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1st Session }

SENATE

{ REPORT
104-68 }**CERTIFICATE OF DOCUMENTATION FOR
THE VESSEL "ISABELLE"**

R E P O R T

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND
TRANSPORTATION

ON

S. 561



APRIL 18, 1995.—Ordered to be printed

Filed under authority of the order of the Senate of April 6 (legislative
day, April 5), 1995

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SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

ONE HUNDRED FOURTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

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Calendar No. 90

104TH CONGRESS }
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CERTIFICATE OF DOCUMENTATION FOR THE VESSEL "ISABELLE"

APRIL 18, 1995.—Ordered to be printed

Filed under authority of the order of the Senate of April 6 (legislative day,
April 10), 1995

Mr. PRESSLER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and
Transportation, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 561]

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, to which was referred the bill (S. 561) to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation and coastwise trade endorsement for the vessel *Isabelle*, and for other purposes, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE LEGISLATION

S. 561, as reported, grants coastwise trading privileges to the vessel *Isabelle*.

BACKGROUND AND NEEDS

Subject to certain limited exceptions, the law known as the Jones Act (section 27 of the Merchant Marine Act of 1920) and sections 12106 through 12108 of title 46, U.S. Code, provide that only those vessels built in the United States, continuously documented under the laws of the United States and continuously owned by U.S. citizens may transport merchandise or passengers in the coastwise trade, or engage in the fisheries, of the United States.

Where the facts applicable to a particular vessel suggest the U.S.-built or U.S.-owned requirements have not been satisfied, the Coast Guard may not issue a document granting coastwise trading

or fisheries privileges for that vessel unless the requirements of the Act are statutorily waived.

The vessel *Isabelle*, U.S. official number 600655, is a 65-foot sailing vessel that was constructed in Scotland in 1924. It was purchased by Stephen P. Vaitses of Newport, Rhode Island in 1978. The vessel's owner intends to use it for charters.

Because the vessel was foreign built, the owner has not been able to obtain coastwise trade privileges for the *Isabelle*. Therefore, he is seeking a statutory waiver of the Jones Act for the vessel.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

S. 561 was introduced in the Senate on March 15, 1995, by Senator Chafee. In open executive session on March 23, 1995, the Committee considered S. 561, and ordered the legislation reported favorably without objection and without amendment.

ESTIMATED COSTS

In accordance with paragraph 11(a) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate and section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee provides the following cost estimate, prepared by the Congressional Budget Office:

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, March 30, 1995.

Hon. LARRY PRESSLER,
*Chairman, Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has reviewed the following bills, which were ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation on March 23, 1995:

S. 84, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation and coastwise trade endorsement for the vessel *Bagger*, and for other purposes;

S. 172, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation for the vessel *L.R. Beattie*;

S. 212, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel *Shamrock V*;

S. 213, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel *Endeavour*;

S. 278, a bill to authorize a certificate of documentation for the vessel *Serenity*;

S. 279, a bill to authorize a certificate of documentation for the vessel *Why Knot*;

S. 475, a bill to authorize a certificate of documentation for the vessel *Lady Hawk*;

S. 480, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorse-

ment for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel *Gleam*;

S. 482, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation and coastwise trade endorsement for the vessel *Emerald Ayes*;

S. 492, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation for the vessel *Intrepid*;

S. 493, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation for the vessel *Consortium*;

S. 528, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation and coastwise trade endorsement for three vessels;

S. 535, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in coastwise trade for each of two vessels named *Gallant Lady*, subject to certain conditions, and for other purposes; and

S. 561, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel *Isabelle*, and for other purposes.

Enactment of these bills would have no impact on the federal budget or on those of state or local governments. The bills would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Deborah Reis.

Sincerely,

JUNE E. O'NEILL, *Director*.

REGULATORY IMPACT STATEMENT

In accordance with paragraph 11(b) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee provides the following evaluation of the regulatory impact of the legislation, as reported:

Because S. 561 does not create any new programs, the legislation will have no additional regulatory impact, and will result in no additional reporting requirements. The legislation will have no further effect on the number or types of individuals and businesses regulated, the economic impact of such regulation, the personal privacy of affected individuals, or the paperwork required from such individuals and businesses.

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

The bill consists of one section. It provides that, notwithstanding section 12106 of title 46, U.S. Code, and section 27 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1920 (46 App. U.S.C. 883) as applicable on the date of enactment of this Act, the vessel *Isabelle*, U.S. official number 600655, is eligible to engage in the coastwise trade and the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating may issue a certificate of documentation for such vessel.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

In compliance with paragraph 12 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee states the bill as reported would make no change to existing law.

