

(C) a vessel to the extent it is regulated under the Ports and Waterways Safety Act of 1972 (33 U.S.C. 1221 et seq.).

(2) This chapter and regulations prescribed under this chapter do not prohibit—

(A) or regulate transportation of a firearm (as defined in section 232 of title 18), or ammunition for a firearm, by an individual for personal use; or

(B) transportation of a firearm or ammunition in commerce.

(e) LIMITATION ON AUTHORITY.—Unless the Secretary decides that an emergency exists, a special permit or renewal granted under this section is the only way a person subject to this chapter may be granted a variance from this chapter.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(d), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 776; Pub. L. 103-311, title I, §120(a), Aug. 26, 1994, 108 Stat. 1680; Pub. L. 109-59, title VII, §§7115(a)(1), (b)–(g), 7126, Aug. 10, 2005, 119 Stat. 1901, 1909.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
5117(a)	49 App.:1806(a) (1st, 2d sentences).	Jan. 3, 1975, Pub. L. 93-633, §107, 88 Stat. 2158; Nov. 16, 1990, Pub. L. 101-615, §9, 104 Stat. 3259.
5117(b)	49 App.:1806(a) (3d-last sentences).	
5117(c)(1)	49 App.:1806(b).	
5117(c)(2)	49 App.:1806(c).	
5117(d)	49 App.:1806(d).	

In subsection (a)(1), before clause (A), the words “or renew” and “subject to the requirements of this chapter” are omitted as surplus. In clause (A), the words “at least equal to the safety level required under this chapter” are substituted for “which is equal to or exceeds that level of safety which would be required in the absence of such exemption” to eliminate unnecessary words.

In subsection (a)(2), the words “issued or renewed” are omitted as surplus.

In subsection (b), the words “upon application” and “grant of such” are omitted as surplus. The words “give the public an opportunity to inspect” are substituted for “afford access to . . . public” for clarity. The words “described by subsection (b) of section 552 of title 5, or which is otherwise” are omitted as surplus.

In subsection (c)(1), clauses (A) and (B) are substituted for “any vessel which is excepted from the application of section 201 of the Ports and Waterways Safety Act of 1972 by paragraph (2) of such section”. Section 201 of that Act amended section 4417a of the Revised Statutes (classified at 46:391a prior to its repeal and reenactment as part of the codification of subtitle II of title 46 in 1983). Clauses (A) and (B) restate the exceptions provided by section 201 of that Act and by section 4417a of the Revised Statutes as subsequently amended. Clause (C) is substituted for “any other vessel regulated under such Act, to the extent of such regulation” because of the restatement.

In subsection (c)(2), before clause (A), the word “prescribed” is substituted for “issued” for consistency in the revised title and with other titles of the United States Code.

In subsection (d), the words “by which”, “the requirements of”, and “or relieved of the obligation to meet any requirements imposed under” are omitted as surplus.

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Ports and Waterways Safety Act of 1972, referred to in subsec. (d)(1)(C), is Pub. L. 92-340, July 10, 1972, 86

Stat. 424, as amended, which is classified generally to chapter 25 (§1221 et seq.) of Title 33, Navigation and Navigable Waters. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1221 of Title 33 and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

2005—Pub. L. 109-59, §7115(a)(1), substituted “Special permits and exclusions” for “Exemptions and exclusions” in section catchline.

Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 109-59, §7115(b), substituted “Issue Special Permits” for “Exempt” in heading.

Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 109-59, §7126, substituted “Secretary” for “Secretary of Transportation” in introductory provisions.

Pub. L. 109-59, §7115(c), in introductory provisions, substituted “issue, modify, or terminate a special permit authorizing a variance” for “issue an exemption” and “performing a function regulated by the Secretary under section 5103(b)(1)” for “transporting, or causing to be transported, hazardous material”.

Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 109-59, §7115(d), amended par. (2) generally. Prior to amendment, par. (2) read as follows: “An exemption under this subsection is effective for not more than 2 years and may be renewed on application to the Secretary.”

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 109-59, §7115(e), substituted “the special permit” for “the exemption” and substituted “a special permit” for “an exemption” wherever appearing.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 109-59, §7115(f), substituted “the special permit” for “the exemption” in two places.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 109-59, §7115(g), substituted “a special permit” for “an exemption” and “be granted a variance” for “be exempt”.

1994—Subsecs. (c) to (e). Pub. L. 103-311 added subsec. (c) and redesignated former subsecs. (c) and (d) as (d) and (e), respectively.

[§ 5118. Repealed. Pub. L. 109-59, title VII, § 7115(h), Aug. 10, 2005, 119 Stat. 1901]

Section, Pub. L. 103-272, §1(d), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 777; Pub. L. 108-426, §2(c)(2), Nov. 30, 2004, 118 Stat. 2424, related to employment of additional hazardous material safety inspectors.

§ 5119. Uniform forms and procedures

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF WORKING GROUP.—The Secretary shall establish a working group of State and local government officials, including representatives of the National Governors’ Association, the National Association of Counties, the National League of Cities, the United States Conference of Mayors, the National Conference of State Legislatures, and the Alliance for Uniform Hazmat Transportation Procedures.

(b) PURPOSE OF WORKING GROUP.—The purpose of the working group shall be to develop uniform forms and procedures for a State to register, and to issue permits to, persons that transport, or cause to be transported, hazardous material by motor vehicle in the State.

(c) LIMITATION ON WORKING GROUP.—The working group may not propose to define or limit the amount of a fee a State may impose or collect.

(d) PROCEDURE.—The Secretary shall develop a procedure for the working group to employ in developing recommendations for the Secretary to harmonize existing State registration and permit laws and regulations relating to the transportation of hazardous materials, with special attention paid to each State’s unique safety concerns and interest in maintaining strong hazmat safety standards.

(e) REPORT OF WORKING GROUP.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of

this subsection, the working group shall transmit to the Secretary a report containing recommendations for establishing uniform forms and procedures described in subsection (b).

(f) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 18 months after the date the working group's report is delivered to the Secretary, the Secretary shall issue regulations to carry out such recommendations of the working group as the Secretary considers appropriate. In developing such regulations, the Secretary shall consider the State needs associated with the transition to and implementation of a uniform forms and procedures program.

(g) LIMITATION ON STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting a State from voluntarily participating in a program of uniform forms and procedures until such time as the Secretary issues regulations under subsection (f).

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(d), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 777; Pub. L. 104-287, §5(9), Oct. 11, 1996, 110 Stat. 3389; Pub. L. 109-59, title VII, §7116, Aug. 10, 2005, 119 Stat. 1901.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
5119(a)	49 App.:1819(a).	Jan. 3, 1975, Pub. L. 93-633, 88 Stat. 2156, §121(a)-(g); added Nov. 16, 1990, Pub. L. 101-615, §22, 104 Stat. 3271; Oct. 24, 1992, Pub. L. 102-508, §507, 106 Stat. 3312.
5119(b)	49 App.:1819(b), (c).	
5119(c)(1)	49 App.:1819(d).	
5119(c)(2)	49 App.:1819(e).	
5119(c)(3)	49 App.:1819(f).	
5119(d)	49 App.:1819(g).	

In subsection (a), before clause (1), the words "As soon as practicable after November 16, 1990" are omitted as obsolete.

In subsection (c)(1), the words "Subject to the provisions of this subsection" and "to the Secretary" are omitted as surplus.

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The date of enactment of this subsection, referred to in subsec. (e), is the date of enactment of Pub. L. 109-59, which was approved Aug. 10, 2005.

AMENDMENTS

2005—Pub. L. 109-59 reenacted section catchline without change and amended text generally. Prior to amendment, section consisted of subsecs. (a) to (d) relating to establishment of working group, consultation and reporting, regulations, and relationship to other laws.

1996—Subsec. (b)(2), Pub. L. 104-287 substituted "Transportation and Infrastructure" for "Public Works and Transportation".

§ 5120. International uniformity of standards and requirements

(a) PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL FORUMS.—Subject to guidance and direction from the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Transportation shall participate in international forums that establish or recommend mandatory standards and requirements for transporting hazardous material in international commerce.

(b) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary may consult with interested authorities to ensure that, to the extent practicable, regulations the Sec-

retary prescribes under sections 5103(b), 5104, 5110, and 5112 of this title are consistent with standards and requirements related to transporting hazardous material that international authorities adopt.

(c) DIFFERENCES WITH INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS.—This section—

(1) does not require the Secretary to prescribe a standard or requirement identical to a standard or requirement adopted by an international authority if the Secretary decides the standard or requirement is unnecessary or unsafe; and

(2) does not prohibit the Secretary from prescribing a safety standard or requirement more stringent than a standard or requirement adopted by an international authority if the Secretary decides the standard or requirement is necessary in the public interest.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(d), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 778; Pub. L. 109-59, title VII, §§7117, 7126, Aug. 10, 2005, 119 Stat. 1902, 1909.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
5120(a)	49 App.:1804(d)(1).	Jan. 3, 1975, Pub. L. 93-633, §105(d), 88 Stat. 2157; re-stated Nov. 16, 1990, Pub. L. 101-615 §4, 104 Stat. 3252.
5120(b)	49 App.:1804(d)(2) (1st sentence).	
5120(c)	49 App.:1804(d)(2) (last sentence).	

AMENDMENTS

2005—Subsec. (b), Pub. L. 109-59, §7126, substituted "Secretary may" for "Secretary of Transportation may".

Pub. L. 109-59, §7117(a), inserted "and requirements" after "standards".

Subsec. (c)(1), Pub. L. 109-59, §7126, substituted "Secretary to prescribe" for "Secretary of Transportation to prescribe".

Pub. L. 109-59, §7117(b)(1), inserted "or requirement" after "standard" wherever appearing.

Subsec. (c)(2), Pub. L. 109-59, §7117(b)(2), struck out "included in a standard" before "adopted" and inserted "standard or" before "requirement" wherever appearing.

§ 5121. Administrative

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—To carry out this chapter, the Secretary may investigate, conduct tests, make reports, issue subpoenas, conduct hearings, require the production of records and property, take depositions, and conduct research, development, demonstration, and training activities. Except as provided in subsections (c) and (d), after notice and an opportunity for a hearing, the Secretary may issue an order requiring compliance with this chapter or a regulation prescribed, or an order, special permit, or approval issued, under this chapter.

(b) RECORDS, REPORTS, AND INFORMATION.—A person subject to this chapter shall—

(1) maintain records and property, make reports, and provide information the Secretary by regulation or order requires; and

(2) make the records, property, reports, and information available for inspection when the Secretary undertakes an investigation or makes a request.