidal, and wave energy.

(e) REVERSION.—Any conveyance of property under this section shall be subject to the condition that all right, title, and interest in the property, at the option of the Commandant of the Coast Guard, shall revert to the United States Government if the property is used for purposes other than conservation.

(f) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Commandant of the Coast Guard shall upon request by the Town—

(1) promptly take those actions necessary to make property identified under subsection (b) and determined by the Commandant under subsection (c) ready for conveyance to the Town; and

(2) convey the property to the Town subject to subsections (d) and (e).

SEC. 410. CONVEYANCE OF COAST GUARD HU–25 FALCON JET AIRCRAFT.

(a) AUTHORITY TO CONVEY.—Notwithstanding any other law, the Commandant of the Coast Guard may convey to the Elizabeth City State University (in this section referred to as the "University"), a public university located in the State of North Carolina, without consideration all right, title, and interest of the United States in an HU–25 Falcon Jet aircraft under the administrative jurisdiction of the Coast Guard that the Commandant determines—

(1) is appropriate for use by the University; and

(2) is excess to the needs of the Coast Guard.

(b) CONDITIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—As a condition of conveying an aircraft to the University under subsection (a), the Commandant shall enter into an agreement with the University under which the University agrees—

(A) to utilize the aircraft for educational purposes or other public purposes as jointly agreed upon by the

Commandant and the University before conveyance; and

(B) to hold the United States harmless for any claim arising with respect to the aircraft after conveyance of the aircraft.

(2) REVERSIONARY INTEREST.—If the Commandant determines that the recipient violated subparagraph (A) or (B) of paragraph (1), then—

(A) all right, title, and interest in the aircraft shall revert to the United States;

(B) the United States shall have the right to immediate possession of the aircraft; and

(C) the recipient shall pay the United States for its costs incurred in recovering the aircraft for such violation.

(c) LIMITATION ON FUTURE TRANSFERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant shall include in the instruments for the conveyance a requirement that any further conveyance of an interest in the air-

craft may not be made without the approval in advance of the Commandant.

(2) REVERSIONARY INTEREST.—If the Commandant determines that an interest in the aircraft was conveyed without such approval, then—

(A) all right, title, and interest in the aircraft shall revert to the United States;

(B) the United States shall have the right to immediate possession of the aircraft; and

(C) the recipient shall pay the United States for its costs incurred in recovering the aircraft for such a violation.

(d) DELIVERY OF AIRCRAFT.—The Commandant shall deliver the aircraft conveyed under subsection (a)—

(1) at the place where the aircraft is located on the date of the conveyance;

(2) in its condition on the date of conveyance; and

(3) without cost to the United States.

(e) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Commandant may require such additional terms and conditions in connection with the conveyance required by subsection (a) as the Commandant considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

SEC. 411. CONVEYANCE OF A COAST GUARD VESSEL.

(a) AUTHORITY TO CONVEY.—Notwithstanding the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, the Commandant of the Coast Guard may convey to the Sheriff's Department of Coahoma County, Mississippi (in this section referred to as the "Sheriff's Department"), without consideration all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to a Coast Guard trailerable boat, ranging from 17 feet to 30 feet in size, that the Commandant determines—

(1) is appropriate for use by the Sheriff's Department; and

(2) is excess to the needs of the Coast Guard and the Department of Homeland Security.

(b) CONDITION.—As a condition of conveying a vessel under the authority provided in

subsection (a), the Commandant shall enter into an agreement with the Sheriff's Department under which the Sheriff's Department agrees—

(1) to utilize the vessel for homeland security and other appropriate purposes as jointly agreed upon by the Commandant and the Sheriff's Department before conveyance; and

(2) to take the vessel "as is" and to hold the United States harmless for any claim arising with respect to that vessel after conveyance of the vessel, including any claims arising from the condition of the vessel and its equipment or exposure to hazardous materials.

(c) DELIVERY OF VESSEL.—The Commandant shall deliver the vessel conveyed under the authority provided in subsection (a)—

(1) at the place where the vessel is located on the date of the conveyance;

(2) in its condition on the date of conveyance; and

(3) without cost to the United States.

1 *(d) OTHER EXCESS EQUIPMENT.—The Com-*
2 *mandant may further convey any excess equip-*
3 *ment or parts from other Coast Guard vessels,*
4 *which are excess to the needs of the Coast*
5 *Guard and the Department of Homeland Secu-*
6 *rity, to the Sheriff's Department for use to en-*
7 *hance the operability of the vessel conveyed*
8 *under the authority provided in subsection (a).*
9 *(e) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—*
10 *The Commandant may require such addi-*
11 *tional terms and conditions in connection*
12 *with the conveyance authorized by subsection*
13 *(a) as the Commandant considers appropriate*
14 *to protect the interests of the United States.*
15 *SEC. 412. CONVEYANCE OF A COAST GUARD VESSEL.*
16 *(a) AUTHORITY TO CONVEY.—Notwith-*
17 *standing the Federal Property and Adminis-*
18 *trative Services Act of 1949, the Commandant*
19 *of the Coast Guard may convey to the Sheriff's*
20 *Office of Warren County, Mississippi (in this*
21 *section referred to as the "Sheriff's Office"),*
22 *without consideration all right, title, and in-*
23 *terest of the United States in and to a Coast*
24 *Guard trailerable boat, ranging from 17 feet*

to 30 feet in size, that the Commandant determines—

(1) is appropriate for use by the Sheriff's Office; and

(2) is excess to the needs of the Coast Guard and the Department of Homeland Security.

(b) CONDITION.—As a condition of conveying a vessel under the authority provided in subsection (a), the Commandant shall enter into an agreement with the Sheriff's Office under which the Sheriff's Office agrees—

(1) to utilize the vessel for homeland security and other appropriate purposes as jointly agreed upon by the Commandant and the Sheriff's Office before conveyance; and

(2) to take the vessel "as is" and to hold the United States harmless for any claim arising with respect to that vessel after conveyance of the vessel, including any claims arising from the condition of the vessel and its equipment or exposure to hazardous materials.

(c) DELIVERY OF VESSEL.—The Commandant shall deliver the vessel conveyed under the authority provided in subsection (a)

(1) at the place where the vessel is located on the date of the conveyance;

(2) in its condition on the date of conveyance; and

(3) without cost to the United States.

(d) OTHER EXCESS EQUIPMENT.—The Commandant may further convey any excess equipment or parts from other Coast Guard vessels, which are excess to the needs of the Coast Guard and the Department of Homeland Security, to the Sheriff's Office for use to enhance the operability of the vessel conveyed under the authority provided in subsection (a).

(e) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Commandant may require such additional terms and conditions in connection with the conveyance authorized by subsection (a) as the Commandant considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

SEC. 413. CONVEYANCE OF A COAST GUARD VESSEL.

(a) AUTHORITY TO CONVEY.—Notwithstanding the Federal Property and Adminis-

1 ***trative Services Act of 1949, the Commandant***
2 ***of the Coast Guard may convey to the Sheriff's***
3 ***Office of Washington County, Mississippi (in***
4 ***this section referred to as the "Sheriff's Of-***
5 ***fice"), without consideration all right, title,***
6 ***and interest of the United States in and to a***
7 ***Coast Guard trailerable boat, ranging from 17***
8 ***feet to 30 feet in size, that the Commandant de-***
9 ***termines—***
10 ***(1) is appropriate for use by the Sher-***
11 ***iff's Office; and***
12 ***(2) is excess to the needs of the Coast***
13 ***Guard and the Department of Homeland***
14 ***Security.***
15 ***(b) CONDITION.—As a condition of con-***
16 ***veying a vessel under the authority provided in***
17 ***subsection (a), the Commandant shall enter***
18 ***into an agreement with the Sheriff's Office***
19 ***under which the Sheriff's Office agrees—***
20 ***(1) to utilize the vessel for homeland***
21 ***security and other appropriate purposes***
22 ***as jointly agreed upon by the Com-***
23 ***mandant and the Sheriff's Office before***
24 ***conveyance; and***

(2) to take the vessel "as is" and to hold the United States harmless for any claim arising with respect to that vessel after conveyance of the vessel, including any claims arising from the condition of the vessel and its equipment or exposure to hazardous materials.

(c) DELIVERY OF VESSEL.—The Commandant shall deliver the vessel conveyed under the authority provided in subsection (a)—

(1) at the place where the vessel is located on the date of the conveyance;

(2) in its condition on the date of conveyance; and

(3) without cost to the United States.

(d) OTHER EXCESS EQUIPMENT.—The Commandant may further convey any excess equipment or parts from other Coast Guard vessels, which are excess to the needs of the Coast Guard and the Department of Homeland Security, to the Sheriff's Office for use to enhance the operability of the vessel conveyed under the authority provided in subsection (a).

1 *(e) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—*
2 *The Commandant may require such addi-*
3 *tional terms and conditions in connection*
4 *with the conveyance authorized by subsection*
5 *(a) as the Commandant considers appropriate*
6 *to protect the interests of the United States.*

7 *SEC. 414. DECOMMISSIONED COAST GUARD VESSELS FOR*
8 *HAITI.*

9 *(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any*
10 *other law, upon the scheduled decommis-*
11 *sioning of any Coast Guard 41-foot patrol boat,*
12 *the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall*
13 *give the Government of Haiti a right-of-first-*
14 *refusal for conveyance of that vessel to the*
15 *Government of Haiti, if that Government of*
16 *Haiti agrees—*
17 *(1) to use the vessel for the Coast*
18 *Guard of Haiti;*
19 *(2) to make the vessel available to the*
20 *United States Government if needed for*
21 *use by the Commandant in time of war or*
22 *national emergency;*
23 *(3) to hold the United States Govern-*
24 *ment harmless for any claims arising*
25 *from exposure to hazardous materials, in-*

cluding asbestos and polychlorinated biphenyls, after conveyance of the vessel, except for claims arising from the use by the United States Government under paragraph (2); and

(4) to any other conditions the Commandant considers appropriate.

(b) LIMITATION.—The Commandant may not convey more than 10 vessels to the Government of Haiti pursuant to this section.

(c) MAINTENANCE AND DELIVERY OF VESSEL.—

(1) MAINTENANCE.—Before conveyance of a vessel under this section, the Commandant shall make, to the extent practical and subject to other Coast Guard mission requirements, every effort to maintain the integrity of the vessel and its equipment until the time of delivery.

(2) DELIVERY.—If a conveyance is made under this section, the Commandant shall deliver a vessel to a suitable mooring in the local area in its present condition.

(3) TREATMENT OF CONVEYANCE.—The conveyance of a vessel under this section shall not be considered a distribution in commerce for purposes of section 6(e) of Public Law 94–469 (15 U.S.C. 2605(e)).

SEC. 415. EXTENSION OF PERIOD OF OPERATION OF VESSEL FOR SETTING, RELOCATION, OR RECOVERY OF ANCHORS OR OTHER MOORING EQUIPMENT.

Section 705(a)(2) of Public Law 109–347 (120 Stat. 1945) is amended by striking "2" and inserting "3".

SEC. 416. VESSEL TRAFFIC RISK ASSESSMENTS.

(a) REQUIREMENT.—The Commandant of the Coast Guard, acting through the appropriate Area Committee established under section 311(j)(4) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, shall prepare a vessel traffic risk assessment—

(1) for Cook Inlet, Alaska, within one year after the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) for the Aleutian Islands, Alaska, within two years after the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) CONTENTS.—Each of the assessments shall describe, for the region covered by the assessment—

(1) the amount and character of present and estimated future shipping traffic in the region; and

(2) the current and projected use and effectiveness in reducing risk, of—

(A) traffic separation schemes and routing measures;

(B) long-range vessel tracking systems developed under section 70115 of title 46, United States Code;

(C) towing, response, or escort tugs;

(D) vessel traffic services;

(E) emergency towing packages on vessels;

(F) increased spill response equipment including equipment appropriate for severe weather and sea conditions;

(G) the Automatic Identification System developed under section 70114 of title 46, United States Code;

(H) particularly sensitive sea areas, areas to be avoided, and other traffic exclusion zones;

(I) aids to navigation; and

(J) vessel response plans.

(c) RECOMMENDATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Each of the assessments shall include any appropriate recommendations to enhance the safety and security, or lessen potential adverse environmental impacts, of marine shipping.

(2) CONSULTATION.—Before making any recommendations under paragraph (1) for a region, the Area Committee shall consult with affected local, State, and Federal government agencies, representatives of the fishing industry, Alaska Natives from the region, the conservation community, and the merchant shipping and oil transportation industries.

(d) PROVISION TO CONGRESS.—The Commandant shall provide a copy of each assessment to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives

and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Commandant $1,800,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 and 2009 to the conduct the assessments.

SEC. 417. VESSEL MARYLAND INDEPENDENCE.

Notwithstanding sections 55101, 55103, and 12112 of title 46, United States Code, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating may issue a certificate of documentation with a coastwise endorsement for the vessel MARYLAND INDEPENDENCE (official number 662573). The coastwise endorsement issued under authority of this section is terminated if—

(1) the vessel, or controlling interest in the person that owns the vessel, is conveyed after the date of enactment of this Act; or

(2) any repairs or alterations are made to the vessel outside of the United States.

1 *SEC. 418. STUDY OF RELOCATION OF COAST GUARD SEC-*
2 *TOR BUFFALO FACILITIES.*
3 *(a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this sec-*
4 *tion are—*
5 *(1) to authorize a project study to*
6 *evaluate the feasibility of consolidating*
7 *and relocating Coast Guard facilities at*
8 *Coast Guard Sector Buffalo within the*
9 *study area;*
10 *(2) to obtain a preliminary plan for*
11 *the design, engineering, and construction*
12 *for the consolidation of Coast Guard fa-*
13 *cilities at Sector Buffalo; and*
14 *(3) to distinguish what Federal lands,*
15 *if any, shall be identified as excess after*
16 *the consolidation.*
17 *(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:*
18 *(1) COMMANDANT.—The term "Com-*
19 *mandant" means the Commandant of the*
20 *Coast Guard.*
21 *(2) SECTOR BUFFALO.—The term "Sec-*
22 *tor Buffalo" means Coast Guard Sector*
23 *Buffalo of the Ninth Coast Guard District.*
24 *(3) STUDY AREA.—The term "study*
25 *area" means the area consisting of ap-*
26 *proximately 31 acres of real property and*

any improvements thereon that are commonly identified as Coast Guard Sector Buffalo, located at 1 Fuhrmann Boulevard, Buffalo, New York, and under the administrative control of the Coast Guard.

(c) STUDY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Within 12 months after the date on which funds are first made available to carry out this section, the Commandant shall conduct a project proposal report of the study area and shall submit such report to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The project proposal report shall—

(A) evaluate the most cost-effective method for providing shore facilities to meet the operational requirements of Sector Buffalo;

(B) determine the feasibility of consolidating and relocating shore fa-

cilities on a portion of the existing site, while—

(i) meeting the operational requirements of Sector Buffalo; and

(ii) allowing the expansion of operational requirements of Sector Buffalo; and

(C) contain a preliminary plan for the design, engineering, and construction of the proposed project, including—

(i) the estimated cost of the design, engineering, and construction of the proposed project;

(ii) an anticipated timeline of the proposed project; and

(iii) a description of what Federal lands, if any, shall be considered excess to Coast Guard needs.

(d) LIMITATION.—Nothing in this section shall affect the current administration and management of the study area.

SEC. 419. COAST GUARD ASSETS FOR UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Security may station additional Coast Guard assets in the United States Virgin Islands for port security and other associated purposes.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary for fiscal year 2008 such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.

TITLE V—BALLAST WATER TREATMENT

SEC. 501. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "Ballast Water Treatment Act of 2007".

SEC. 502. DECLARATION OF GOALS AND PURPOSES.

Section 1002 of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 4701) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (c);

(2) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

"(b) DECLARATION OF GOALS AND PURPOSES.—The objective of this Act is to eliminate

the threat and impacts of nonindigenous aquatic nuisance species in the waters of the United States. In order to achieve this objective, it is declared that, consistent with the provisions of this Act—

"(1) it is the national goal that ballast water discharged into the waters of the United States will contain no living (viable) organisms by the year 2015;

"(2) it is the national policy that the introduction of nonindigenous aquatic nuisance species in the waters of the United States be prohibited; and

"(3) it is the national policy that Federal, State, and local governments and the private sector identify the most effective ways to coordinate prevention efforts, and harmonize environmentally sound methods to prevent, detect, monitor, and control nonindigenous aquatic nuisance species, in an expeditious manner.".

(3) in subsection (c)(1) (as redesignated by paragraph (1) of this section)—

(A) by striking "prevent" and inserting "eliminate"; and

(B) by inserting "treatment" after "ballast water";

(4) in subsection (c)(2) (as so redesignated)—

(A) by inserting ", detection, monitoring," after "prevention"; and

(B) by striking "the zebra mussel and other";

(5) in subsection (c)(3) (as so redesignated)—

(A) by inserting "detect," after "prevent,"; and

(B) by striking "from pathways other than ballast water exchange";

(6) in subsection (c)(4) (as so redesignated) by striking ", including the zebra mussel"; and

(7) in subsection (c)(5) (as so redesignated)—

(A) by inserting "prevention," after "in the";

(B) by inserting a comma after "management"; and

(C) by striking "zebra mussels" and inserting "aquatic nuisance species".

SEC. 503. BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1101 of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 4711) is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 1101. BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT.

"(a) VESSELS TO WHICH THIS SECTION APPLIES.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraphs (2), (3), (4), and (5), this section applies to a vessel that—

"(A) is designed, constructed, or adapted to carry ballast water; and

"(B)(i) is a vessel of the United States; or

"(ii) is a foreign vessel that—

"(I) is en route to a United States port or place; or

"(II) has departed from a United States port or place and is within waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

"(2) PERMANENT BALLAST WATER VESSELS.—This section does not apply to a vessel that carries all of its permanent ballast water in sealed tanks that are not subject to discharge.

"(3) ARMED FORCES VESSELS.—

"(A) EXEMPTION.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), this section does not apply to a vessel of the Armed Forces.

"(B) BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM.—The Secretary and the Secretary of Defense, after consultation with each other and with the Under Secretary and the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies as determined by the Secretary, shall implement a ballast water management program, including the issuance of standards for ballast water exchange and treatment and for sediment management, for vessels of the Armed Forces under their respective jurisdictions designed, constructed, or adapted to carry ballast water that are—

"(i) consistent with the requirements of this section, including the deadlines established by this section; and

"(ii) at least as stringent as the requirements issued for such vessels under section 312 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1322).

"(4) SPECIAL RULE FOR SMALL RECREATIONAL VESSELS.—In applying this section to recreational vessels less than 50 meters in length that have a maximum ballast water capacity of 8 cubic meters, the Secretary may issue alternative measures for managing ballast water in a manner that is consistent with the requirements of this section.

"(5) MARAD VESSELS.—Subsection (f) does not apply to any vessel in the National Defense Reserve Fleet that is scheduled to be disposed of through scrapping or sinking.

"(b) UPTAKE AND DISCHARGE OF BALLAST WATER OR SEDIMENT.—

"(1) PROHIBITION.—The operator of a vessel to which this section applies may not conduct the uptake or discharge of ballast water or sediment in waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States except as provided in this section.

"(2) EXCEPTIONS.—Paragraph (1) does not apply to the uptake or discharge of ballast water or sediment in the following circumstances:

"(A) The uptake or discharge is solely for the purpose of—

"(i) ensuring the safety of the vessel in an emergency situation; or

"(ii) saving a life at sea.

"(B) The uptake or discharge is accidental and the result of damage to the vessel or its equipment and—

"(i) all reasonable precautions to prevent or minimize ballast water and sediment discharge have been taken before and after the damage occurs, the discovery

of the damage, and the discharge; and

"(ii) the owner or officer in charge of the vessel did not willfully or recklessly cause the damage.

"(C) The uptake or discharge is solely for the purpose of avoiding or minimizing the discharge from the vessel of pollution that would otherwise violate applicable Federal or State law.

"(D) The uptake or discharge of ballast water and sediment occurs at the same location where the whole of that ballast water and that sediment originated and there is no mixing with ballast water and sediment from another area that has not been managed in accordance with the requirements of this section.

"(c) VESSEL BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The operator of a vessel to which this section applies shall

conduct all ballast water management operations of that vessel in accordance with a ballast water management plan designed to minimize the discharge of aquatic nuisance species that—

"(A) meets the requirements prescribed by the Secretary by regulation; and

"(B) is approved by the Secretary.

"(2) APPROVAL CRITERIA.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may not approve a ballast water management plan unless the Secretary determines that the plan—

"(i) describes in detail the actions to be taken to implement the ballast water management requirements established under this section;

"(ii) describes in detail the procedures to be used for disposal of sediment at sea and on shore in accordance with the requirements of this section;

"(iii) describes in detail safety procedures for the vessel and crew associated with ballast water management;

"(iv) designates the officer on board the vessel in charge of ensuring that the plan is properly implemented;

"(v) contains the reporting requirements for vessels established under this section and a copy of each form necessary to meet those requirements; and

"(vi) meets all other requirements prescribed by the Secretary.

"(B) FOREIGN VESSELS.—The Secretary may approve a ballast water management plan for a foreign vessel on the basis of a certificate of compliance with the criteria described in subparagraph (A) issued by the vessel's country of registration in accordance with regulations issued by the Secretary.

"(3) COPY OF PLAN ON BOARD VESSEL.—The owner or operator of a vessel to which this section applies shall—

"(A) maintain a copy of the vessel's ballast water management plan on board at all times; and

"(B) keep the plan readily available for examination by the Secretary and the head of the appropriate agency of the State in which the vessel is located at all reasonable times.

"(d) VESSEL BALLAST WATER RECORD BOOK.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The owner or operator of a vessel to which this section applies shall maintain, in English on board the vessel, a ballast water record book in which each operation of the vessel involving ballast water or sediment discharge is recorded in accordance with regulations issued by the Secretary.

"(2) AVAILABILITY.—The ballast water record book—

"(A) shall be kept readily available for examination by the Secretary

and the head of the appropriate agency of the State in which the vessel is located at all reasonable times; and

"(B) notwithstanding paragraph (1), may be kept on the towing vessel in the case of an unmanned vessel under tow.

"(3) RETENTION PERIOD.—The ballast water record book shall be retained—

"(A) on board the vessel for a period of 3 years after the date on which the last entry in the book is made; and

"(B) under the control of the vessel's owner for an additional period of 3 years.

"(4) REGULATIONS.—In the regulations issued under this section, the Secretary shall require, at a minimum, that—

"(A) each entry in the ballast water record book be signed and dated by the officer in charge of the ballast water operation recorded;

"(B) each completed page in the ballast water record book be signed

and dated by the master of the vessel; and

"(C) the owner or operator of the vessel transmit such information to the Secretary regarding the ballast operations of the vessel as the Secretary may require.

"(5) ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF RECORDKEEPING.—The Secretary may provide, by regulation, for alternative methods of recordkeeping, including electronic recordkeeping, to comply with the requirements of this subsection. Any electronic recordkeeping method authorized by the Secretary shall support the inspection and enforcement provisions of this Act and shall comply with applicable standards of the National Institute of Standards and Technology and the Office of Management and Budget governing reliability, integrity, identity authentication, and nonrepudiation of stored electronic data.

"(e) BALLAST WATER EXCHANGE REQUIREMENTS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—

1 *"(A) REQUIREMENT.—Until a vessel*
2 *is required to conduct ballast water*
3 *treatment in accordance with sub-*
4 *section (f), the operator of a vessel to*
5 *which this section applies may not*
6 *discharge ballast water in waters sub-*
7 *ject to the jurisdiction of the United*
8 *States, except after—*
9 *"(i) conducting ballast water*
10 *exchange as required by this sub-*
11 *section, in accordance with regu-*
12 *lations issued by the Secretary;*
13 *"(ii) using ballast water treat-*
14 *ment technology that meets the*
15 *performance standards of sub-*
16 *section (f); or*
17 *"(iii) using environmentally*
18 *sound alternative ballast water*
19 *treatment technology if the Sec-*
20 *retary determines that such treat-*
21 *ment technology is at least as ef-*
22 *fective as the ballast water ex-*
23 *change required by clause (i) in*
24 *preventing and controlling the in-*

troduction of aquatic nuisance species.

"(B) TECHNOLOGY EFFICACY.—For purposes of this paragraph, a ballast water treatment technology shall be considered to be at least as effective as the ballast water exchange required by clause (i) in preventing and controlling the introduction of aquatice nuisance species if preliminary experiments prior to installation of the technology aboard the vessel demonstrate that the technology removed or killed at least 98 percent of organisms larger than 50 microns.

"(2) GUIDANCE; 5-YEAR USAGE.—

"(A) GUIDANCE.—Not later than one year after the date of enactment of the Ballast Water Treatment Act of 2007, the Secretary shall develop and issue guidance on technology that may be used under paragraph (1)(A)(iii).

"(B) 5-YEAR USAGE.—The Secretary shall allow a vessel using environ-

mentally-sound alternative ballast treatment technology under paragraph (1)(A)(iii) to continue to use that technology for 5 years after the date on which the environmentally-sound alternative ballast water treatment technology was first placed in service on the vessel or the date on which treatment requirements under subsection (f) become applicable, whichever is later.

"(3) EXCHANGE AREAS.—

"(A) VESSELS OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES EEZ.—The operator of a vessel en route to a United States port or place from a port or place outside the waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States shall conduct ballast water exchange—

"(i) before arriving at a United States port or place;

"(ii) at least 200 nautical miles from the nearest point of land; and

"(iii) in water at least 200 meters in depth.

"(B) COASTAL VOYAGES.—The operator of a vessel originating from a port or place within the United States exclusive economic zone, or from a port within 200 nautical miles of the United States in Canada, Mexico, or other ports designated by the Secretary for purposes of this section, shall conduct ballast water exchange—

"(i) at least 50 nautical miles from the nearest point of land; and

"(ii) in water at least 200 meters in depth.

"(4) SAFETY OR STABILITY EXCEPTION.—

"(A) SECRETARIAL DETERMINATION.—Paragraph (3) does not apply to the discharge of ballast water if the Secretary determines that compliance with that paragraph would threaten the safety or stability of the vessel, its crew, or is passengers.

"(B) MASTER OF THE VESSEL DETERMINATION.—Paragraph (3) does not apply to the discharge of ballast water if the master of a vessel determines that compliance with that paragraph would threaten the safety or stability of the vessel, its crew, or its passengers because of adverse weather, equipment failure, or any other relevant condition.

"(C) NOTIFICATION REQUIRED.—Whenever the master of a vessel is unable to comply with the requirements of paragraph (3) because of a determination made under subparagraph (B), the master of the vessel shall—

"(i) notify the Secretary as soon as practicable thereafter but no later than 24 hours after making that determination and shall ensure that the determination, the reasons for the determination, and the notice are recorded in the vessel's ballast water record book; and

"(ii) undertake ballast water exchange in accordance with paragraph (6) if safety or stability concerns prevent undertaking ballast water exchange in the alternative area.

"(D) REVIEW OF CIRCUMSTANCES.—If the master of a vessel conducts a ballast water discharge under the provisions of this paragraph, the Secretary shall review the circumstances to determine whether the discharge met the requirements of this paragraph. The review under this clause shall be in addition to any other enforcement authority of the Secretary.

"(5) DISCHARGE UNDER WAIVER.—

"(A) SUBSTANTIAL BUSINESS HARDSHIP WAIVER.—If, because of the short length of a voyage, the operator of a vessel is unable to discharge ballast water in accordance with the requirements of paragraph (3)(B) without substantial business hardship, as determined under regulations issued by

the Secretary, the operator may request a waiver from the Secretary and discharge the ballast water in accordance with paragraph (6). A request for a waiver under this subparagraph shall be submitted to the Secretary at such time and in such form and manner as the Secretary may require.

"(B) SUBSTANTIAL BUSINESS HARDSHIP.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the factors taken into account in determining substantial business hardship shall include whether—

"(i) compliance with the requirements of paragraph (3)(B) would require a sufficiently great change in routing or scheduling of service as to compromise the economic or commercial viability of the trade or business in which the vessel is operated; or

"(ii) it is reasonable to expect that the trade or business or service provided will be continued

only if a waiver is granted under subparagraph (A).

"(6) PERMISSIBLE DISCHARGE.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The discharge of ballast water shall be considered to be carried out in accordance with this paragraph if it is—

"(i) in an area designated for that purpose by the Secretary, after consultation with the Under Secretary, the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies as determined by the Secretary, and representatives of any State that may be affected by discharge of ballast water in that area; or

"(ii) into a reception facility described in subsection (f)(2).

"(B) LIMITATION ON VOLUME.—The volume of any ballast water discharged under this paragraph may not exceed the volume necessary to ensure the safe operation of the vessel.

"(7) CERTAIN GEOGRAPHICALLY LIMITED ROUTES.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1),

the operator of a vessel is not required to comply with the requirements of this subsection—

"(A) if the vessel operates exclusively—

"(i) within the Great Lakes; or

"(ii) between or among the main group of the Hawaiian Islands; or

"(B) if the vessel operates exclusively within any area with respect to which the Secretary has determined, after consultation with the Under Secretary, the Administrator, and representatives of States the waters of which would be affected by the discharge of ballast water from the vessel, that the risk of introducing aquatic nuisance species through ballast water discharge in the areas in which the vessel operates is insignificant.

"(8) MARINE SANCTUARIES AND OTHER PROHIBITED AREAS.—A vessel may not conduct ballast water exchange or discharge ballast water under this subsection—

"(A) within a national marine sanctuary designated under of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act (16 U.S.C. 1431 et seq.);

"(B) in waters that are approved by the Administrator as a nondischarge zone under section 312(n)(7) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1322(n)(7)); or

"(C) in any other waters designated by the Secretary, in consultation with the Under Secretary and the Administrator.

"(9) VESSELS WITHOUT PUMPABLE BALLAST WATER.—

"(A) APPLICABILITY OF REQUIREMENTS.—Ballast water exchange requirements under this subsection shall apply to vessels that are equipped with ballast water tanks and that enter a port of the United States without pumpable ballast water.

"(B) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall issue regulations, not later than

180 days after the date of enactment of the Ballast Water Treatment Act of 2007, that are intended to minimize the introduction of nuisance species from vessels that enter the navigable waters without pumpable ballast water, including the requirements that apply under subparagraph (A), and that are at least as stringent as the regulations in effect on the date of enactment such Act.

"(C) APPLICATION OF EXISTING REGULATIONS.—The regulations issued by the Secretary under this section, as such regulations were in effect on the day before the date of enactment of the Ballast Water Treatment Act of 2007, shall continue to apply to vessels without pumpable ballast water entering or operating on the navigable waters until the earlier of—

"(i) the date on which such vessels are required to conduct ballast water treatment, in ac-

cordance with the requirements of subsection (f); or

"(ii) the effective date of final regulations required under this paragraph.

"(f) BALLAST WATER TREATMENT REQUIREMENTS.—

"(1) PERFORMANCE STANDARDS.—A vessel to which this section applies shall conduct ballast water treatment in accordance with the requirements of this subsection before discharging ballast water in waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States so that the ballast water discharged will contain—

"(A) less than 1 living organism per 10 cubic meters that is 50 or more micrometers in minimum dimension;

"(B) less than 1 living organism per 10 milliliters that is less than 50 micrometers in minimum dimension and more than 10 micrometers in minimum dimension;

"(C) concentrations of indicator microbes that are less than—

"(i) 1 colony-forming unit of toxicogenic Vibrio cholera (serotypes O1 and O139) per 100 milliliters or less than 1 colony-forming unit of that microbe per gram of wet weight of zoological samples;

"(ii) 126 colony-forming units of escherichia coli per 100 milliliters; and

"(iii) 33 colony-forming units of intestinal enterococci per 100 milliliters; and

"(D) concentrations of such additional indicator microbes as may be specified in regulations issued by the Secretary, after consultation with other appropriate Federal agencies as determined by the Secretary, that are less than the amount specified in those regulations.

"(2) RECEPTION FACILITY EXCEPTION.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) does not apply to a vessel that discharges ballast water into—

1 *"(i) a land-based facility for*
2 *the reception of ballast water that*
3 *meets standards issued by the Ad-*
4 *ministrator; or*
5 *"(ii) a water-based facility for*
6 *the reception of ballast water that*
7 *meets standards issued by the Sec-*
8 *retary.*
9 *"(B) ISSUANCE OF STANDARDS.—Not*
10 *later than one year after the date of*
11 *enactment of the Ballast Water Treat-*
12 *ment Act of 2007, the Secretary, in*
13 *consultation with the heads of other*
14 *appropriate Federal agencies as de-*
15 *termined by the Secretary, shall issue*
16 *standards for—*
17 *"(i) the reception of ballast*
18 *water in land-based and water-*
19 *based reception facilities; and*
20 *"(ii) the disposal or treatment*
21 *of such ballast water in a way*
22 *that does not impair or damage*
23 *the environment, human health,*
24 *property, or resources.*

1 *"(3) TREATMENT SYSTEM IMPLEMENTA-*
2 *TION.—Paragraph (1) applies to a vessel to*
3 *which this section applies beginning on*
4 *the date of the first dry-docking of the ves-*
5 *sel after December 31, 2008, but not later*
6 *than December 31, 2013.*
7 *"(4) TREATMENT SYSTEM APPROVAL RE-*
8 *QUIRED.—The operator of a vessel to which*
9 *this section applies may not use a ballast*
10 *water treatment system to comply with the*
11 *requirements of this subsection unless the*
12 *system is approved by the Secretary. The*
13 *Secretary shall issue regulations estab-*
14 *lishing a process for such approval, after*
15 *consultation with the heads of other ap-*
16 *propriate Federal agencies as determined*
17 *by the Secretary.*
18 *"(5) RELIANCE ON CERTAIN REPORTS,*
19 *DOCUMENTS, AND RECORDS.—In approving*
20 *a ballast water treatment system under*
21 *this subsection, the Secretary may rely on*
22 *reports, documents, and records of per-*
23 *sons that meet such requirements as the*
24 *Secretary may prescribe.*
25 *"(6) FEASIBILITY REVIEW.—*

1 *"(A) REQUIREMENT TO REVIEW.—The*
2 *Secretary shall periodically conduct a*
3 *review to determine whether appro-*
4 *priate technologies are available to*
5 *achieve the standards set forth in*
6 *paragraph (1). In reviewing tech-*
7 *nologies under this subparagraph, the*
8 *Secretary, after consultation with the*
9 *heads of other appropriate Federal*
10 *agencies as determined by the Sec-*
11 *retary, shall consider—*
12 *"(i) the effectiveness of a tech-*
13 *nology in achieving the standards;*
14 *"(ii) feasibility in terms of*
15 *compatibility with ship design*
16 *and operations;*
17 *"(iii) safety considerations;*
18 *"(iv) whether a technology has*
19 *an adverse impact on the environ-*
20 *ment; and*
21 *"(v) cost effectiveness.*
22 *"(B) DEADLINES.—The Secretary*
23 *shall—*
24 *"(i) complete an initial review*
25 *of technologies under subpara-*

graph (A) within 12 months after the date of the enactment of the Ballast Water Treatment Act of 2007; and

"(ii) carry out subsequent reviews of technologies under subparagraph (A) no later than 24 months after the date that the previous review was completed.

"(C) DELAY IN SCHEDULED APPLICATION.—If the Secretary determines, on the basis of the initial review or any subsequent review conducted under this paragraph, that compliance with the standards set forth in paragraph (1) is not feasible for any class of vessels, the Secretary shall—

"(i) delay the date on which such standards apply to that class of vessels for a period of not more than 24 months; and

"(ii) recommend action to ensure such compliance in accordance with the revised implementation schedule for that class of ves-

sels by the date established under clause (i).

"(7) DELAY OF APPLICATION FOR VESSEL PARTICIPATING IN PROMISING TECHNOLOGY EVALUATIONS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—If a vessel participates in a program, including the Shipboard Technology Evaluation Program established under section 1104, using a technology approved by the Secretary to test and evaluate promising ballast water treatment technologies that are likely to result in treatment technologies achieving a standard that is the same as or more stringent than the standard that applies under paragraph (1) before the first date on which paragraph (1) applies to that vessel, the Secretary shall allow the vessel to use that technology for a 10-year period and such vessel shall be deemed to be in compliance with the requirements of paragraph (1) during that 10-year period.

"(B) VESSEL DIVERSITY.—The Secretary—

"(i) shall seek to ensure that a wide variety of vessel types and voyages are included in the program; but

"(ii) may not grant a delay under this paragraph to more than 5 percent of the vessels to which this section applies.

"(C) TERMINATION OF GRACE PERIOD.—The Secretary may terminate the 10-year grace period of a vessel under subparagraph (A) if—

"(i) the participation of the vessel in the program is terminated without the consent of the Secretary;

"(ii) the vessel does not comply with manufacturer's standards for operating the ballast water treatment technology used on such vessel; or

"(iii) the Secretary determines that the approved technology is in-

sufficiently effective or is causing harm to the environment.

"(8) REVIEW OF STANDARDS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—In December 2012 and every third year thereafter, the Secretary shall complete review of ballast water treatment standards in effect under this subsection to determine, after consultation with the Administrator and the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies determined by the Secretary, if the standards under this subsection should be revised to reduce the amount of organisms or microbes allowed to be discharged, taking into account improvements in the scientific understanding of biological processes leading to the spread of aquatic nuisance species and improvements in ballast water treatment technology. The Secretary shall revise, by regulation, the requirements of this subsection as necessary.

1 *"(B) APPLICATION OF ADJUSTED*
2 *STANDARDS.—In the regulations, the*
3 *Secretary shall provide for the pro-*
4 *spective application of the adjusted*
5 *standards issued under this para-*
6 *graph to vessels constructed after the*
7 *date on which the adjusted standards*
8 *apply and for an orderly phase-in of*
9 *the adjusted standards to existing ves-*
10 *sels.*
11 *"(9) HIGH-RISK VESSELS.—*
12 *"(A) VESSEL LIST.—Not later than*
13 *one year after the date of enactment of*
14 *the Ballast Water Treatment Act of*
15 *2007, the Secretary shall publish and*
16 *regularly update a list of vessels iden-*
17 *tified by the States that, due to factors*
18 *such as the origin of their voyages, the*
19 *frequency of their voyages, the volume*
20 *of ballast water they carry, the bio-*
21 *logical makeup of the ballast water,*
22 *and the fact that they frequently dis-*
23 *charge ballast water under an excep-*
24 *tion to subsection (e), pose a high risk*

of introducing aquatic nuisance species into the waters of those States.

"(B) INCENTIVE PROGRAMS.—The Secretary shall give priority to vessels on the list for participation in a program described in paragraph (7). Any Federal agency, and any State agency with respect to vessels identified by such State to the Secretary for inclusion on a list under subparagraph (A), may develop and implement technology development programs or other incentives (whether positive or negative) in order to encourage the adoption of ballast water treatment technology by those vessels consistent with the requirements of this section on an expedited basis.

"(10) NONAPPLICABILITY OF VESSELS OPERATING EXCLUSIVELY IN DETERMINED AREA.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (D), paragraph (1) does not apply to a vessel that operates exclusively within an

1 *area if the Secretary has determined*
2 *through a rulemaking proceeding,*
3 *after consultation with the Adminis-*
4 *trator and the heads of other appro-*
5 *priate Federal agencies as determined*
6 *by the Secretary, and representatives*
7 *of States the waters of which could be*
8 *affected by the discharge of ballast*
9 *water from the vessel, that the risk of*
10 *introducing aquatic nuisance species*
11 *through ballast water discharge from*
12 *the vessel is insignificant.*
13 *"(B) CERTAIN VESSELS.—A vessel*
14 *constructed before January 1, 2001,*
15 *that operates exclusively within the*
16 *Great Lakes shall be presumed not to*
17 *pose a significant risk of introducing*
18 *aquatic nuisance species unless the*
19 *Secretary finds otherwise in a rule-*
20 *making proceeding under subpara-*
21 *graph (A).*
22 *"(C) BEST PRACTICES.—The Sec-*
23 *retary shall develop, and require a*
24 *vessel exempted from complying with*
25 *the requirements of paragraph (1)*

under this paragraph to follow, best practices to minimize the spreading of aquatic nuisance species in its operation area. The best practices shall be developed in consultation with the Governors of States that may be affected.

"(D) STOPPING THE SPREAD OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.—The Secretary, at the request of the Secretary of Agriculture, shall require a vessel to which paragraph (1) does not apply in accordance with subparagraph (A) to have a ballast water treatment system approved by the Secretary under this subsection to stop the spread of infectious diseases to plants and animals as otherwise authorized by law.

"(11) LABORATORIES.—The Secretary may use any Federal, non-Federal, or foreign laboratory that meets standards established by the Secretary for the purpose of evaluating and certifying ballast water treatment technologies that meet the requirements of this subsection.

1 *"(12) PROGRAM TO SUPPORT THE PRO-*
2 *MULGATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF STAND-*
3 *ARDS.—*
4 *"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary,*
5 *in coordination with the Under Sec-*
6 *retary, the Task Force and other ap-*
7 *propriate Federal agencies, shall*
8 *carry out a coordinated program to*
9 *support the promulgation and imple-*
10 *mentation of standards under this*
11 *subsection to prevent the introduction*
12 *and spread of aquatic invasive species*
13 *by vessels. The program established*
14 *under this section shall, at a min-*
15 *imum—*
16 *"(i) characterize physical,*
17 *chemical, and biological harbor*
18 *conditions relevant to ballast dis-*
19 *charge into United States waters*
20 *to inform the design and imple-*
21 *mentation of ship vector control*
22 *technologies and practices;*
23 *"(ii) develop testing protocols*
24 *for determining the effectiveness*
25 *of vessel vector monitoring and*

control technologies and practices;

"(iii) demonstrate methods for mitigating the spread of invasive species by coastal voyages, including exploring the effectiveness of alternative exchange zones in the near coastal areas and other methods proposed to reduce transfers of organisms;

"(iv) verify the practical effectiveness of any process for approving a type of alternative ballast water management as meeting standards established under this subsection, to ensure that the process produces repeatable and accurate assessments of treatment effectiveness; and

"(v) evaluate the effectiveness and residual risk and environmental impacts associated with any standard set with respect to the vessel pathways.

"(B) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In addition to other amounts authorized by this title, to carry out this paragraph there are authorized to be appropriated $1,500,000 to the Secretary and $1,500,000 to the Under Secretary for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

"(g) WARNINGS CONCERNING BALLAST WATER UPTAKE.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall notify vessel owners and operators of any area in waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States in which vessels may not uptake ballast water due to known conditions.

"(2) CONTENTS.—The notice shall include—

"(A) the coordinates of the area; and

"(B) if possible, the location of alternative areas for the uptake of ballast water.

"(h) SEDIMENT MANAGEMENT.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The operator of a vessel to which this section applies may not remove or dispose of sediment from spaces designed to carry ballast water, except—

"(A) in accordance with this subsection and the ballast water management plan approved under subsection (c); and

"(B)(i) more than 200 nautical miles from the nearest point of land; or

"(ii) into a reception facility that meets the requirements of paragraph (3).

"(2) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

"(A) NEW VESSELS.—After December 31, 2008, a vessel to which this section applies may not be operated on waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, unless that vessel is designed and constructed in accordance with regulations issued under subparagraph (C) and in a manner that—

"(i) minimizes the uptake and entrapment of sediment;

"(ii) facilitates removal of sediment; and

"(iii) provides for safe access for sediment removal and sampling.

"(B) EXISTING VESSELS.—A vessel to which this section applies that was constructed before January 1, 2009, shall be modified, to the extent practicable, at the first drydocking of the vessel after December 31 2008, but not later than December 31, 2013, to achieve the objectives described in subparagraph (A).

"(C) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall issue regulations establishing design and construction standards to achieve the objectives of subparagraph (A) and providing guidance for modifications and practices under subparagraph (B). The Secretary shall incorporate the standards and guidance in the regulations governing

the ballast water management plan approved under subsection (c).

"(3) SEDIMENT RECEPTION FACILITIES.—

"(A) STANDARDS.—The Secretary, in consultation with the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies as determined by the Secretary, shall issue regulations governing facilities for the reception of vessel sediment from spaces designed to carry ballast water that provide for the disposal of such sediment in a way that does not impair or damage the environment, human health, or property or resources of the disposal area.

"(B) DESIGNATION.—The Secretary, in consultation with the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies as determined by the Secretary shall designate facilities for the reception of vessel sediment that meet the requirements of the regulations issued under subparagraph (A) at ports and terminals where ballast tanks are cleaned or repaired.

"(i) EXAMINATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS.—

"(1) INITIAL EXAMINATION.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall examine vessels to which this section applies to determine whether—

"(i) there is a ballast water management plan for the vessel that is approved by the Secretary and a ballast water record book on the vessel that meets the requirements of subsection (d);

"(ii) the equipment used for ballast water and sediment management in accordance with the requirements of this section and the regulations issued under this section is installed and functioning properly.

"(B) NEW VESSELS.—For vessels constructed on or after January 1, 2009, the Secretary shall conduct the examination required by subparagraph (A) before the vessel is placed in service.

"(C) EXISTING VESSELS.—For vessels constructed before January 1, 2009, the Secretary shall—

"(i) conduct the examination required by subparagraph (A) before the date on which subsection (f)(1) applies to the vessel according to the schedule in subsection (f)(3); and

"(ii) inspect the vessel's ballast water record book required by subsection (d).

"(D) FOREIGN VESSEL.—In the case of a foreign vessel, the Secretary shall perform the examination required by this paragraph the first time the vessel enters a United States port.

"(2) SUBSEQUENT EXAMINATIONS.—In addition to the examination required by paragraph (1), the Secretary shall annually examine vessels to which this section applies, to ensure compliance with the requirements of this section and the regulations issued under this section.

"(3) INSPECTION AUTHORITY.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may carry out inspections of any vessel to which this section applies at any time, including the taking of ballast water samples, to ensure compliance with this section. The Secretary shall use all appropriate and practical measures of detection and environmental monitoring such vessels and shall establish adequate procedures for reporting violations of this section and accumulating evidence regarding such violations.

"(B) INVESTIGATIONS.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—Upon receipt of evidence that a violation of this section or a regulation issued under this section has occurred, the Secretary shall cause the matter to be investigated.

"(ii) ISSUANCE OF SUBPOENAS.—In an investigation under this subparagraph, the Secretary may issue subpoenas to require the attendance of any witness and the

production of documents and other evidence.

"(iii) COMPELLING COMPLIANCE WITH SUBPOENAS.—In case of refusal to obey a subpoena issued under this subparagraph, the Secretary may request the Attorney General to invoke the aid of the appropriate district court of the United States to compel compliance.

"(4) STATE PROGRAMS.—

"(A) SUBMISSION TO SECRETARY.—At any time after the date of issuance of ballast water treatment regulations issued under this section, the Governor of each State desiring to administer its own inspection and enforcement authority for ballast water discharges within its jurisdiction may submit to the Secretary a complete description of the program the Governor proposes to establish and administer under State law. In addition, the Governor shall submit a statement from

the attorney general that the laws of such State provide adequate authority to carry out the described program.

"(B) APPROVAL.—The Secretary shall approve a program submitted under subparagraph (A), unless the Secretary determines that adequate resources do not exist or, in the case of ballast water testing, that adequate scientific expertise does not exist—

"(i) to inspect, monitor, and board any vessel to which this section applies at any time, including the taking and testing of ballast water samples, to ensure the vessel's compliance with this section;

"(ii) to ensure that any ballast water discharged within the waters subject to the jurisdiction of the State meet the ballast water requirements of this section and the regulations issued under this section, including any revisions to such requirements and regulations;

"(iii) to establish adequate procedures for reporting violations of this section;

"(iv) to investigate and abate violations of this section, including civil and criminal penalties and other ways and means of enforcement; and

"(v) to ensure that the Secretary receives notice of each violation of the ballast water treatment requirements issued under this section in an expeditious manner.

"(C) SUSPENSION OF FEDERAL AUTHORITIES.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which a State submits a program (or revision thereof) under this paragraph, the Secretary shall suspend its authorities under subsections (k) and (l) in such State, unless the Secretary determines that the State program does not meet the requirements of this paragraph. If the Secretary so determines, the Secretary

shall notify the State of any revisions or modifications necessary to conform to such requirements.

"(D) COMPLIANCE.—Any State program approved under this paragraph shall at all times be conducted in accordance with this section and regulations issued under this section.

"(E) WITHDRAWAL OF APPROVAL.—Whenever the Secretary determines, after public hearing, that a State is not administering a program approved under this paragraph in accordance with this section and regulations issued under this section, the Secretary shall notify the State and, if appropriate corrective action is not taken within a reasonable period of time not to exceed 90 days, the Secretary shall withdraw approval of the program. The Secretary shall not withdraw approval of any program unless the Secretary shall first have notified the State, and made public,

in writing, the reasons for such withdrawal.

"(F) LIMITATION ON STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this paragraph shall limit the authority of the Secretary carry out inspections and investigations of any vessels under paragraph (3).

"(5) REQUIRED CERTIFICATE.—If, on the basis of an initial examination under paragraph (1), the Secretary finds that a vessel complies with the requirements of this section and the regulations issued under this section, the Secretary shall issue a certificate under this paragraph as evidence of such compliance. The certificate shall be valid for a period of not more than 5 years, as specified by the Secretary. The certificate or a true copy shall be maintained on board the vessel.

"(6) NOTIFICATION OF VIOLATIONS.—If the Secretary finds, on the basis of an examination under paragraph (1) or (2), investigation under paragraph (3), or any other information, that a vessel is being

operated in violation of any requirement of this section or regulation issued under this section, the Secretary shall—

"(A) notify, in writing—

"(i) the master of the vessel; and

"(ii) the captain of the port at the vessel's next port of call;

"(B) remove from the vessel the certificate issued under paragraph (5);

"(C) take such other action as may be appropriate.

"(7) COMPLIANCE MONITORING.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish, by regulation, sampling and other procedures to monitor compliance with the requirements of this section and the regulations issued under this section.

"(B) USE OF MARKERS.—The Secretary may verify compliance with the discharge requirements of subsection (f) and the regulations issued under this section with respect to such re-

quirements through identification of markers associated with a treatment technology's effectiveness, such as the presence of indicators associated with a certified treatment technology.

"(8) EDUCATION AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.—The Secretary may carry out education and technical assistance programs and other measures to promote compliance with the requirements of this section and the regulations issued under this section.

"(j) DETENTION OF VESSELS.—The Secretary, by notice to the owner, charterer, managing operator, agent, master, or other individual in charge of a vessel, may detain that vessel if the Secretary has reasonable cause to believe that—

"(1) the vessel is a vessel to which this section applies; and

"(2) the vessel does not comply with any requirement of this section or regulation issued under this section or is being operated in violation of such a requirement or regulation.

1 *"(k) SANCTIONS.—*

2 *"(1) CIVIL PENALTIES.—Any person who*
3 *violates this section (including a regula-*
4 *tion issued under this section) shall be*
5 *liable for a civil penalty in an amount not*
6 *to exceed $32,500. Each day of a con-*
7 *tinuing violation constitutes a separate*
8 *violation. A vessel operated in violation of*
9 *this section (including a regulation issued*
10 *under this section) is liable in rem for any*
11 *civil penalty assessed under this sub-*
12 *section for that violation.*

13 *"(2) CRIMINAL PENALTIES.—Whoever*
14 *knowingly violates this section (including*
15 *a regulation issued under this section)*
16 *shall be fined under title 18, United*
17 *States, or imprisoned not more than 12*
18 *years, or both.*

19 *"(3) REVOCATION OF CLEARANCE.—Ex-*
20 *cept as provided in subsection (j)(2), upon*
21 *request of the Secretary, the Secretary of*
22 *the Treasury shall withhold or revoke the*
23 *clearance of a vessel required by section*
24 *60105 of title 46, United States Code, if the*
25 *owner or operator of that vessel is in vio-*

lation of this section or a regulation issued under this section.

"(l) ENFORCEMENT.—

"(1) ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS.—If the Secretary finds, after notice and an opportunity for a hearing, that a person has violated this section or a regulation issued under this section, the Secretary may assess a civil penalty for that violation. In determining the amount of the civil penalty, the Secretary shall take into account the nature, circumstances, extent, and gravity of the prohibited acts committed and, with respect to the violator, the degree of culpability, any history of prior violations, and such other matters as justice may require.

"(2) CIVIL ACTIONS.—At the request of the Secretary, the Attorney General may bring a civil action in an appropriate district court of the United States to enforce this section or any regulation issued under this section. Any court before which such an action is brought may award appropriate relief, including temporary or

1 *permanent injunctions and civil pen-*
2 *alties.*
3 *"(m) CONSULTATION WITH CANADA, MEXICO,*
4 *AND OTHER FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS.—In devel-*
5 *oping the guidelines and regulations to be*
6 *issued under this section, the Secretary is en-*
7 *couraged to consult with the Government of*
8 *Canada, the Government of Mexico and any*
9 *other government of a foreign country that the*
10 *Secretary, after consultation with the Task*
11 *Force, determines to be necessary to develop*
12 *and implement an effective international pro-*
13 *gram for preventing the unintentional intro-*
14 *duction and spread of aquatic nuisance spe-*
15 *cies through ballast water.*
16 *"(n) INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.—The*
17 *Secretary, in cooperation with the Under Sec-*
18 *retary, the Secretary of State, the Adminis-*
19 *trator, the heads of other relevant Federal*
20 *agencies, the International Maritime Organi-*
21 *zation of the United Nations, and the Commis-*
22 *sion on Environmental Cooperation estab-*
23 *lished pursuant to the North American Free*
24 *Trade Agreement, is encouraged to enter into*
25 *negotiations with the governments of foreign*

1 ***countries to develop and implement an effec-***
2 ***tive international program for preventing the***
3 ***unintentional introduction and spread of***
4 ***aquatic invasive species. The Secretary is par-***
5 ***ticularly encouraged to seek bilateral or mul-***
6 ***tilateral agreements with Canada, Mexico,***
7 ***and other nations in the Wider Caribbean Re-***
8 ***gion (as defined in the Convention for the Pro-***
9 ***tection and Development of the Marine Envi-***
10 ***ronment of the Wider Caribbean, signed at***
11 ***Cartagena on March 24, 1983 (TIAF 11085)), to***
12 ***carry out the objectives of this section.***
13 ***"(o) NONDISCRIMINATION.—The Secretary***
14 ***shall ensure that foreign vessels do not receive***
15 ***more favorable treatment than vessels of the***
16 ***United States when the Secretary performs***
17 ***studies, reviews compliance, determines effec-***
18 ***tiveness, establishes requirements, or performs***
19 ***any other responsibilities under this Act.***
20 ***"(p) CONSULTATION WITH TASK FORCE.—The***
21 ***Secretary shall consult with the Task Force in***
22 ***carrying out this section.***
23 ***"(q) PREEMPTION.—***
24 ***"(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided***
25 ***in subsection (i)(4) but notwithstanding***

any other provision of law, the provisions of subsections (e) and (f) supersede any provision of State or local law that is inconsistent with the requirements of those subsections or that conflicts with the requirements of those subsections.

"(2) GREATER PENALTIES OR FEES.—For purpose of paragraph (1), the imposition by State or local law of greater penalties or fees for acts or omissions that are violations of such law and also violations of this Act or the imposition by a State of incentives under subsection (f)(9)(B) shall not be considered to be inconsistent, or to conflict, with the requirements of subsections (e) and (f).

"(3) RECEPTION FACILITIES.—The standards issued by the Secretary or the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies under subsection (f)(2) do not supersede any more stringent standard under any otherwise applicable Federal, State, or local law.

1 *"(r) COAST GUARD REPORT ON OTHER*
2 *SOURCES OF VESSEL-BOURNE NUISANCE SPE-*
3 *CIES.—*
4 *"(1) IN GENERAL.—*
5 *"(A) HULL-FOULING AND OTHER VES-*
6 *SEL SOURCES.—Not later than 180 days*
7 *after the date of enactment of the Bal-*
8 *last Water Treatment Act of 2007, the*
9 *Secretary shall transmit a report to*
10 *the Committee on Commerce, Science,*
11 *and Transportation of the Senate and*
12 *the Committee on Transportation and*
13 *Infrastructure of the House of Rep-*
14 *resentatives on vessel-related path-*
15 *ways of harmful aquatic organisms*
16 *and pathogens other than ballast*
17 *water and sediment, including vessel*
18 *hulls and equipment, and from vessels*
19 *equipped with ballast tanks that*
20 *carry no ballast water on board.*
21 *"(B) BEST PRACTICES.—*
22 *"(i) IN GENERAL.—As soon as*
23 *practicable, the Secretary shall*
24 *develop best practices standards*
25 *and procedures designed to reduce*

1 *the introduction and spread of*
2 *invasive species into and within*
3 *the United States from vessels and*
4 *establish a timeframe for imple-*
5 *mentation of those standards and*
6 *procedures by vessels. Such stand-*
7 *ards and procedures shall include*
8 *designation of geographical loca-*
9 *tions for uptake and discharge of*
10 *untreated ballast water, as well as*
11 *standards and procedure for other*
12 *vessel pathways of aquatic*
13 *invasive species.*
14 *"(ii) REPORT.—The Secretary*
15 *shall transmit a report to the com-*
16 *mittees referred to in subpara-*
17 *graph (A) describing the stand-*
18 *ards and procedures developed*
19 *under this subparagraph and the*
20 *implementation timeframe, to-*
21 *gether with such recommenda-*
22 *tions as the Secretary determines*
23 *appropriate.*
24 *"(iii) REGULATIONS.—The Sec-*
25 *retary may issue regulations to in-*

corporate and enforce standards and procedures developed under this paragraph.

"(2) TRANSITING VESSELS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Ballast Water Treatment Act of 2007, the Secretary shall transmit a report to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives containing—

"(A) an assessment of the magnitude and potential adverse impacts of ballast water operations from foreign vessels designed, adapted, or constructed to carry ballast water that are transiting waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States; and

"(B) recommendations, including legislative recommendations if appropriate, of options for addressing ballast water operations of those vessels.".

1 ***(b) DEFINITIONS.—Section 1003 of the Non-***
2 ***indigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and***
3 ***Control Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 4702) is amend-***
4 ***ed—***
5 ***(1) by redesignating—***
6 ***(A) paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) as***
7 ***paragraphs (2), (3), and (4), respec-***
8 ***tively;***
9 ***(B) paragraphs (4), (5), and (6) as***
10 ***paragraphs (8), (9), and (10), respec-***
11 ***tively;***
12 ***(C) paragraphs (7), (8), (9), and***
13 ***(10) as paragraphs (12), (13), (14), and***
14 ***(15), respectively;***
15 ***(D) paragraphs (11) and (12) as***
16 ***paragraphs (17) and (18), respectively;***
17 ***(E) paragraphs (13), (14), and (15)***
18 ***as paragraphs (20), (21), and (22), re-***
19 ***spectively;***
20 ***(F) paragraph (16) as paragraph***
21 ***(27); and***
22 ***(G) paragraph (17) as paragraph***
23 ***(23);***

(2) by moving paragraph (23), as so redesignated, after paragraph (22), as so redesignated;

(3) by inserting before paragraph (2), as so redesignated, the following:

"(1) 'Administrator' means the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency;";

(4) by striking paragraph (4), as so redesignated, and inserting the following:

"(4) 'ballast water' means—

"(A) water taken on board a vessel to control trim, list, draught, stability, or stresses of the vessel, including matter suspended in such water; or

"(B) any water placed into a ballast tank during cleaning, maintenance, or other operations;";

(5) by inserting after paragraph (4), as so redesignated and amended, the following:

"(5) 'ballast water capacity' means the total volumetric capacity of any tanks, spaces, or compartments on a vessel that is used for carrying, loading, or dis-

charging ballast water, including any multi-use tank, space, or compartment designed to allow carriage of ballast water;

"(6) 'ballast water management' means mechanical, physical, chemical, and biological processes used, either singularly or in combination, to remove, render harmless, or avoid the uptake or discharge of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens within ballast water and sediment;

"(7) 'constructed' means a state of construction of a vessel at which—

"(A) the keel is laid;

"(B) construction identifiable with the specific vessel begins;

"(C) assembly of the vessel has begun comprising at least 50 tons or 1 percent of the estimated mass of all structural material of the vessel, whichever is less; or

"(D) the vessel undergoes a major conversion;";

(6) by inserting after paragraph (10), as so redesignated, the following:

"(11) 'foreign vessel' has the meaning such term has under section 110 of title 46, United States Code;";

(7) by inserting after paragraph (15), as so redesignated, the following:

"(16) 'major conversion' means a conversion of a vessel, that—

"(A) changes its ballast water carrying capacity by at least 15 percent;

"(B) changes the vessel class;

"(C) is projected to prolong the vessel's life by at least 10 years (as determined by the Secretary); or

"(D) results in modifications to the vessel's ballast water system, except—

"(i) component replacement-in-kind; or

"(ii) conversion of a vessel to meet the requirements of section 1101(e);";

(8) by inserting after paragraph (18), as so redesignated, the following:

"(19) 'sediment' means matter that has settled out of ballast water within a vessel;";

(9) in paragraph (12), as so redesignated, by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(10) by inserting after paragraph (23), as so redesignated and moved, the following:

"(24) 'United States port' means a port, river, harbor, or offshore terminal under the jurisdiction of the United States, including ports located in Puerto Rico, Guam, and the United States Virgin Islands;

"(25) 'vessel of the Armed Forces' means—

"(A) any vessel owned or operated by the Department of Defense, other than a time or voyage chartered vessel; and

"(B) any vessel owned or operated by the Department of Homeland Security that is designated by the Sec-

retary as a vessel equivalent to a vessel described in subparagraph (A);

"(26) 'vessel of the United States' has the meaning such term has under section 116 of title 46, United States Code;";

(11) in paragraph (23), as so redesignated, by striking the period at the end and inserting ";"; and

(12) by inserting after paragraph (27), as so redesignated and amended, the following:

"(28) 'waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States' means navigable waters and the territorial sea of the United States, the exclusive economic zone, and the Great Lakes.".

(c) REPEAL OF SECTION 1103.—Section 1103 of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 4713) is repealed.

(d) INTERIM FINAL RULE.—The Secretary shall issue an interim final rule as a temporary regulation implementing the amendments made by this section as soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this sec-

tion, without regard to the provisions of chapter 5 of title 5, United States Code. All regulations issued under the authority of this subsection that are not earlier superseded by final regulations shall expire not later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 504. NATIONAL BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT INFORMATION.

Section 1102 (16 U.S.C. 4712) is amended—

(1) by adding at the end the following:

"(g) BALLAST WATER SURVEYS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct the following ballast water surveys:

"(A) A survey of the number of living organisms in untreated ballast water of a representative number of vessels, as determined by the Secretary.

"(B) A survey of the number of living organisms in the ballast water of a representative number of vessels, as determined by the Secretary, that has been exchanged on the high seas.

"(C) Surveys of the number of living organisms in the ballast water of vessels that are participating in a program to test and evaluate promising ballast water treatment, as approved by the Secretary.

"(2) REPORTS.—The Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate—

"(A) a report on the results of the surveys under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1) by not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of the Ballast Water Treatment Act of 2007; and

"(B) a report on the results of the surveys required under subparagraph (C) of paragraph (1) upon completion of each demonstration concerned.";

(2) in subsection (b)(1)(B)(ii), by striking "guidelines issued and";

(3) in subsection (b)(2)(B)(ii), by striking "voluntary guidelines issued, and regulations promulgated," and inserting "regulations promulgated";

(4) in subsection (c)(1), by striking "section 1101(b)" and inserting "section 1101(a)"; and

(5) in subsection (f)(1)(B), by striking "guidelines issued pursuant to section 1101(c)" and inserting "regulations issued pursuant to section 1101".

SEC. 505. BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT EVALUATION AND DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.

Section 1104 (16 U.S.C. 4714) is amended—

(1) by striking the section heading and inserting the following:

"SEC. 1104. BALLAST WATER TREATMENT TECHNOLOGY EVALUATION AND DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS.";

(2) by striking subsection (a);

(3) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (a);

(4) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d);

(5) in subsection (a), as so redesignated—

(A) by striking so much as precedes paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

"(a) SHIPBOARD TECHNOLOGY EVALUATION PROGRAM.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a Shipboard Technology Evaluation Program to evaluate alternative ballast water management methods aboard vessels to prevent aquatic nuisance species from being introduced into and spread through discharges of ballast water in waters of the United States."; and

(B) in paragraph (2) by striking "of the technologies and practices used in the demonstration program" and inserting "of alternative ballast water management methods used in the program";

(6) in subsection (a)(3), as so redesignated, by striking "technologies and practices" and all that follows through

"shall—" and inserting "ballast water treatment technologies on vessels under this subsection, the Secretary shall—";

(7) in subsection (a)(3)(A), as so redesignated, by striking clause (i) and by redesignating clauses (ii) and (iii) in order as clauses (i) and (ii);

(8) by amending subsection (a)(3)(A)(i), as so redesignated, to read as follows:

"(i) have ballast water systems conducive to testing aboard the vessel; and";

(9) by amending subsection (a)(3)(C), as so redesignated, to read as follows:

"(C) seek to use a variety of vessel types.";

(10) by amending subsection (a)(4), as so redesignated, to read as follows:

"(4) SELECTION OF ALTERNATIVE BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT METHODS.—In order for a ballast water treatment technology to be eligible to be installed on vessels for evaluation under this section, such technology must be, at a minimum—

"(A) determined by the Secretary to have the demonstrated potential to reduce the number of organisms greater than or equal to 50 microns in minimum dimension in discharged ballast water to fewer than 10 living organisms per cubic meter of water;

"(B) cost-effective;

"(C) environmentally sound;

"(D) operationally practical;

"(E) able to be retrofitted on existing vessels or incorporated in new vessel design (or both);

"(F) safe for a vessel and crew; and

"(G) accessible to monitoring.";

(11) in subsection (a), as so redesignated, by adding at the end the following:

"(6) AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY TO REVIEW AND REVISE CRITERIA.—The Secretary may review and revise the criteria described in paragraph (4)(A) to require ballast water treatment technologies to meet a more stringent ballast water discharge standard, including standards

promulgated under section 1101(f), before being eligible for installation aboard vessels under the program.";

(12) by inserting after subsection (a), as so redesignated, the following:

"(b) SHIPBOARD TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Under Secretary, with the concurrence of and in cooperation with the Secretary, shall conduct a program to demonstrate ballast water treatment technologies evaluated aboard vessels under subsection (a) to prevent aquatic nuisance species from being introduced into and spread through ballast water in waters of the United States.

"(2) LOCATION.—The installation and construction of ballast water treatment technologies used in the demonstration program under this subsection shall be performed in the United States.

"(3) VESSEL ELIGIBILITY.—Vessels eligible to participate in the demonstration program under this subsection shall con-

sist only of vessels that have been accepted into and are actively participating in the Shipboard Technology Evaluation Program under subsection (a).

"(4) GRANTS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Under Secretary shall establish a grant program to provide funding for acquiring, installing, and operating ballast water treatment technologies aboard vessels participating in the program under this subsection.

"(B) MATCHING REQUIREMENTS.—The amount of Federal funds used for any demonstration project under this subsection—

"(i) shall not exceed $1,000,000; and

"(ii) shall not exceed 50 percent of the total cost of such project.

"(c) ALTERNATIVE SHIP PATHWAY PROGRAM.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Under Secretary, with the concurrence of and in co-

operation with the Secretary, shall conduct a program to demonstrate and verify technologies and practices to monitor and control the introduction of aquatic invasive species by ship pathways other than the release of ballast water.

"(2) SELECTION OF METHODS.—The Under Secretary may not select technologies and practices for demonstration or verification under paragraph (1) unless such technologies and practices, in the determination of the Under Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary, meet the criteria outlined in subparagraphs (B) through (G) of subsection (a)(4).

"(3) LOCATION.—The installation and construction of technologies and practices for demonstration and verification under this subsection shall be performed in the United States."; and

(13) in subsection (d), as so redesignated, by striking "Secretary of the Interior" each place it appears and inserting "Secretary, in consultation with the Under Secretary,".

SEC. 506. RAPID RESPONSE PLAN.

Subtitle C of title I of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 4721 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"SEC. 1210. RAPID RESPONSE PLAN.

"(a) PREPARATION BY PRESIDENT.—The President shall prepare and publish a national rapid response plan for killing, removing, or minimizing the spread of aquatic nuisance species in the waters of the United States in accordance with this section.

"(b) CONTENTS.—The national rapid response plan shall provide for efficient, coordinated, and effective action to minimize damage from aquatic nuisance species in the navigable waters of the United States, including killing, containing, and removal of the aquatic nuisance species, and shall include the following:

"(1) Assignment of duties and responsibilities among Federal departments and agencies in coordination with State and local agencies and port authorities and private entities.

"(2) Identification, procurement, maintenance, and storage of equipment and supplies needed to facilitate the killing, containment, and removal of aquatic nuisance species under this section.

"(3) Establishment or designation by the President of Federal aquatic nuisance species response teams, consisting of—

"(A) personnel who shall be trained and prepared by the President and shall be available to provide necessary services to carry out the national rapid response plan;

"(B) adequate equipment and material needed to facilitate the killing, containment, and removal of aquatic nuisance species under this section; and

"(C) a detailed plans to kill, contain, and remove aquatic nuisance species, including measures to protect fisheries and wildlife.

"(4) A system of surveillance and notice designed to safeguard against, as well as ensure earliest possible notice of,

the introduction of aquatic nuisance species and imminent threats of such introduction to the appropriate State and Federal agencies.

"(5) Establishment by the President of a national center to provide coordination and direction for operations in carrying out the plan.

"(6) Procedures and techniques to be employed in identifying, containing, killing, and removing aquatic nuisance species in the waters of the United States.

"(7) A schedule, prepared by the President in cooperation with the States, identifying—

"(A) mitigating devices and substances, if any, that may be used in carrying out the plan;

"(B) the waters in which such mitigating devices and substances may be used; and

"(C) the quantities of such mitigating device or substance which can be used safely in such waters.

"(8) A system whereby the State or States affected by an aquatic nuisance species may act where necessary to remove such species.

"(9) Establishment by the President of criteria and procedures to ensure immediate and effective Federal identification of, and response to, an introduction of aquatic nuisance species.

"(10) Designation by the President of the Federal official who shall be the Federal on-scene coordinator for measures taken to kill, contain, and remove aquatic nuisance species under this section.

"(11) A fish and wildlife response plan for the immediate and effective protection, rescue, and rehabilitation of, and the minimization of risk of damage to, fish and wildlife resources and their habitat that are harmed or that may be jeopardized by an introduction of an aquatic nuisance species.

"(c) FEDERAL REMOVAL AUTHORITY.—

"(1) REMOVAL REQUIREMENT.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The President shall ensure, in accordance with the national rapid response plan, effective and immediate killing, containing, and removal of the aquatic nuisance species in the waters of the United States.

"(B) DISCRETIONARY AUTHORITY.—In carrying out this paragraph, the President may—

"(i) kill, contain, and remove an aquatic nuisance species, at any time; and

"(ii) direct or monitor all Federal, State, and private actions to kill, contain, and remove the aquatic nuisance species.

"(2) ACTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH NATIONAL RAPID RESPONSE PLAN.—Each Federal agency, State, owner or operator, or other person participating in efforts under this subsection shall act in accordance with the national rapid response plan or as directed by the President to carry out the plan.".

SEC. 507. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 1301(a) of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 4741(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking "and" after the semicolon in paragraph (4)(B);

(2) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (5)(B) and inserting a semicolon; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(6) $20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012 to the Secretary to carry out section 1101;

"(7) $500,000 to the Secretary for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2013 to carry out section 1102(f);

"(8) $6,000,000 to the Under Secretary for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2013 to carry out paragraph (4) of section 1104(b); and

"(9) $1,500,000 to the Under Secretary for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2013 to carry out section 1104(c).".

TITLE VI—ALIEN SMUGGLING

SEC. 601. MARITIME LAW ENFORCEMENT.

(a) PENALTIES.—Subsection (b) of section 2237 of title 18, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"(b)(1) Whoever intentionally violates this section shall, unless the offense is described in paragraph (2), be fined under this title or imprisoned for not more than 5 years, or both.

"(2) If the offense—

"(A) is committed in the course of a violation of section 274 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (alien smuggling); chapter 77 (peonage, slavery, and trafficking in persons), section 111 (shipping), 111A (interference with vessels), 113 (stolen property), or 117 (transportation for illegal sexual activity) of this title; chapter 705 (maritime drug law enforcement) of title 46, or title II of the Act of June 15, 1917 (Chapter 30; 40 Stat. 220), the offender shall be fined under this title or imprisoned for not more than 10 years, or both;

"(B) results in serious bodily injury (as defined in section 1365 of this title) or transportation under inhumane conditions, the offender shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 15 years, or both; or

"(C) results in death or involves kidnaping, an attempt to kidnap, the conduct required for aggravated sexual abuse (as defined in section 2241 without regard to where it takes place), or an attempt to commit such abuse, or an attempt to kill, be fined under such title or imprisoned for any term of years or life, or both.".

(b) LIMITATION ON NECESSITY DEFENSE.—Section 2237(c) of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting "(1)" after "(c)";

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(2) In a prosecution for a violation of this section, no defense based on necessity can be raised unless the defendant—

"(A) as soon as practicable upon reaching shore, delivered the person with respect to which the necessity arose to

emergency medical or law enforcement personnel;

"(B) as soon as practicable, reported to the Coast Guard the circumstances of the necessity resulting giving rise to the defense; and

"(C) did not bring, attempt to bring, or in any manner intentionally facilitate the entry of any alien, as that term is defined in section 101(a)(3) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 (a)(3)), into the land territory of the United States without lawful authority, unless exigent circumstances existed that placed the life of that alien in danger, in which case the reporting requirement of subparagraph (B) is satisfied by notifying the Coast Guard as soon as practicable after delivering that person to emergency medical or law enforcement personnel ashore.".

(c) DEFINITION.—Section 2237(e) of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking "and" at the end of paragraph (3);

1 *(2) by striking the period at the end of*
2 *paragraph (4) and inserting "; and"; and*
3 *(3) by adding at the end the following:*
4 *"(5) the term 'transportation under in-*
5 *humane conditions' means the transpor-*
6 *tation of persons in an engine compart-*
7 *ment, storage compartment, or other con-*
8 *fined space, transportation at an exces-*
9 *sive speed, transportation of a number of*
10 *persons in excess of the rated capacity of*
11 *the means of transportation, or inten-*
12 *tionally grounding a vessel in which per-*
13 *sons are being transported.".*

14 *SEC. 602. AMENDMENT TO THE SENTENCING GUIDELINES.*

15 *(a) IN GENERAL.—Pursuant to its authority*
16 *under section 994 of title 28, United States*
17 *Code, and in accordance with this section, the*
18 *United States Sentencing Commission shall re-*
19 *view and, if appropriate, amend the sen-*
20 *tencing guidelines and policy statements ap-*
21 *plicable to persons convicted of alien smug-*
22 *gling offenses and criminal failure to heave to*
23 *or obstruction of boarding.*

1 *(b) CONSIDERATIONS.—In carrying out this*
2 *subsection, the Sentencing Commission,*
3 *shall—*
4 *(1) consider providing sentencing en-*
5 *hancements or stiffening existing en-*
6 *hancements for those convicted of offenses*
7 *described in paragraph (1) of this sub-*
8 *section that—*
9 *(A) involve a pattern of continued*
10 *and flagrant violations;*
11 *(B) are part of an ongoing com-*
12 *mercial organization or enterprise;*
13 *(C) involve aliens who were trans-*
14 *ported in groups of 10 or more;*
15 *(D) involve the transportation or*
16 *abandonment of aliens in a manner*
17 *that endangered their lives; or*
18 *(E) involve the facilitation of ter-*
19 *rorist activity; and*
20 *(2) consider cross-references to the*
21 *guidelines for Criminal Sexual Abuse and*
22 *Attempted Murder.*
23 *(c) EXPEDITED PROCEDURES.—The Commis-*
24 *sion may promulgate the guidelines or amend-*
25 *ments under this subsection in accordance*

with the procedures set forth in section 21(a) of the Sentencing Act of 1987, as though the authority under that Act had not expired.

TITLE VII—MISCELLANEOUS HOMELAND SECURITY PROVISIONS

SEC. 701. MARITIME HOMELAND SECURITY PUBLIC AWARENESS PROGRAM.

The Secretary of Homeland Security shall establish a program to help prevent acts of terrorism and other activity that jeopardizes maritime homeland security, by seeking the cooperation of the commercial and recreational boating industries and the public to improve awareness of activity in the maritime domain and report suspicious and unusual activity.

SEC. 702. TRANSPORTATION WORKER IDENTIFICATION CREDENTIAL.

(a) ASSESSMENT OF TWIC PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after implementing the Transportation Worker Identification Credential program (in this section referred to as "TWIC") at the ten ports designated top

1 ***priority by the Secretary of Homeland Se-***
2 ***curity, as required by section***
3 ***70105(i)(2)(A) of title 46, United States***
4 ***Code, the Secretary shall submit to the***
5 ***Committee on Homeland Security of the***
6 ***House of Representatives, the Committee***
7 ***on Transportation and Infrastructure of***
8 ***the House of Represetatives, the Com-***
9 ***mittee on Commerce, Science, and Trans-***
10 ***portation of the Senate, and the Com-***
11 ***mittee on Homeland Security and Govern-***
12 ***mental Affairs of the Senate and to the***
13 ***Comptroller General of the United States***
14 ***a report containing an assessment of the***
15 ***progress of the program's implementation.***
16 ***The report shall include—***
17 ***(A) the number of workers en-***
18 ***rolled in the program to date and the***
19 ***extent to which key metrics and con-***
20 ***tract requirements have been met; and***
21 ***(B) an overview of the challenges***
22 ***encountered during implementation of***
23 ***the enrollment process, and plans for***
24 ***how these challenges will be ad-***

dressed as the program is implemented at additional ports.

(2) GAO ASSESSMENT.—The Comptroller General shall review the report and submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Represetatives, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate an assessment of the report's findings and recommendations.

(b) ASSESSMENT OF TWIC PILOT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after completing the pilot program under section 70105(k)(1) of title 46, United States Code, to test TWIC access control technologies at port facilities and vessels nationwide, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the

House of Represetatives, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and to the Comptroller General a report containing an assessment of the results of the pilot. The report shall include—

(A) the findings of the pilot program with respect to key technical and operational aspects of implementing TWIC technologies in the maritime sector;

(B) a comprehensive listing of the extent to which established metrics were achieved during the pilot program; and

(C) an analysis of the viability of those technologies for use in the marine environment, including any challenges to implementing those technologies and strategies for mitigating identified challenges.

(2) GAO ASSESSMENT.—The Comptroller General shall review the report

and submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Represetatives, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate an assessment of the report's findings and recommendations.

SEC. 703. STUDY TO IDENTIFY REDUNDANT BACKGROUND RECORDS CHECKS.

(a) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study comparing those background records checks required under section 70105 of title 46, United States Code, and those conducted by States for similar homeland security purposes.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit a report to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Represetatives, the Com-

mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate on the results of the study, including—

(1) an identification of redundancies and inefficiencies in connection with such checks referred to in subsection (a); and

(2) recommendations for eliminating such redundancies and inefficiencies.

SEC. 704. REVIEW OF INTERACENCY OPERATIONAL CENTERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Within 180 days of enactment of this Act, the Department of Homeland Security Inspector General shall provide a report to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate concerning the establishment of Interagency Operational Centers for Port Security required by section 108 of the SAFE Port Act (Public Law 109–347).

(b) REPORT.—The report shall include—

1 *(1) an examination of the Depart-*
2 *ment's efforts to establish the Interagency*
3 *Operational Centers;*
4 *(2) a timeline for construction;*
5 *(3) a detailed breakdown, by center,*
6 *as to the incorporation of those represent-*
7 *atives required by section 70107A(b)(3) of*
8 *title 46, United States Code;*
9 *(4) an analysis of the hurdles faced by*
10 *the Department in developing these cen-*
11 *ters;*
12 *(5) information on the number of secu-*
13 *rity clearances attained by State, local,*
14 *and tribal officials participating in the*
15 *program; and*
16 *(6) an examination of the relationship*
17 *between the Interagency Operational Cen-*
18 *ters and State, local and regional fusion*
19 *centers participating in the Department*
20 *of Homeland Security's State, Local, and*
21 *Regional Fusion Center Initiative under*
22 *section 511 of the Implementing the Rec-*
23 *ommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act*
24 *of 2007 (Public Law 110–53), with a par-*
25 *ticular emphasis on—*

1 *(A) how the centers collaborate*
2 *and coordinate their efforts; and*
3 *(B) the resources allocated by the*
4 *Coast Guard to both initiatives.*

5 *SEC. 705. MARITIME SECURITY RESPONSE TEAMS.*

6 *(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 70106 of title 46,*
7 *United States Code, is amended by striking*
8 *subsection (c) and inserting the following:*

9 *"(c) MARITIME SECURITY RESPONSE TEAMS.—*

10 *"(1) IN GENERAL.—In addition to the*
11 *maritime safety and security teams, the*
12 *Secretary shall establish no less than two*
13 *maritime security response teams to act as*
14 *the Coast Guard's rapidly deployable*
15 *counterterrorism and law enforcement re-*
16 *sponse units that can apply advanced*
17 *interdiction skills in response to threats*
18 *of maritime terrorism.*

19 *"(2) MINIMIZATION OF RESPONSE TIME.—*
20 *The maritime security response teams*
21 *shall be stationed in such a way to mini-*
22 *mize, to the extent practicable, the re-*
23 *sponse time to any reported maritime ter-*
24 *rorist threat.*

1 *"(d) COORDINATION WITH OTHER AGEN-*
2 *CIES.—To the maximum extent feasible, each*
3 *maritime safety and security team and mari-*
4 *time security response team shall coordinate*
5 *its activities with other Federal, State, and*
6 *local law enforcement and emergency response*
7 *agencies.".*

8 *SEC. 706. COAST GUARD DETECTION CANINE TEAM PRO-*
9 *GRAM EXPANSION.*

10 *(a) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this sec-*
11 *tion:*

12 *(1) CANINE DETECTION TEAM.—The term*
13 *"detection canine team" means a canine*
14 *and a canine handler that are trained to*
15 *detect narcotics or explosives, or other*
16 *threats as defined by the Secretary.*

17 *(2) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary"*
18 *means the Secretary of Homeland Secu-*
19 *rity.*

20 *(b) DETECTION CANINE TEAMS.—*

21 *(1) INCREASED CAPACITY.—Not later*
22 *than 240 days after the date of enactment*
23 *of this Act, the Secretary shall—*

24 *(A) begin to increase the number*
25 *of detection canine teams certified by*

1 *the Coast Guard for the purposes of*
2 *maritime-related security by no fewer*
3 *than 10 canine teams annually*
4 *through fiscal year 2012; and*
5 *(B) encourage owners and opera-*
6 *tors of port facilities, passenger cruise*
7 *liners, oceangoing cargo vessels, and*
8 *other vessels identified by the Sec-*
9 *retary to strengthen security through*
10 *the use of highly trained detection ca-*
11 *nine teams.*
12 *(2) CANINE PROCUREMENT.—The Sec-*
13 *retary, acting through the Commandant*
14 *of the Coast Guard, shall—*
15 *(A) procure detection canine*
16 *teams as efficiently as possible, in-*
17 *cluding, to the greatest extent pos-*
18 *sible, through increased domestic*
19 *breeding, while meeting the perform-*
20 *ance needs and criteria established by*
21 *the Commandant;*
22 *(B) support expansion and up-*
23 *grading of existing canine training*
24 *facilities operated by the department*

in which the Coast Guard is operating; and

(C) as appropriate, partner with other Federal, State, or local agencies, nonprofit organizations, universities, or the private sector to increase the breeding and training capacity for Coast Guard canine detection teams.

(c) DEPLOYMENT.—The Secretary shall prioritize deployment of the additional canine teams to ports based on risk, consistent with the Security and Accountability For Every Port Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–347).

(d) AUTHORIZATION.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary such sums as may be necessary to carry out this section for fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

SEC. 707. COAST GUARD PORT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

Section 70110 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(f) COAST GUARD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may lend, lease, donate, or otherwise provide equipment, and provide technical train-

ing and support, to the owner or operator of a foreign port or facility—

"(A) to assist in bringing the port or facility into compliance with applicable International Ship and Port Facility Code standards;

"(B) to assist the port or facility in meeting standards established under section 70109A of this chapter; and

"(C) to assist the port or facility in exceeding the standards described in subparagraphs (A) and (B).

"(2) CONDITIONS.—The Secretary—

"(A) shall provide such assistance based upon an assessment of the risks to the security of the United States and the inability of the owner or operator of the port or facility otherwise to bring the port or facility into compliance with those standards and to maintain compliance with them;

"(B) may not provide such assistance unless the port or facility has been subjected to a comprehensive port security assessment by the Coast

Guard or a third party entity certified by the Secretary under section 70110A(b) to validate foreign port or facility compliance with International Ship and Port Facility Code standards; and

"(C) may only lend, lease, or otherwise provide equipment that the Secretary has first determined is not required by the Coast Guard for the performance of its missions.".

SEC. 708. HOMELAND SECURITY IMPACT REVIEW OF LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS FACILITIES.

(a) REQUIREMENT OF APPROVAL.—No Federal agency shall license, approve, or otherwise authorize the construction, expansion, or operation of an offshore or waterfront facility for the transfer of liquefied natural gas from ships to land or from land to ships unless the Secretary of Homeland Security has approved such construction, expansion, or operation under this section.

(b) HOMELAND SECURITY IMPACT REVIEW.—Upon receipt of notice of an application for a license, approval, or other authorization de-

scribed in subsection (a), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall conduct a comprehensive homeland security impact review of the proposed construction, expansion, or operation, including proposed shipping routes to or from the facility.

(c) FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED.—In conducting the review under subsection (b), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall consider—

(1) the potential for muliple, simultaneous, coordinated attacks on facilities;

(2) the potential for assistance in an attack from several persons employed at the facility;

(3) the potential for suicide attacks;

(4) water-based and air-based threats;

(5) the potential use of explosive devices of considerable size and other modern weaponry;

(6) the potential for attacks by persons with a sophisticated knowledge of facility operations;

(7) the threat of fires and large explosions; and

1 *(8) special threats and vulnerabilities*
2 *affecting facilities located in or within 2*
3 *miles of a densely populated urban area.*
4 *(d) APPROVAL.—Upon completion of a re-*
5 *view under subsection (b), if the Secretary of*
6 *Homeland Security determines that the pro-*
7 *posed construction, expansion, or operation of*
8 *the facility does not pose a substantial risk to*
9 *life and property, the Secretary in coordina-*
10 *tion with appropriate Federal agencies with*
11 *regulatory responsibility over liquefied nat-*
12 *ural gas facilities shall approve the proposed*
13 *construction, expansion, or operation. Except*
14 *as provided in subsection (a), approval under*
15 *this subsection shall not affect any other re-*
16 *quirement under law to obtain a license, ap-*
17 *proval, or other authorization for the con-*
18 *struction, expansion, or operation of an off-*
19 *shore or waterfront facility for the transfer of*
20 *liquefied natural gas from ships to land or*
21 *from land to ships.*
22 *(e) RESULTS OF REVIEW.—The Secretary of*
23 *Homeland Security shall provide the results of*
24 *a review conducted under subsection (b)—*

(1) to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

(2) to each Federal agency responsible for licensing, approval, or other authorization for the construction, expansion, or operation; and

(3) to the extent consistent with the protection of homeland security, to affected State and local officials and the public.

SEC. 709. MARITIME BIOMETRIC IDENTIFICATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Security, through the Commandant of the Coast Guard, may conduct, in the maritime environment, a pilot program for the mobile biometric identification of suspected individuals, including terrorists, to enhance border security and for other purposes.

(b) REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall ensure that the pilot program is coordinated with other biometric identification programs

within the Department of Homeland Security and shall evaluate the costs and feasibility of expanding the capability to all Coast Guard cutters, stations and deployable maritime teams, and other appropriate Department of Homeland Security maritime vessels and units.

(c) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the term "biometric identification" means use of fingerprint and digital photography images.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized such sums as appropriate to carry out this section.

SEC. 710. REVIEW OF POTENTIAL THREATS.

Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to Congress a report analyzing the threat, vulnerability, and consequence of a terrorist attack on gasoline and chemical cargo shipments in port activity areas in the United States.

SEC. 711. PORT SECURITY PILOT.

The Secretary of Homeland Security shall establish a pilot program to test and deploy

1 ***preventive radiological/nuclear detection***
2 ***equipment on Coast Guard vessels and other***
3 ***locations in select port regions to enhance bor-***
4 ***der security and for other purposes. The pilot***
5 ***program shall leverage existing Federal grant***
6 ***funding to support this program and the pro-***
7 ***curement of additional equipment.***

8 ***SEC. 712. ADVANCE NOTICE OF PORT ARRIVAL OF SIGNIFI-***
9 ***CANT OR FATAL INCIDENTS INVOLVING U.S.***
10 ***PERSONS.***

11 ***(a) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary of Home-***
12 ***land Security shall require the owner or oper-***
13 ***ator of a cruise ship that embarks or dis-***
14 ***embarks passengers in a United States port to***
15 ***notify the Secretary of any covered security in-***
16 ***cident that occurs on the cruise ship in the***
17 ***course of the voyage (or voyage segment) in***
18 ***which a U.S. person is involved, in conjunction***
19 ***with any advance notice of arrival to a United***
20 ***States port required by part 160 of title 33,***
21 ***Code of Federal Regulations.***

22 ***(b) DEFINITIONS.—For the purposes of this***
23 ***section:***

24 ***(1) COVERED SECURITY INCIDENT.—The***
25 ***term "covered security incident" means***

any act or omission that results in death, serious bodily injury, sexual assault, or a missing person, or poses a significant threat to the cruise ship, any cruise ship passenger, any port facility, or any person in or near the port.

(2) CRUISE SHIP.—The term "cruise ship" means a vessel on an international voyage that embarks or disembarks passengers at a port of United States jurisdiction to which subpart C of part 160 of title 33, Code of Federal Regulations, applies and that provides overnight accommodations.

(3) U.S. PERSON.—The term "U.S. person" means a citizen of the United States and an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence (as defined in section 101(a)(20) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 (a)(20)).

(4) UNITED STATES.—The term "United States" means the 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and any

1 *other territory or possession of the United*
2 *States.*
3 *(c) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—Nothing in this sec-*
4 *tion shall be interpreted to discourage imme-*
5 *diate notification to the Secretary of a covered*
6 *security incident, nor shall this section pro-*
7 *hibit earlier notifications of covered security*
8 *incidents otherwise required by law or regula-*
9 *tion.*
10 *SEC. 713. SAFETY AND SECURITY ASSISTANCE FOR FOR-*
11 *EIGN PORTS.*
12 *(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 70110(e)(1) of*
13 *title 46, United States Code, is amended by*
14 *striking the second sentence and inserting the*
15 *following: "The Secretary shall establish a*
16 *strategic plan to utilize those assistance pro-*
17 *grams to assist ports and facilities that are*
18 *found by the Secretary under subsection (a)*
19 *not to maintain effective antiterrorism meas-*
20 *ures in the implementation of port security*
21 *antiterrorism measures.".*
22 *(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—*
23 *(1) Section 70110 of title 46, United*
24 *States Code, is amended—*

(A) by inserting "OR FACILITIES" after "PORTS" in the section heading;

(B) by inserting "or facility" after "port" each place it appears; and

(C) by striking "PORTS" in the heading for subsection (e) and inserting "PORTS, FACILITIES,".

(2) The chapter analysis for chapter 701 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to section 70110 and inserting the following:

"70110. Actions and assistance for foreign ports or facilities and United States territories.".

SEC. 714. SEASONAL WORKERS.

(a) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study on the effects that the Transportation Worker Identification Card (in this section referred to as "TWIC") required by section 70105 of title 46, United States Code, has on companies that employ seasonal employees.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall submit a report to Congress on the results of the study, including—

(1) costs associated in requiring seasonal employees to obtain TWIC cards on companies

(2) whether the Coast Guard and Transportation Security Administration are processing TWIC applications quickly enough for seasonal workers to obtain TWIC certification;

(3) whether TWIC compliance costs or other factors have led to a reduction in service;

(4) the impact of TWIC on the recruiting and hiring of seasonal and other temporary employees; and

(5) an assessment of possible alternatives to TWIC certification that may be used for seasonal employees including any security vulnerabilities created by those alternatives.

SEC. 715. COMPARATIVE RISK ASSESSMENT OF VESSEL-BASED AND FACILITY-BASED LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS REGASIFICATION PROCESSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Within 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall enter into

1 *an arrangement for the performance of an*
2 *independent study to conduct a comparative*
3 *risk assessment examining the relative safety*
4 *and security risk associated with vessel-based*
5 *and facility-based liquefied natural gas re-*
6 *gasification processes conducted within 3*
7 *miles from land versus such processes con-*
8 *ducted more than 3 miles from land.*
9 *(b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after*
10 *the date of the enactment of this Act, the Com-*
11 *mandant shall provide a report on the find-*
12 *ings and conclusions of the study required by*
13 *this section to the Committees on Homeland*
14 *Security, Transportation and Infrastructure,*
15 *and Energy and Commerce of the House of*
16 *Representatives, and the Committees on Home-*
17 *land Security and Governmental Affairs and*
18 *Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the*
19 *Senate.*
20 *SEC. 716. SAVINGS CLAUSE.*
21 *Nothing in this Act shall be construed to*
22 *diminish or affect the authority of the Sec-*
23 *retary of Homeland Security or the Com-*
24 *mandant of the Coast Guard pursuant to the*
25 *Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002*

(Public Law 107–295), the Ports and Waterways Safety Act (33 U.S.C. 1221 et seq.), the SAFE Port Act (Public Law 109–347), the Homeland Security Act of 2002, or the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (Public Law 110–53).

TITLE VIII—COAST GUARD INTEGRATED DEEPWATER PROGRAM

SEC. 801. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "Integrated Deepwater Program Reform Act".

SEC. 802. IMPLEMENTATION OF COAST GUARD INTEGRATED DEEPWATER ACQUISITION PROGRAM.

(a) USE OF PRIVATE SECTOR ENTITY AS A LEAD SYSTEMS INTEGRATOR.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the Secretary may not use a private sector entity as a lead systems integrator for procurements under, or in support of, the Deepwater Program beginning on the earlier of October 1, 2011, or the date on which the Secretary certifies in writing to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastruc-

1 *ture and the Committee on Homeland Se-*
2 *curity of the House of Representatives and*
3 *the Committee on Commerce, Science, and*
4 *Transportation of the Senate that the*
5 *Coast Guard has available and can retain*
6 *sufficient contracting personnel and ex-*
7 *pertise within the Coast Guard, through*
8 *an arrangement with other Federal agen-*
9 *cies, or through contracts or other ar-*
10 *rangements with private sector entities, to*
11 *perform the functions and responsibilities*
12 *of the lead system integrator in an effi-*
13 *cient and cost-effective manner.*
14 *(2) COMPLETION OF EXISTING DELIVERY*
15 *ORDERS AND TASK ORDERS.—The Secretary*
16 *may use a private sector entity as a lead*
17 *systems integrator to complete any deliv-*
18 *ery order or task order under the Deep-*
19 *water Program that was issued to the*
20 *lead systems integrator on or before the*
21 *date of enactment of this Act.*
22 *(3) ASSISTANCE OF OTHER FEDERAL*
23 *AGENCIES.—In any case in which the Sec-*
24 *retary is the systems integrator under the*
25 *Deepwater Program, the Secretary may*

obtain any type of assistance the Secretary considers appropriate, with any systems integration functions, from any Federal agency with experience in systems integration involving maritime vessels and aircraft.

(4) ASSISTANCE OF PRIVATE SECTOR ENTITIES.—In any case in which the Secretary is the systems integrator under the Deepwater Program, the Secretary may, subject to the availability of appropriations, obtain by grant, contract, or cooperative agreement any type of assistance the Secretary considers appropriate, with any systems integration functions, from any private sector entity with experience in systems integration involving maritime vessels and aircraft.

(b) COMPETITION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the Secretary shall use full and open competition for each class of asset acquisitions under the Deepwater Program for which an outside contractor is used, if the asset is procured

directly by the Coast Guard or by the Integrated Coast Guard System acting under a contract with the Coast Guard.

(2) EXCEPTION.—The Secretary may use a procurement method that is less than full and open competition to procure an asset under the Deepwater Program, if—

(A) the Secretary determines that such method is in the best interests of the Federal Government; and

(B) by not later than 30 days before the date of the award of a contract for the procurement, the Secretary submits to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report explaining why such procurement is in the best interests of the Federal Government.

(3) LIMITATION ON APPLICATION.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to a contract,

subcontract, or task order that was issued before the date of enactment of this Act, if there is no change in the quantity of assets or the specific type of assets procured.

(c) REQUIRED CONTRACT TERMS.—The Secretary shall include in each contract, subcontract, and task order issued under the Deepwater Program after the date of the enactment of this Act the following provisions, as applicable:

(1) TECHNICAL REVIEWS.—A requirement that the Secretary shall conduct a technical review of all proposed designs, design changes, and engineering changes, and a requirement that the contractor must specifically address all engineering concerns identified in the technical reviews, before any funds may be obligated.

(2) RESPONSIBILITY FOR TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS.—A requirement that the Secretary shall maintain the authority to establish, approve, and maintain technical requirements.

(3) COST ESTIMATE OF MAJOR CHANGES.—A requirement that an inde-

pendent cost estimate must be prepared and approved by the Secretary before the execution of any change order costing more than 5 percent of the unit cost approved in the Deepwater Program baseline in effect as of May 2007.

(4) PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT.—A requirement that any measurement of contractor and subcontractor performance must be based on the status of all work performed, including the extent to which the work performed met all cost, schedule, and mission performance requirements outlined in the Deepwater Program contract.

(5) EARLY OPERATIONAL ASSESSMENT.—For the acquisition of any cutter class for which an Early Operational Assessment has not been developed—

(A) a requirement that the Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall cause an Early Operational Assessment to be conducted by the Department of the Navy after the development of the pre-

liminary design of the cutter and before the conduct of the critical design review of the cutter; and

(B) a requirement that the Coast Guard shall develop a plan to address the findings presented in the Early Operational Assessment.

(6) TRANSIENT ELECTROMAGNETIC PULSE EMANATION.—For the acquisition or upgrade of air, surface, or shore assets for which compliance with transient electromagnetic pulse emanation (TEMPEST) is a requirement, a provision specifying that the standard for determining such compliance shall be the air, surface, or shore asset standard then used by the Department of the Navy.

(7) OFFSHORE PATROL CUTTER UNDERWAY REQUIREMENT.—For any contract issued to acquire an Offshore Patrol Cutter, provisions specifying the service life, fatigue life, days underway in general Atlantic and North Pacific Sea conditions, maximum range, and maximum speed the cutter shall be built to achieve.

(8) INSPECTOR GENERAL ACCESS.—A requirement that the Department of Homeland Security's Office of the Inspector General shall have access to all records maintained by all contractors working on the Deepwater Program, and shall have the right to privately interview any contractor personnel.

(d) LIFE CYCLE COST ESTIMATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall develop an authoritative life cycle cost estimate for the Deepwater Program.

(2) CONTENTS.—The life cycle cost estimate shall include asset acquisition and logistics support decisions and planned operational tempo and locations as of the date of enactment of this Act.

(3) SUBMITTAL.—The Secretary shall—

(A) submit the life cycle cost estimate to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate within 4

months after the date of enactment of this Act; and

(B) submit updates of the life cycle cost estimate to such Committees annually.

(e) CONTRACT OFFICERS.—The Secretary shall assign a separate contract officer for each class of cutter and aircraft acquired or rehabilitated under the Deepwater Program, including the National Security Cutter, the Offshore Patrol Cutter, the Fast Response Cutter A, the Fast Response Cutter B, maritime patrol aircraft, the aircraft HC–130J, the helicopter HH–65, the helicopter HH–60, and the vertical unmanned aerial vehicle.

(f) TECHNOLOGY RISK REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report identifying the technology risks and level of maturity for major technologies used on each class of asset acquisitions under the Deepwater Program, including the Fast

Response Cutter A (FRC–A), the Fast Response Cutter B (FRC–B), the Offshore Patrol Cutter (OPC), and the Vertical Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (VUAV), not later than 90 days before the date of award of a contract for such an acquisition.

(g) SUBMISSION OF ASSESSMENT RESULTS AND PLANS TO CONGRESS.—The Commandant of the Coast Guard shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate—

(1) the results of each Early Operational Assessment conducted pursuant to subsection (c)(5)(A) and the plan approved by the Commandant pursuant to subsection (c)(5)(B) for addressing the findings of such assessment, within 30 days after the Commandant approves the plan; and

(2) a report describing how the recommendations of each Early Operational Assessment conducted pursuant to sub-

section (c)(5)(A) on the first in class of a new cutter class have been addressed in the design on which construction is to begin, within 30 days before initiation of construction.

SEC. 803. CHIEF ACQUISITION OFFICER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 3 of title 14, United States Code, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 56. Chief Acquisition Officer

"(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF AGENCY CHIEF ACQUISITION OFFICER.—The Commandant shall appoint or designate a career reserved employee as Chief Acquisition Officer for the Coast Guard, who shall—

"(1) have acquisition management as that official's primary duty; and

"(2) report directly to the Commandant to advise and assist the Commandant to ensure that the mission of the Coast Guard is achieved through the management of the Coast Guard's acquisition activities.

1 *"(b) AUTHORITY AND FUNCTIONS OF THE*
2 *CHIEF ACQUISITION OFFICER.—The functions of*
3 *the Chief Acquisition Officer shall include—*
4 *"(1) monitoring the performance of ac-*
5 *quisition activities and acquisition pro-*
6 *grams of the Coast Guard, evaluating the*
7 *performance of those programs on the*
8 *basis of applicable performance measure-*
9 *ments, and advising the Commandant re-*
10 *garding the appropriate business strategy*
11 *to achieve the mission of the Coast Guard;*
12 *"(2) increasing the use of full and*
13 *open competition in the acquisition of*
14 *property and services by the Coast Guard*
15 *by establishing policies, procedures, and*
16 *practices that ensure that the Coast*
17 *Guard receives a sufficient number of*
18 *sealed bids or competitive proposals from*
19 *responsible sources to fulfill the Govern-*
20 *ment's requirements (including perform-*
21 *ance and delivery schedules) at the lowest*
22 *cost or best value considering the nature*
23 *of the property or service procured;*
24 *"(3) ensuring the use of detailed per-*
25 *formance specifications in instances in*

which performance-based contracting is used;

"(4) making acquisition decisions consistent with all applicable laws and establishing clear lines of authority, accountability, and responsibility for acquisition decisionmaking within the Coast Guard;

"(5) managing the direction of acquisition policy for the Coast Guard, including implementation of the unique acquisition policies, regulations, and standards of the Coast Guard;

"(6) developing and maintaining an acquisition career management program in the Coast Guard to ensure that there is an adequate professional workforce; and

"(7) as part of the strategic planning and performance evaluation process required under section 306 of title 5 and sections 1105(a)(28), 1115, 1116, and 9703 of title 31—

"(A) assessing the requirements established for Coast Guard personnel regarding knowledge and skill in acquisition resources management and

the adequacy of such requirements for facilitating the achievement of the performance goals established for acquisition management;

"(B) in order to rectify any deficiency in meeting such requirements, developing strategies and specific plans for hiring, training, and professional development; and

"(C) reporting to the Commandant on the progress made in improving acquisition management capability.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is further amended by adding at the end the following:

"56. Chief Acquisition Officer.".

(c) SPECIAL RATE SUPPLEMENTS.—

(1) REQUIREMENT TO ESTABLISH.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act and in accordance with part 9701.333 of title 5, Code of Federal Regulations, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall establish special rate supplements that provide higher pay lev-

els for employees necessary to carry out the amendment made by this section.

(2) SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATIONS.—The requirement under paragraph (1) is subject to the availability of appropriations.

SEC. 804. TESTING AND CERTIFICATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—

(1) cause each cutter, other than a National Security Cutter, acquired by the Coast Guard and delivered after the date of enactment of this Act to be classed by the American Bureau of Shipping, before acceptance of delivery;

(2) cause the design and construction of each National Security Cutter, other than National Security Cutter 1 and 2, to be certified by an independent third party with expertise in vessel design and construction certification to be able to meet a 185-underway-day requirement under general Atlantic and North Pacific sea conditions for a period of at least 30 years;

(3) cause all electronics on all aircraft, surface, and shore assets that require TEMPEST certification and that are

delivered after the date of enactment of this Act to be tested and certified in accordance with TEMPEST standards and communications security (COMSEC) standards by an independent third party that is authorized by the Federal Government to perform such testing and certification; and

(4) cause all aircraft and aircraft engines acquired by the Coast Guard and delivered after the date of enactment of this Act to be certified for airworthiness by an independent third party with expertise in aircraft and aircraft engine certification, before acceptance of delivery.

(b) FIRST IN CLASS OF A MAJOR ASSET ACQUISITION.—The Secretary shall cause the first in class of a major asset acquisition of a cutter or an aircraft to be subjected to an assessment of operational capability conducted by the Secretary of the Navy.

(c) FINAL ARBITER.—The Secretary shall be the final arbiter of all technical disputes regarding designs and acquisitions of vessels and aircraft for the Coast Guard.

SEC. 805. NATIONAL SECURITY CUTTERS.

(a) NATIONAL SECURITY CUTTERS 1 AND 2.—

(1) REPORT ON OPTIONS UNDER CONSIDERATION.—The Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate—

(A) within 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, a report describing in detail the cost increases that have been experienced on National Security Cutters 1 and 2 since the date of the issuance of the task orders for construction of those cutters and explaining the causes of these cost increases; and

(B) within 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, a report on the options that the Coast Guard is considering to strengthen the hulls of National Security Cutter 1 and National Security Cutter 2, including—

(i) the costs of each of the options under consideration;

(ii) a schedule for when the hull strengthening repairs are anticipated to be performed; and

(iii) the impact that the weight likely to be added to each the cutter by each option will have on the cutter's ability to meet both the original performance requirements included in the Deepwater Program contract and the performance requirements created by contract Amendment Modification 00042 dated February 7, 2007.

(2) DESIGN ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 30 days before the Coast Guard signs any contract, delivery order, or task order to strengthen the hull of either of National Security Cutter 1 or 2 to resolve the structural design and performance issues identified in the Department of Homeland Security Inspector General's report OIG–07–23 dated January 2007, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Trans-

portation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate all results of an assessment of the proposed hull strengthening design conducted by the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Carderock Division, including a description in detail of the extent to which the hull strengthening measures to be implemented on those cutters will enable the cutters to meet a 185-underway-day requirement under general Atlantic and North Pacific sea conditions for a period of at least 30 years.

(b) NATIONAL SECURITY CUTTERS 3 THROUGH 8.—Not later than 30 days before the Coast Guard signs any contract, delivery order, or task order authorizing construction of National Security Cutters 3 through 8, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Sen-

ate all results of an assessment of the proposed designs to resolve the structural design, safety, and performance issues identified by the Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General report OIG–07–23 for the hulls of those cutters conducted by the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Carderock Division, including a description in detail of the extent to which such designs will enable the cutters to meet a 185-underway-day requirement under general Atlantic and North Pacific sea conditions.

SEC. 806. MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall submit the following reports to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate:

(1) Within 4 months after the date of enactment of this Act, a justification for why 8 National Security Cutters are required to meet the operational needs of the Coast Guard, including—

1 *(A) how many days per year each*
2 *National Security Cutter will be un-*
3 *derway at sea;*
4 *(B) where each National Security*
5 *Cutter will be home ported;*
6 *(C) the amount of funding that*
7 *will be required to establish home*
8 *port operations for each National Se-*
9 *curity Cutter;*
10 *(D) the extent to which 8 National*
11 *Security Cutters deployed without*
12 *vertical unmanned aerial vehicles*
13 *(VUAV) will meet or exceed the mis-*
14 *sion capability (including surveil-*
15 *lance capacity) of the 12 Hamilton-*
16 *class high endurance cutters that the*
17 *National Security Cutters will re-*
18 *place;*
19 *(E) the business case in support of*
20 *constructing National Security Cut-*
21 *ters 3 through 8, including a cost-ben-*
22 *efit analysis; and*
23 *(F) an analysis of how many Off-*
24 *shore Patrol Cutters would be re-*
25 *quired to provide the patrol coverage*

provided by a National Security Cutter.

(2) Within 4 months after the date of enactment of this Act, a report on—

(A) the impact that deployment of a National Security Cutter and other cutter assets without the vertical unmanned aerial vehicle (VUAV) will have on the amount of patrol coverage that will be able to be provided during missions conducted by the National Security Cutter and all other cutters planned to be equipped with a VUAV;

(B) how the coverage gap will be made up;

(C) an update on the current status of the development of the VUAV; and

(D) the timeline detailing the major milestones to be achieved during development of the VUAV and identifying the delivery date for the first and last VUAV.

(3) Within 30 days after the elevation to flag-level for resolution of any design

or other dispute regarding the Deepwater Program contract or an item to be procured under that contract, including a detailed description of the issue and the rationale underlying the decision taken by the flag officer to resolve the issue.

(4) Within 4 months after the date of enactment of this Act, a report detailing the total number of change orders that have been created by the Coast Guard under the Deepwater Program before the date of enactment of this Act, the total cost of these change orders, and their impact on the Deepwater Program schedule.

(5) Within 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, a report detailing the technology risks and level of maturity for major technologies used on maritime patrol aircraft, the HC–130J, and the National Security Cutter.

(6) Not less than 60 days before signing a contract to acquire any vessel or aircraft, a report comparing the cost of purchasing that vessel or aircraft directly from the manufacturer or shipyard with

the cost of procuring it through the Integrated Coast Guard System.

(7) Within 30 days after the Program Executive Officer of the Deepwater Program becomes aware of a likely cost overrun exceeding 5 percent of the overall asset acquisition contract cost or schedule delay exceeding 5 percent of the estimated asset construction period under the Deepwater Program, a report by the Commandant containing a description of the cost overrun or delay, an explanation of the overrun or delay, a description of Coast Guard's response, and a description of significant delays in the procurement schedule likely to be caused by the overrun or delay.

(8) Within 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, articulation of a doctrine and description of an anticipated implementation of a plan for management of acquisitions programs, financial management (including earned value management and cost estimating), engineering

and logistics management, and contract management, that includes—

(A) a description of how the Coast Guard will cultivate among uniformed personnel expertise in acquisitions management and financial management;

(B) a description of the processes that will be followed to draft and ensure technical review of procurement packages, including statements of work, for any class of assets acquired by the Coast Guard;

(C) a description of how the Coast Guard will conduct an independent cost estimating process, including independently developing cost estimates for major change orders; and

(D) a description of how Coast Guard will strengthen the management of change orders.

(9) Within 4 months after the date of enactment of this Act, a report on the development of a new acquisitions office within the Coast Guard describing the

specific staffing structure for that directorate, including—

(A) identification of all managerial positions proposed as part of the office, the functions that each managerial position will fill, and the number of employees each manager will supervise; and

(B) a formal organizational chart and identification of when managerial positions are to be filled.

(10) Ninety days prior to the issuance of a Request for Proposals for construction of an Offshore Patrol Cutter, a report detailing the service life, fatigue life, maximum range, maximum speed, and number of days underway under general Atlantic and North Pacific Sea conditions the cutter shall be built to achieve.

(11) The Secretary shall report annually on the percentage of the total amount of funds expended on procurements under the Deepwater Program that has been paid to each of small businesses and minority-owned businesses.

(12) Within 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, a report on any Coast Guard mission performance gap due to the removal of Deepwater Program assets from service. The report shall include the following:

(A) A description of the mission performance gap detailing the geographic regions and Coast Guard capabilities affected.

(B) An analysis of factors affecting the mission performance gap that are unrelated to the Deepwater Program, including deployment of Coast Guard assets overseas and continuous vessel shortages.

(C) A description of measures being taken in the near term to fill the mission performance gap, including what those measures are and when they will be implemented.

(D) A description of measures being taken in the long term to fill the mission performance gap, including

what those measures are and when they will be implemented.

(E) A description of the potential alternatives to fill the mission performance gap, including any acquisition or lease considered and the reasons they were not pursued.

(b) REPORT REQUIRED ON ACCEPTANCE OF DELIVERY OF INCOMPLETE ASSET.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary accepts delivery of an asset after the date of enactment of this Act for which a contractually required certification cannot be achieved within 30 days after the date of delivery or with any system that is not fully functional for the mission for which it was intended, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the United States Senate within 30 days after accepting delivery of the asset a report explaining why acceptance of the asset in

1 ***such a condition is in the best interests of***
2 ***the United States Government.***
3 ***(2) CONTENTS.—The report shall—***
4 ***(A) specify the systems that are not***
5 ***able to achieve contractually required***
6 ***certifications within 30 days after the***
7 ***date of delivery and the systems that***
8 ***are not fully functional at the time of***
9 ***delivery for the missions for which***
10 ***they were intended;***
11 ***(B) identify milestones for the***
12 ***completion of required certifications***
13 ***and to make all systems fully func-***
14 ***tional; and***
15 ***(C) identify when the milestones***
16 ***will be completed, who will complete***
17 ***them, and the cost to complete them.***

SEC. 807. USE OF THE NAVAL SEA SYSTEMS COMMAND, THE NAVAL AIR SYSTEMS COMMAND, AND THE SPACE AND NAVAL WARFARE SYSTEMS COMMAND TO ASSIST THE COAST GUARD IN EXERCISING TECHNICAL AUTHORITY FOR THE DEEPWATER PROGRAM AND OTHER COAST GUARD ACQUISITION PROGRAMS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that the Coast Guard's use of the technical, contractual, and program management oversight expertise of the Department of the Navy in ship and aircraft production complements and augments the Coast Guard's organic expertise as it procures assets for the Deepwater Program.

(b) INTER-SERVICE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary may enter into a memorandum of understanding or a memorandum of agreement with the Secretary of the Navy to provide for the use of the Navy Systems Commands to assist the Coast Guard with the oversight of Coast Guard major acquisition programs. Such memorandum of understanding or memorandum of agreement shall, at a minimum provide for—

(1) the exchange of technical assistance and support that the Coast Guard Chief Engineer and the Coast Guard Chief Information Officer, as Coast Guard Technical Authorities, may identify;

(2) the use, as appropriate, of Navy technical expertise; and

(3) the temporary assignment or exchange of personnel between the Coast Guard and the Navy Systems Commands to facilitate the development of organic capabilities in the Coast Guard.

(c) TECHNICAL AUTHORITIES.—The Coast Guard Chief Engineer, Chief Information Officer, and Chief Acquisition Officer shall adopt, to the extent practicable, procedures that are similar to those used by the Navy Senior Acquisition Official to ensure the Coast Guard Technical Authorities, or designated Technical Warrant Holders, approve all technical requirements.

(d) COORDINATION.—The Secretary, acting through the Commandant of the Coast Guard, may coordinate with the Secretary of the Navy, acting through the Chief of Naval Operations,

to develop processes by which the assistance will be requested from the Navy Systems Commands and provided to the Coast Guard.

(e) REPORT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act and every twelve months thereafter, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall report to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate on the activities undertaken pursuant to such memorandum of understanding or memorandum of agreement.

SEC. 808. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) DEEPWATER PROGRAM.—The term "Deepwater Program" means the Integrated Deepwater Systems Program described by the Coast Guard in its report to Congress entitled "Revised Deepwater Implementation Plan 2005", dated March 25, 2005. The Deepwater Program primarily involves the procurement of cutter and

1 ***aviation assets that operate more than 50***
2 ***miles offshore.***
3 ***(2) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary"***
4 ***means the Secretary of the department in***
5 ***which the Coast Guard is operating.***

Union Calendar No. 317

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 2830

[Report No. 110–338, Parts I, II, and III]

A BILL

To authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal year 2008, and for other purposes.

JANUARY 29, 2008

Committee on Energy and Commerce discharged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed