

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2657

To require the Secretary of Commerce to prescribe regulations to reduce the incidence of vessels colliding with North Atlantic right whales by limiting the speed of vessels, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 15, 2008

Mr. KERRY introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation under authority of the order of the Senate of February 14, 2008

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Commerce to prescribe regulations to reduce the incidence of vessels colliding with North Atlantic right whales by limiting the speed of vessels, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. REGULATIONS TO PROTECT NORTH ATLANTIC**
4 **RIGHT WHALES FROM SHIP STRIKES.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the
6 earlier of the date of the enactment of this Act or June
7 1, 2008, the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the
8 Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere, shall pre-

1 scribe regulations to reduce the incidence of vessels col-
2 liding with North Atlantic right whales (*Eubalaena*
3 *glacialis*) by limiting the speed of vessels.

4 (b) INCORPORATION OF PROPOSED RULE.—The reg-
5 ulations required by subsection (a) shall—

6 (1) incorporate the whale protection measures
7 contained in the proposed rule entitled “Endangered
8 Fish and Wildlife; Proposed Rule to Implement
9 Speed Restrictions to Reduce the Threat of Ship
10 Collisions with North Atlantic Right Whales” (71
11 Fed. Reg. 36299; June 26, 2006); and

12 (2) provide the same or greater level of protec-
13 tion against collisions with vessels.

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