

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

| <i>Revised section</i> | <i>Source section (U.S. Code)</i> |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 2107 | 33:364 |
| | 46:7 |
| | 46:65u |
| | 46:216e(d) |
| | 46:391a(14) |
| | 46:526o |
| | 46:526p |
| | 46:1484(c) |

Section 2107 provides for standard procedures for the handling of civil penalties for infractions of law or regulation. Some changes were made to increase some antiquated and inadequate penalties.

The assessment of civil penalties under this section should not require an "on the record" hearing within the meaning of the Administrative Procedures Act (APA). It is intended that these civil penalties be assessed in a fair manner. However, the Committee recognizes that statutes passed in the last decade have involved the Coast Guard in tens of thousands of civil penalty enforcement cases and that it is necessary that the penalties be assessed efficiently. The Coast Guard's procedural regulations for assessing civil penalties ensure that the essential elements of due process, notice, and opportunity to be heard, are provided to alleged violators (see 33 CFR Subpart 1.07). The more rigid and time-consuming procedures applicable to APA adjudications are unwarranted in the case of Coast Guard civil penalty assessment procedures and would seriously hamper the orderly enforcement of these administrative penalties.

AMENDMENTS

2006—Pub. L. 109-241 substituted "this subtitle or subtitle VII" for "this subtitle" in two places in subsec. (a) and in one place in subsec. (b).

§ 2108. Repealed. Pub. L. 109-304, § 15(5), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1702]

Section, Pub. L. 98-89, Aug. 26, 1983, 97 Stat. 507, related to refund of penalties unlawfully, improperly, or excessively imposed. See section 504 of this title.

§ 2109. Public vessels

Except as otherwise provided, this subtitle does not apply to a public vessel of the United States. However, this subtitle does apply to a vessel (except a Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation vessel) owned or operated by the Department of Transportation or by any corporation organized or controlled by the Department.

(Pub. L. 98-89, Aug. 26, 1983, 97 Stat. 507; Pub. L. 99-509, title V, §5102(b)(3), Oct. 21, 1986, 100 Stat. 1927; Pub. L. 109-241, title IX, §902(e)(1), July 11, 2006, 120 Stat. 567.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

| <i>Revised section</i> | <i>Source section (U.S. Code)</i> |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 2109 | 46:362 |
| | 46:363 |
| | 46:391a(4) |

Section 2109 exempts public vessels from the applicability of the maritime safety and seamen's welfare laws of this subtitle although some public vessels are inspected under interagency voluntary agreements.

AMENDMENTS

2006—Pub. L. 109-241 struck out "a Coast Guard or" after "(except)".

1986—Pub. L. 99-509 substituted "Except as otherwise provided, this" for "This".

§ 2110. Fees

(a)(1) Except as otherwise provided in this title, the Secretary shall establish a fee or charge for a service or thing of value provided by the Secretary under this subtitle, in accordance with section 9701 of title 31.

(2) The Secretary may not establish a fee or charge under paragraph (1) for inspection or examination of a non-self-propelled tank vessel under part B of this subtitle that is more than \$500 annually. The Secretary may not establish a fee or charge under paragraph (1) for inspection or examination of a small passenger vessel under this title that is more than \$300 annually for such vessels under 65 feet in length, or more than \$600 annually for such vessels 65 feet in length and greater. The Secretary may not establish a fee or charge under paragraph (1) for inspection or examination under this title for any publicly-owned ferry.

(3) The Secretary may, by regulation, adjust a fee or charge collected under this subsection to accommodate changes in the cost of providing a specific service or thing of value, but the adjusted fee or charge may not exceed the total cost of providing the service or thing of value for which the fee or charge is collected, including the cost of collecting the fee or charge.

(4) The Secretary may not collect a fee or charge under this subsection that is in conflict with the international obligations of the United States.

(5) The Secretary may not collect a fee or charge under this subsection for any search or rescue service.

(b)(1) The Secretary shall establish a fee or charge as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, and collect it annually in fiscal years 1993 and 1994, from the owner or operator of each recreational vessel to which paragraph (2) of this subsection applies.

(2) The fee or charge established under paragraph (1) of this subsection is as follows:

(A) in fiscal year 1993—

(i) for vessels of more than 21 feet in length but less than 27 feet, not more than \$35;

(ii) for vessels of at least 27 feet in length but less than 40 feet, not more than \$50; and

(iii) for vessels of at least 40 feet in length, not more than \$100; and

(B) in fiscal year 1994—

(i) for vessels of at least 37 feet in length but less than 40 feet, not more than \$50; and

(ii) for vessels of at least 40 feet in length, not more than \$100.

(3) The fee or charge established under this subsection applies only to vessels operated on the navigable waters of the United States where the Coast Guard has a presence.

(4) The fee or charge established under this subsection does not apply to a—

(A) public vessel; or

(B) vessel deemed to be a public vessel under section 827 of title 14.

(5) The Secretary shall provide to each person who pays a fee or charge under this subsection a separate document on which appears, in readily discernible print, only the following state-