

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2444

To authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal years 2015 through 2016, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 5, 2014

Mr. BEGICH (for himself, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. THUNE, and Ms. CANTWELL) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal years 2015 through 2016, 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. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Coast Guard Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 2015
6 and 2016”.

7 (b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents of
8 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—AUTHORIZATION

- Sec. 101. Authorization of appropriations.
- Sec. 102. Authorized levels of military strength and training.

TITLE II—ORGANIZATION

- Sec. 201. Commandant; appointment.
- Sec. 202. Prevention and response workforces.
- Sec. 203. Clarification of Coast Guard ice operations mission.
- Sec. 204. Coast Guard centers of expertise.
- Sec. 205. Research, development, testing, and evaluation.
- Sec. 206. Arctic maritime domain awareness.
- Sec. 207. Annual Board of Visitors.

TITLE III—PERSONNEL

- Sec. 301. Flag officers; determination of unfitness.
- Sec. 302. Acquisition workforce expedited hiring authority.
- Sec. 303. Post-service maritime employment opportunities.
- Sec. 304. Coast Guard remission of indebtedness.
- Sec. 305. Coast Guard family support and child care.
- Sec. 306. Active duty for emergency augmentation of regular forces.
- Sec. 307. Expedited reimbursement for medical goods and services.

TITLE IV—ADMINISTRATION

- Sec. 401. Transmission of annual Coast Guard authorization request.
- Sec. 402. Recovery of travel and subsistence costs for prevention services.
- Sec. 403. Retired servicemembers and family members serving on advisory committees.
- Sec. 404. Housing choices for Coast Guard families with special medical needs.
- Sec. 405. Authority to construct Coast Guard child development center facilities.
- Sec. 406. Heavy polar icebreaker design and construction.
- Sec. 407. Forward operating facilities.
- Sec. 408. Enhanced national response capability.
- Sec. 409. Updates to fines and penalties.
- Sec. 410. Technical amendment; Coast Guard Academy charges and fees for attendance.

TITLE V—SHIPPING AND NAVIGATION

- Sec. 501. Prompt intergovernmental notice of marine casualties.
- Sec. 502. Drug testing reporting.
- Sec. 503. Protection and fair treatment of seafarers.
- Sec. 504. Vessel requirements for notices of arrival and departure and automatic identification system.
- Sec. 505. Improved safety information for vessels.
- Sec. 506. Prompt publication of oil spill information.
- Sec. 507. Area contingency plans.
- Sec. 508. Coast Guard response plan requirements.

TITLE VI—MISCELLANEOUS

- Sec. 601. Waivers.
- Sec. 602. Inflationary adjustment for Regional Citizens' Advisory Council.

1 **TITLE I—AUTHORIZATION**

2 **SEC. 101. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

3 Funds are authorized to be appropriated for each of
4 fiscal years 2015 and 2016 for necessary expenses of the
5 Coast Guard as follows:

6 (1) For the operation and maintenance of the
7 Coast Guard, \$6,981,036,000 for each of fiscal
8 years 2015 and 2016, of which \$24,500,000 is au-
9 thORIZED each fiscal year to be derived from the Oil
10 Spill Liability Trust Fund to carry out the purposes
11 of section 1012(a)(5) of the Oil Pollution Act of
12 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2712(a)(5)).

13 (2) For the acquisition, construction, rebuild-
14 ing, and improvement of aids to navigation, shore
15 and offshore facilities, vessels, and aircraft, includ-
16 ing equipment related thereto, \$1,545,312,000 for
17 each of fiscal years 2015 and 2016 to remain avail-
18 able until expended, of which—

19 (A) \$20,000,000 is authorized each fiscal
20 year to be derived from the Oil Spill Liability
21 Trust Fund to carry out the purposes of section
22 1012(a)(5) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33
23 U.S.C. 2712(a)(5)); and

24 (B) \$55,000,000 is authorized each fiscal
25 year for a service life extension of 7 to 10 years

1 for the Coast Guard Cutter POLAR SEA
2 (WAGB 11).

3 (3) For operation and maintenance of the Coast
4 Guard Reserve program, including personnel and
5 training costs, equipment, and services,
6 \$140,016,000 for each of fiscal years 2015 and
7 2016.

8 (4) For research, development, testing, and
9 evaluation of technologies, materials, and human
10 factors directly related to improving the performance
11 of the Coast Guard's mission in support of search
12 and rescue, aids to navigation, marine safety, marine
13 environmental protection, enforcement of laws and
14 treaties, ice operations, and defense readiness,
15 \$19,890,000 for each of fiscal years 2015 and 2016.

16 (5) For retired pay (including the payment of
17 obligations otherwise chargeable to lapsed appropria-
18 tions for this purpose), payments under the Retired
19 Serviceman's Family Protection and Survivor Ben-
20 efit Plans, and payments for medical and dental care
21 of retired personnel and their dependents under
22 chapter 55 or title 10, United States Code,
23 \$1,460,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2015 and
24 2016, to remain available until expended.

1 (6) For alteration or removal of bridges over
2 navigable waters of the United States constituting
3 obstructions to navigation, and for personnel and
4 administrative costs associated with the Alteration of
5 Bridges Program, \$16,000,000 for each of fiscal
6 years 2015 and 2016.

7 (7) For environmental compliance and restora-
8 tion functions under chapter 19 of title 14, United
9 States Code, \$16,701,000 for each of fiscal years
10 2015 and 2016, to remain available until expended.

11 **SEC. 102. AUTHORIZED LEVELS OF MILITARY STRENGTH**
12 **AND TRAINING.**

13 (a) ACTIVE DUTY STRENGTH.—The Coast Guard is
14 authorized an end-of-year strength for active duty per-
15 sonnel of 47,000 for each of fiscal years 2015 and 2016.

16 (b) MILITARY TRAINING STUDENT LOADS.—The
17 Coast Guard is authorized average military training stu-
18 dent loads for each of fiscal years 2015 and 2016 as fol-
19 lows:

20 (1) For recruit and special training, 2,500 stu-
21 dent years.

22 (2) For flight training, 165 student years.

23 (3) For professional training in military and ci-
24 vilian institutions, 350 student years.

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

1 **TITLE II—ORGANIZATION**

2 **SEC. 201. COMMANDANT; APPOINTMENT.**

3 Section 44 of title 14, United States Code, is amend-
 4 ed by inserting after the first sentence the following: “The
 5 term of an appointment, and any reappointment, shall
 6 begin on June 1 of the current year and end 4 years later
 7 on May 31, except that, in the event of death, retirement,
 8 resignation, or reassignment, or when the needs of the
 9 Service demand, the Secretary may alter the date on which
 10 the term begins or ends as long as the term is no longer
 11 than 4 years.”.

12 **SEC. 202. PREVENTION AND RESPONSE WORKFORCES.**

13 Section 57 of title 14, United States Code, is amend-
 14 ed—

15 (1) in subsection (b)—

16 (A) in paragraph (2) by striking “or” at
 17 the end;

18 (B) in paragraph (3) by striking the period
 19 at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

20 (C) by adding at the end the following:

21 “(4) waterways operations manager shall have
 22 knowledge, skill, and practical experience with re-
 23 spect to marine transportation system management;
 24 or

1 “(5) port and facility safety and security spe-
 2 cialist shall have knowledge, skill, and practical ex-
 3 perience with respect to the safety, security, and en-
 4 vironmental protection responsibilities associated
 5 with maritime ports and facilities.”;

6 (2) in subsection (c) by striking “or marine
 7 safety engineer” and inserting “marine safety engi-
 8 neer, waterways operations manager, or port and fa-
 9 cility safety and security specialist”; and

10 (3) in subsection (f)(2) by striking “investigator
 11 or marine safety engineer.” and inserting “investi-
 12 gator, marine safety engineer, waterways operations
 13 manager, or port and facility safety and security
 14 specialist.”.

15 **SEC. 203. CLARIFICATION OF COAST GUARD ICE OPER-**
 16 **ATIONS MISSION.**

17 (a) COAST GUARD PROVISION OF FEDERAL
 18 ICEBREAKING SERVICES.—Chapter 5 of title 14, United
 19 States Code, is amended by inserting after section 86 the
 20 following:

21 **“§ 87. Provision of icebreaking services**

22 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other pro-
 23 vision of law, except as provided in subsection (b), the
 24 Coast Guard shall be the sole supplier of icebreaking serv-

1 ices, on an advance payment or reimbursable basis, to
2 each Federal agency that requires icebreaking services.

3 “(b) EXCEPTION.—In the event that a Federal agen-
4 cy requires icebreaking services and the Coast Guard is
5 unable to provide the services, the Federal agency may
6 acquire icebreaking services from another entity.”.

7 (b) PRIORITY OF COAST GUARD MISSIONS IN POLAR
8 REGIONS.—

9 (1) SECTION 110.—Section 110(b)(2) of the
10 Arctic Research and Policy Act of 1984 (15 U.S.C.
11 4109(b)(2)) is amended—

12 (A) by inserting “to execute the statutory
13 missions of the Coast Guard and” after “need-
14 ed”; and

15 (B) by inserting “and all budget authority
16 related to such operations” after “projects,”.

17 (2) SECTION 312.—Section 312(c) of the Ant-
18 arctic Marine Living Resources Convention Act of
19 1984 (16 U.S.C. 2441(c)) is amended by inserting
20 “to execute the statutory missions of the Coast
21 Guard and” after “needed”.

22 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-
23 tents for chapter 5 of title 14, United States Code, is
24 amended by inserting after the item relating to section 86
25 the following:

“87. Provision of icebreaking services.”.

1 **SEC. 204. COAST GUARD CENTERS OF EXPERTISE.**

2 Section 58(b) of title 14, United States Code, is
3 amended to read as follows:

4 “(b) MISSIONS.—A center shall—

5 “(1) promote, facilitate, and conduct education,
6 training, and research programs;

7 “(2) develop and maintain a repository of infor-
8 mation on operations, practices, and resources; and

9 “(3) perform and support any mission of the
10 Coast Guard that the Commandant may specify.”.

11 **SEC. 205. RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TESTING, AND EVAL-**
12 **UATION.**

13 (a) RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TESTING, AND
14 EVALUATION.—Section 93 of title 14, United States Code,
15 is amended—

16 (1) in subsection (a)(4), by striking “agencies
17 and with private agencies;” and inserting “agencies,
18 private agencies, and, through the Secretary with
19 the concurrence of the Secretary of State, with for-
20 eign government agencies;”; and

21 (2) by adding at the end the following:

22 “(f) EQUIPMENT, TECHNOLOGY, AND TECH-
23 Niques.—For the purposes of subsection (a)(4), the Com-
24 mandant is authorized to possess, use, and consume any
25 personal property or materials of another government
26 agency or a private agency, or a foreign government agen-

1 cy, subject to the conditions regarding foreign government
2 agencies imposed by that subsection, for the purpose of
3 conducting research, development, testing, evaluation, and
4 demonstration of equipment, technology, or a technique.”.

5 (b) TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM COVERAGE OF
6 TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS.—
7 Section 93(a)(7) of title 14, United States Code, is amend-
8 ed by inserting “and those textbooks, manuals, and other
9 materials required as a part of such training or courses
10 of instruction” after “correspondence courses,”.

11 (c) LEASE OF TIDELANDS AND SUBMERGED LANDS
12 UNDER CONTROL OF THE COAST GUARD.—Section 93 of
13 title 14, United States Code, as amended by subsection
14 (a) of this section, is further amended by adding at the
15 end the following:

16 “(g) LEASE OF TIDELANDS AND SUBMERGED
17 LANDS.—

18 “(1) EXCEPTION FROM MAXIMUM LEASE
19 TERM.—Notwithstanding subsection (a)(13), a lease
20 described in paragraph (2) may be for such term in
21 excess of 5 years as the Commandant considers ap-
22 propriate.

23 “(2) LEASE DESCRIBED.—A lease referred to in
24 paragraph (1) is a lease of the following:

1 maritime domain between the participating
2 agencies and departments under paragraph (3).

3 “(3) PARTICIPATING AGENCIES AND DEPART-
4 MENTS.—The Committee shall coordinate the par-
5 ticipation by and sharing of information, intel-
6 ligence, and data related to the Arctic maritime do-
7 main between the following:

8 “(A) the Department of Homeland Secu-
9 rity;

10 “(B) the Department of Defense;

11 “(C) the Department of Transportation;

12 “(D) the Department of State;

13 “(E) the Department of the Interior;

14 “(F) the National Aeronautics and Space
15 Administration;

16 “(G) the National Oceanic and Atmos-
17 pheric Administration;

18 “(H) the Environmental Protection Agen-
19 cy; and

20 “(I) the National Science Foundation.

21 “(b) ORGANIZATION.—The Secretary and the head of
22 an agency or a department under subsection (a)(3) may—

23 “(1) by agreement, on a reimbursable basis or
24 otherwise, provide representation on the Committee;

1 “(2) by agreement, on a reimbursable basis or
2 otherwise, share personnel, services, equipment, and
3 facilities with the Committee for the purpose under
4 subsection (a)(2); and

5 “(3) to the extent possible, and consistent with
6 applicable law, extend the authorities provided under
7 their enabling statutes to the other participating de-
8 partments and agencies in furtherance of the pur-
9 pose under subsection (a)(2).

10 “(c) INFORMATION SHARING.—

11 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary and the
12 head of each participating agency and department
13 under subsection (a)(3), to the maximum extent per-
14 missible under law, shall share through the Com-
15 mittee all applicable information, intelligence, and
16 data related to maritime domain awareness in the
17 Arctic.

18 “(2) COLLECTION AND USE.—Subject to appli-
19 cable confidentiality and privacy laws, the Secretary,
20 through the Committee, shall oversee and coordinate
21 the collection, storage, analysis, and use of all appli-
22 cable information, intelligence, and data shared
23 under paragraph (1).

24 “(d) 5-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN.—Not later than 180
25 days after the date that the Committee is established

1 under subsection (a), the Secretary shall develop a 5-year
2 strategic plan to guide interagency and international inter-
3 governmental cooperation and coordination for the pur-
4 pose of improving maritime domain awareness in the Arc-
5 tic. The Secretary shall update the plan periodically.

6 “(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

7 “(1) ARCTIC.—The term ‘Arctic’ has the mean-
8 ing given the term in section 112 of the Arctic Re-
9 search and Policy Act of 1984 (15 U.S.C. 4111).

10 “(2) MARITIME DOMAIN AWARENESS.—The
11 term ‘maritime domain awareness’ means the effec-
12 tive understanding of anything associated with the
13 maritime domain that could impact the safety, secu-
14 rity, economy, or environment of the United
15 States.”.

16 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-
17 tents for chapter 7 of title 14, United States Code, is
18 amended by inserting after the item relating to section
19 153 the following:

“154. Interagency Arctic Maritime Domain Awareness Committee.”.

20 **SEC. 207. ANNUAL BOARD OF VISITORS.**

21 Section 194 of title 14, United States Code, is
22 amended to read as follows:

1 **“§ 194. Annual Board of Visitors**

2 “(a) IN GENERAL.—A Board of Visitors to the Coast
3 Guard Academy is established to review and make rec-
4 ommendations on the operation of the Academy.

5 “(b) MEMBERSHIP.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The membership of the
7 Board shall consist of the following:

8 “(A) The chairman of the Committee on
9 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the
10 Senate, or the chairman’s designee.

11 “(B) The chairman of the Committee on
12 Transportation and Infrastructure of the House
13 of Representatives, or the chairman’s designee.

14 “(C) 3 Members of the Senate designated
15 by the Vice President.

16 “(D) 4 Members of the House of Rep-
17 resentatives designated by the Speaker of the
18 House of Representatives.

19 “(E) 6 individuals designated by the Presi-
20 dent.

21 “(2) LENGTH OF SERVICE.—

22 “(A) MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.—A Member
23 of Congress designated under subparagraph (C)
24 or (D) of paragraph (1) as a member of the
25 Board shall be designated as a member in the

1 first session of a Congress and serve for the du-
2 ration of that Congress.

3 “(B) INDIVIDUALS DESIGNATED BY THE
4 PRESIDENT.—Each individual designated by the
5 President under subparagraph (E) of para-
6 graph (1) shall serve as a member of the Board
7 for 3 years, except that any such member whose
8 term of office has expired shall continue to
9 serve until a successor is appointed.

10 “(3) DEATH OR RESIGNATION OF A MEMBER.—
11 If a member of the Board dies or resigns, a suc-
12 cessor shall be designated for any unexpired portion
13 of the term of the member by the official who des-
14 ignated the member.

15 “(c) ACADEMY VISITS.—

16 “(1) ANNUAL VISIT.—The Board shall visit the
17 Academy annually to review the operation of the
18 Academy.

19 “(2) ADDITIONAL VISITS.—With the approval
20 of the Secretary, the Board or individual members
21 of the Board may make other visits to the Academy
22 in connection with the duties of the Board or to con-
23 sult with the Superintendent of the Academy.

24 “(d) SCOPE OF REVIEW.—The Board shall review,
25 with respect to the Academy—

1 “(1) the state of morale and discipline;
2 “(2) the curriculum;
3 “(3) the instruction;
4 “(4) the physical equipment;
5 “(5) the fiscal affairs; and
6 “(6) other matters relating to the Academy that
7 the Board determines appropriate.

8 “(e) REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the date
9 of an annual visit of the Board under subsection (c)(1),
10 the Board shall submit to the Secretary, the Committee
11 on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate,
12 and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
13 of the House of Representatives a report on the actions
14 of the Board during such visit and the recommendations
15 of the Board pertaining to the Academy.

16 “(f) ADVISORS.—If approved by the Secretary, the
17 Board may consult with advisors in carrying out this sec-
18 tion.

19 “(g) REIMBURSEMENT.—Each member of the Board
20 and each adviser consulted by the Board under subsection
21 (f) shall be reimbursed, to the extent permitted by law,
22 by the Coast Guard for actual expenses incurred while en-
23 gaged in duties as a member or an adviser.”.

1 **TITLE III—PERSONNEL**

2 **SEC. 301. FLAG OFFICERS; DETERMINATION OF UNFITNESS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter D of chapter 11 of
4 title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the
5 end the following:

6 **“§ 316. Flag officers; determination of unfitness**

7 “When the Coast Guard is not operating as a service
8 in the Navy—

9 “(1) section 1216(d) of title 10 shall not apply
10 with respect to any member who is a flag officer
11 being processed for retirement by reason of age or
12 length of service; and

13 “(2) the Secretary may, with respect to any
14 member who is a flag officer being processed for re-
15 tirement by reason of age or length of service—

16 “(A) retire such member under section
17 1201 of title 10;

18 “(B) place such member on the temporary
19 disability retired list under section 1202 of title
20 10; or

21 “(C) separate such member from the Coast
22 Guard under section 1203 of title 10;

23 by reason of unfitness to perform the duties of the
24 flag officer’s office, grade, rank, or rating without
25 approval by the Secretary of Defense or the rec-

1 commendation of the Assistant Secretary of Defense
2 for Health Affairs.”.

3 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-
4 tents for subchapter D of chapter 11 of title 14, United
5 States Code, is amended by adding at the end, the fol-
6 lowing:

“316. Flag officers; determination of unfitness.”.

7 **SEC. 302. ACQUISITION WORKFORCE EXPEDITED HIRING**
8 **AUTHORITY.**

9 Section 404(b) of the Coast Guard Authorization Act
10 of 2010 (124 Stat. 2951), as amended by section 218 of
11 the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of
12 2012 (126 Stat. 1558), is amended by striking “2015”
13 and inserting “2017”.

14 **SEC. 303. POST-SERVICE MARITIME EMPLOYMENT OPPOR-**
15 **TUNITIES.**

16 (a) MERCHANT MARINE POST-SERVICE CAREER OP-
17 PORTUNITIES.—Not later than 180 days after the date of
18 enactment of this Act, the Commandant of the Coast
19 Guard shall take steps to promote better awareness, on
20 an ongoing basis, among Coast Guard personnel regarding
21 post-service use of Coast Guard training, education, and
22 practical experience as qualifying experience in satisfac-
23 tion of requirements for merchant mariner credentials
24 under section 11.213 of title 46, Code of Federal Regula-
25 tions.

1 (b) **TIMELY PROVISION OF SEA SERVICE LET-**
 2 **TERS.**—Chapter 11 of title 14, United States Code, is
 3 amended by inserting after section 427 the following:

4 **“§ 428. Timely provision of sea service letters**

5 “A member of the Coast Guard who will retire or sep-
 6 arate from the Service and who is eligible to receive a sea
 7 service letter shall be provided such sea service letter, at
 8 the member’s request, not later than 90 days after making
 9 such request.”.

10 (c) **CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**—The table of con-
 11 tents for chapter 11 of title 14, United States Code, is
 12 amended by inserting after the item relating to section
 13 427 the following:

“428. Timely provision of sea service letters.”.

14 **SEC. 304. COAST GUARD REMISSION OF INDEBTEDNESS.**

15 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 461 of title 14, United
 16 States Code, is amended to read as follows:

17 **“§ 461. Remission of indebtedness**

18 “The Secretary or the Secretary’s designee may have
 19 remitted or cancelled any part of an individual’s indebted-
 20 ness to the United States or any instrumentality of the
 21 United States if—

22 “(1) the indebtedness was incurred while the in-
 23 dividual served on active duty as a member of the
 24 Coast Guard; and

1 “(2) the Secretary or the Secretary’s designee
2 considers remitting or cancelling any part of the in-
3 debtedness to be in the best interest of the United
4 States.”.

5 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-
6 tents for chapter 13 of title 14, United States Code, is
7 amended by striking the item relating to section 461 and
8 inserting the following:

 “461. Remission of indebtedness.”.

9 **SEC. 305. COAST GUARD FAMILY SUPPORT AND CHILD**
10 **CARE.**

11 (a) SECTION REDESIGNATIONS.—

12 (1) REIMBURSEMENT FOR ADOPTION EX-
13 PENSES.—Chapter 13 of part I of title 14, United
14 States Code, is amended by redesignating section
15 514 as section 541.

16 (2) CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES.—Chapter
17 13 of part I of title 14, United States Code, is
18 amended by redesignating section 515 as section
19 552.

20 (b) GENERAL PROVISIONS.—Part I of title 14,
21 United States Code, is amended by inserting before sec-
22 tion 541, as redesignated, the following:

1 **“CHAPTER 14—COAST GUARD FAMILY**
2 **SUPPORT AND CHILD CARE AUTHORITIES**

3 “SUBCHAPTER A—GENERAL PROVISIONS

4 **“§ 531. Work-life policies and programs**

5 “The Commandant is authorized—

6 “(1) to establish a program for the purpose of
7 developing and promulgating policies that promote
8 or support the well-being of Coast Guard active
9 duty, reserve, and civilian personnel, and their fami-
10 lies;

11 “(2) to implement and oversee the policies
12 under paragraph (1) as the Commandant considers
13 necessary; and

14 “(3) to perform such other duties as the Com-
15 mandant considers necessary to promote or support
16 the well-being of Coast Guard active duty, reserve,
17 and civilian personnel, and their families.

18 **“§ 532. Surveys of Coast Guard families**

19 “(a) AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
20 sion of law, the Commandant, in order to determine the
21 effectiveness of Federal programs that promote or support
22 the well-being of Coast Guard active duty, reserve, and
23 civilian personnel, and their families, may survey—

24 “(1) any Coast Guard active duty, reserve, or
25 civilian personnel;

1 **“§ 542. Education and training opportunities for**
2 **Coast Guard spouses**

3 “(a) TUTION ASSISTANCE; EDUCATION AND TRAIN-
4 ING.—The Commandant may provide, subject to the avail-
5 ability of appropriations, tuition assistance to an eligible
6 spouse of a member of the Coast Guard in achieving—

7 “(1) the education and training required for a
8 degree or credential, that expands employment and
9 portable career opportunities for the spouse, at an
10 accredited college, university, or technical school in
11 the United States; or

12 “(2) the education prerequisites and profes-
13 sional licensure or credentialing required by a gov-
14 ernment or government-sanctioned licensing body for
15 an occupation that expands employment and port-
16 able career opportunities for the spouse.

17 “(b) DEFINITIONS.—For the purposes of this sec-
18 tion—

19 “(1) ELIGIBLE SPOUSE.—

20 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘eligible
21 spouse’ means the spouse of a member of the
22 Coast Guard who is serving on active duty, in-
23 cluding a spouse who receives transitional sup-
24 port in the case of such a member who is dis-
25 charged due to domestic violence.

1 “(B) EXCLUSIONS.—The term ‘eligible
2 spouse’ does not include—

3 “(i) a person who is married to, but
4 legally separated from, a member of the
5 Coast Guard under court order or statute
6 of any State or territorial possession of the
7 United States; or

8 “(ii) a person who is eligible for tui-
9 tion assistance as a member of the armed
10 forces.

11 “(2) PORTABLE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES.—The
12 term ‘portable career opportunities’ includes an oc-
13 cupation requiring education, training, or both, that
14 results in a credential that is recognized by an in-
15 dustry, profession, or specific type of business.

16 **“§ 543. Youth sponsorship initiatives**

17 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant is authorized
18 to establish, within any Coast Guard unit, an initiative
19 to help integrate into new communities the dependent chil-
20 dren of members of the Coast Guard when the members
21 receive permanent change of station orders.

22 “(b) DESCRIPTION OF INITIATIVE.—A youth spon-
23 sorship initiative under this section shall—

1 “(1) apply to a dependent child who resides in
2 the new community due to a permanent change of
3 station order;

4 “(2) provide for the involvement of a dependent
5 child of a member of the Coast Guard in the de-
6 pendent child’s new Coast Guard community; and

7 “(3) primarily focus on children in their preteen
8 and teenage years.”.

9 (d) COAST GUARD CHILD CARE.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL; DEFINITIONS.—Part I of title
11 14, United States Code, is amended by inserting be-
12 fore section 552, as redesignated, the following:

13 “SUBCHAPTER C—COAST GUARD CHILD CARE

14 “§ 551. Definitions

15 “In this subchapter:

16 “(1) CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT.—The term
17 ‘child abuse and neglect’ has the meaning given the
18 term in section 3 of the Child Abuse Prevention and
19 Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5101 note).

20 “(2) CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER EM-
21 PLOYEE.—The term ‘child development center em-
22 ployee’ means a civilian employee of the Coast
23 Guard who is employed to work in a Coast Guard
24 child development center regardless of whether the

1 employee is paid from appropriated or non-
2 appropriated funds.

3 “(3) COAST GUARD CHILD DEVELOPMENT CEN-
4 TER.—

5 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘Coast
6 Guard child development center’ means a facil-
7 ity on Coast Guard property or on property
8 under the jurisdiction of the commander of a
9 Coast Guard unit, at which child care services
10 are provided for members of the Coast Guard.

11 “(B) EXCLUSIONS.—The term ‘Coast
12 Guard child development center’ does not in-
13 clude a child care services facility for which
14 space is allotted under section 590 of title 40.

15 “(4) COMPETITIVE SERVICE POSITION.—The
16 term ‘competitive service position’ means a position
17 in the competitive service (as defined in section
18 2102(a)(1) of title 5).

19 “(5) FAMILY HOME DAYCARE.—The term ‘fam-
20 ily home daycare’ means home-based child care serv-
21 ices provided for a member of the Coast Guard by
22 an individual who—

23 “(A) is certified by the Commandant as
24 qualified to provide home-based child care serv-
25 ices; and

1 “(B) provides home-based child care serv-
2 ices on a regular basis in exchange for mone-
3 tary compensation.”.

4 (2) CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES.—

5 (A) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense
6 of the Congress that the amount of appro-
7 priated funds available during a fiscal year for
8 operating expenses for Coast Guard child devel-
9 opment services should be, at a minimum, not
10 less than the amount of child development cen-
11 ter fee receipts that are estimated to be col-
12 lected by the Coast Guard during that fiscal
13 year. In this subparagraph, the term “child de-
14 velopment center fee receipts” means those
15 nonappropriated funds derived from fees paid
16 by members of the Coast Guard for child care
17 services provided at Coast Guard child develop-
18 ment centers.

19 (B) HEADINGS.—Section 552 of title 14,
20 United States Code, as redesignated, is amend-
21 ed—

22 (i) in subsection (a), by inserting “IN
23 GENERAL.—” before “The Commandant”;

1 (ii) in subsection (b)(1), by inserting
 2 “FUNDING FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT
 3 SERVICES.—” before “The Commandant”;

4 (iii) in subsection (b)(2)(A), by insert-
 5 ing “PARENT FEES.—” before “The Com-
 6 mandant”;

7 (iv) in subsection (b)(2)(B), by insert-
 8 ing “WAIVER AUTHORITY.—” before “Fees
 9 to be charged”; and

10 (v) in subsection (b)(2)(C), by insert-
 11 ing “FEE COLLECTION AND USE.—” be-
 12 fore “The Commandant”.

13 (3) CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER STANDARDS
 14 AND INSPECTIONS.—Part I of title 14, United
 15 States Code, is amended—

16 (A) in section 552, as redesignated—

17 (i) by striking subsections (c) and (e);

18 and

19 (ii) by redesignating subsection (d) as
 20 subsection (e); and

21 (B) by adding after section 552, as redес-
 22 igned, the following:

1 **“§ 553. Child development center standards and in-**
 2 **spections**

3 “(a) EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT STAND-
 4 ARDS.—The Commandant shall require that each child de-
 5 velopment center meets applicable health and safety
 6 standards.

7 “(b) SAFETY STANDARDS.—The Commandant shall
 8 require that each child development center under this sub-
 9 chapter meets such safety standards as the Commandant
 10 considers appropriate to ensure the health, safety, and
 11 welfare of the children and employees at the child develop-
 12 ment center.

13 “(c) INSPECTIONS.—The Commandant shall provide
 14 for regular and unannounced inspections of each child de-
 15 velopment center under this subchapter to ensure compli-
 16 ance with this section.

17 “(d) NATIONAL REPORTING.—

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant shall
 19 maintain and publicize a means by which an indi-
 20 vidual can report—

21 “(A) any suspected violation of—

22 “(i) standards of operation;

23 “(ii) health or safety standards; or

24 “(iii) other law or standards;

25 “(B) any suspected child abuse or neglect;

26 or

1 “(C) any other deficiency at a Coast Guard
2 child development center or in family home
3 daycare.

4 “(2) ANONYMOUS REPORTING.—The Com-
5 mandant shall ensure that a report under paragraph
6 (1) can be made anonymously if so desired by the
7 individual making the report.

8 “(3) PROCEDURES.—The Commandant shall
9 establish procedures for investigating a report under
10 paragraph (1).”.

11 (4) ADDITIONAL CHILD CARE PROVISIONS.—
12 Part I is amended by adding after section 553 the
13 following:

14 **“§ 554. Child development center employees**

15 “(a) TRAINING.—

16 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant shall
17 prescribe a training program for Coast Guard child
18 development center employees. Satisfactory comple-
19 tion of the training program shall be a condition of
20 employment for an employee of a Coast Guard child
21 development center. The Commandant shall require
22 each employee complete the training program not
23 later than 6 months after the date that the employee
24 is employed as a Coast Guard child development
25 center employee.

1 “(2) MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS.—The training
2 program shall include, at a minimum, instruction in
3 the following:

4 “(A) Early childhood development.

5 “(B) Activities and disciplinary techniques
6 appropriate to children of different ages.

7 “(C) Child abuse and neglect prevention
8 and detection.

9 “(D) Cardiopulmonary resuscitation and
10 other emergency medical procedures.

11 “(3) USE OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PRO-
12 GRAMS.—The Commandant may use Department of
13 Defense training programs on a reimbursable or
14 nonreimbursable basis, for purposes of complying
15 with the requirements of this subsection.

16 “(b) TRAINING AND CURRICULUM SPECIALISTS.—

17 “(1) SPECIALIST REQUIRED.—The Com-
18 mandant shall require that at least 1 employee at
19 each Coast Guard child development center be a spe-
20 cialist in training and curriculum development with
21 appropriate credentials and experience.

22 “(2) DUTIES.—The duties of the employee
23 under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

24 “(A) Special teaching activities at the
25 Coast Guard child development center.

1 “(B) Daily oversight and instruction of
2 other child care employees at the Coast Guard
3 child development center.

4 “(C) Daily assistance in the preparation of
5 lesson plans.

6 “(D) Assisting with child abuse and ne-
7 glect prevention and detection at the Coast
8 Guard child development center.

9 “(E) Advising the director of the Coast
10 Guard child development center on the perform-
11 ance of the other child care employees.

12 “(3) COMPETITIVE SERVICE.—Each employee
13 under paragraph (1) shall be an employee in a com-
14 petitive service position.

15 **“§ 555. Parent partnerships with child development**
16 **centers**

17 “(a) PARENT BOARDS.—

18 “(1) FORMATION.—The Commandant shall re-
19 quire that there be formed at each Coast Guard
20 child development center a board of parents, to be
21 composed of parents of children attending the cen-
22 ter.

23 “(2) FUNCTIONS.—Each parent board shall—

24 “(A) meet periodically with the staff and
25 the commander of the unit served by the center

1 at which the parent board is formed, for the
2 purpose of discussing problems and concerns;
3 and

4 “(B) be responsible, together with the staff
5 of that center, for coordinating the parent par-
6 ticipation initiative required under subsection
7 (b).

8 “(3) FACA.—A board of parents under this
9 subsection shall not be subject to the Federal Advi-
10 sory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.).

11 “(b) PARENT PARTICIPATION INITIATIVE.—

12 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant is au-
13 thORIZED to establish a parent participation initiative
14 at each Coast Guard child development center to en-
15 courage and facilitate parent participation in edu-
16 cational and related activities at the center.

17 “(2) FEE REDUCTION AUTHORITY.—The Com-
18 mandant, in the case of a parent who participates in
19 an initiative adopted under paragraph (1), may es-
20 tablish fees at a lower rate than charged under sec-
21 tion 552(b)(2)(A) for that parent.”.

22 (e) COMMANDANT; GENERAL POWERS.—Section
23 93(a)(7) of title 14, United States Code, as amended by
24 section 205 of this Act, is further amended by inserting

1 “, and to eligible spouses under section 542,” after “Coast
2 Guard”.

3 (f) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

4 (1) Section 652 of the National Defense Au-
5 thorization Act for Fiscal Year 1993 (14 U.S.C. 514
6 note) is amended by striking “section 514” each
7 place it appears and inserting “section 541”.

8 (2) The table of contents for part I of title 14,
9 United States Code, is amended—

10 (A) by striking the item relating to section
11 514;

12 (B) by striking the item relating to section
13 515; and

14 (C) by adding after the item relating to
15 section 518 the following:

“CHAPTER 14. COAST GUARD FAMILY SUPPORT AND CHILD CARE
AUTHORITIES

“SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

“531. Work-life policies and programs.

“532. Surveys of Coast Guard families

“SUBCHAPTER B. COAST GUARD FAMILY SUPPORT

“541. Reimbursement for adoption expenses.

“542. Education and training opportunities for Coast Guard spouses.

“543. Youth sponsorship initiatives.

“SUBCHAPTER C. COAST GUARD CHILD CARE

“551. Definitions.

“552. Child development services.

“553. Child development center standards and inspections.

“554. Child development center employees.

“555. Parent partnerships with child development centers.”.

1 **SEC. 306. ACTIVE DUTY FOR EMERGENCY AUGMENTATION**
2 **OF REGULAR FORCES.**

3 Section 712(a) of title 14, United States Code, is
4 amended—

5 (1) by striking “another” and inserting “any
6 other”;

7 (2) by striking “prevention of” and inserting
8 “prevention of—”;

9 (3) by inserting “(1)” before “an imminent”
10 and indenting accordingly;

11 (4) in paragraph (1), as redesignated, by strik-
12 ing “unit.” and inserting “unit; and”; and

13 (5) by inserting at the end the following:

14 “(2) a major disaster or emergency (as defined
15 in section 102 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster
16 Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.
17 5122)), or a discharge (as defined in section 311(a)
18 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33
19 U.S.C. 1321(a))) that the Commandant has classi-
20 fied as a spill of national significance under the Na-
21 tional Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Con-
22 tingency Plan (part 300 of title 40, Code of Federal
23 Regulations), the Secretary may, without the con-
24 sent of the member affected, order to active duty for
25 a continuous period of not more than 120 days an
26 organized training unit of the Coast Guard Ready

1 Reserve, a member thereof, or a member not as-
 2 signed to a unit organized to serve as a unit.”.

3 **SEC. 307. EXPEDITED REIMBURSEMENT FOR MEDICAL**
 4 **GOODS AND SERVICES.**

5 Notwithstanding section 1085 of title 10, United
 6 States Code, or any other requirements under chapter 55
 7 of that title providing for the reimbursement of inpatient
 8 or outpatient medical or dental care that the Department
 9 of Defense or a military department has provided to a
 10 member or former member of the Coast Guard or a de-
 11 pendent thereof, the Secretary of the department in which
 12 the Coast Guard is operating, in lieu of such reimburse-
 13 ment, shall transfer from funds appropriated for the oper-
 14 ating expenses of the Coast Guard an amount determined
 15 by the Board of Actuaries to represent the value of care
 16 that the Department of Defense or a military department
 17 shall provide, during the fiscal year in which funds are
 18 made available, to a member or former member of the
 19 Coast Guard or a dependent thereof.

20 **TITLE IV—ADMINISTRATION**

21 **SEC. 401. TRANSMISSION OF ANNUAL COAST GUARD AU-**
 22 **THORIZATION REQUEST.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title 14, United States Code, is
 24 amended by inserting after section 662 the following:

1 **“§ 662a. Transmission of annual Coast Guard author-**
2 **ization request**

3 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the
4 date on which the President submits to Congress a budget
5 request for a fiscal year pursuant to section 1105 of title
6 31, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Com-
7 merce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the
8 Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the
9 House of Representatives a Coast Guard authorization re-
10 quest with respect to that fiscal year.

11 “(b) COAST GUARD AUTHORIZATION REQUEST DE-
12 FINED.—In this section, the term ‘Coast Guard authoriza-
13 tion request’ means proposed legislation that, with respect
14 to the Coast Guard for the relevant fiscal year, includes—

15 “(1) recommended end-of-year strengths for ac-
16 tive duty personnel and military training student
17 loads for that fiscal year, as described in section
18 661;

19 “(2) recommended authorizations of appropria-
20 tions for that fiscal year, including with respect to
21 matters described in section 662; and

22 “(3) any other matter the Secretary considers
23 appropriate for inclusion in a Coast Guard author-
24 ization bill.”.

25 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-
26 tents for chapter 17 of title 14, United States Code, is

1 amended by inserting after the item relating to section
2 662 the following:

“662a. Transmission of annual Coast Guard authorization request.”.

3 **SEC. 402. RECOVERY OF TRAVEL AND SUBSISTENCE COSTS**
4 **FOR PREVENTION SERVICES.**

5 (a) TITLE 46, UNITED STATES CODE.—Section 2110
6 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

7 (1) in subsection (c), by inserting “appropriate
8 travel and subsistence costs incurred providing a
9 service or thing of value under this subtitle and”
10 after “recover”; and

11 (2) in subsection (d), by inserting at the end
12 the following:

13 “(3) Amounts received as reimbursement for
14 appropriate travel and subsistence costs incurred
15 providing a service or thing of value under this sec-
16 tion may be credited to the account from which ex-
17 pended.

18 “(4) Reimbursement for services provided under
19 this section may include in kind reimbursement for
20 transportation, travel, and subsistence.”.

21 (b) TITLE 14, UNITED STATES CODE.—Section 664
22 of title 14, United States Code, is amended—

23 (1) in subsection (c), by inserting “appropriate
24 travel and subsistence costs incurred by the Coast

1 Guard in providing a service or thing of value,” after
2 “for the fee or charge the”;

3 (2) in subsection (e), by inserting “and, as ap-
4 propriate, for travel and subsistence costs incurred
5 when providing a service or thing of value” after
6 “charge”; and

7 (3) by adding at the end the following:

8 “(h) Reimbursement for services provided by the
9 Coast Guard may include in-kind reimbursement for
10 transportation, travel, and subsistence.”.

11 **SEC. 403. RETIRED SERVICEMEMBERS AND FAMILY MEM-**
12 **BERS SERVING ON ADVISORY COMMITTEES.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 17 of title 14, United
14 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
15 lowing:

16 **“§ 679. Retired servicemembers and family members**
17 **servicing on advisory committees**

18 “A committee within the Coast Guard that advises
19 or assists the Coast Guard in the performance of any func-
20 tion that affects members of military families and includes
21 in its membership a retired Coast Guard member or a
22 member of a military family shall not be considered an
23 advisory committee under the Federal Advisory Com-
24 mittee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) solely because of such member-
25 ship.”.

1 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-
 2 tents for chapter 17 of title 14, United States Code, is
 3 amended by inserting after the item relating to section
 4 678 the following:

“679. Retired servicemembers and family members serving on advisory commit-
 tees.”.

5 **SEC. 404. HOUSING CHOICES FOR COAST GUARD FAMILIES**
 6 **WITH SPECIAL MEDICAL NEEDS.**

7 (a) SECTION REDESIGNATIONS.—Chapter 18 of part
 8 I of title 14, United States Code, is amended—

9 (1) by redesignating section 685 as section 682;

10 (2) by redesignating section 687 as section 683;

11 and

12 (3) by redesignating section 688 as section 684.

13 (b) HOUSING CHOICES FOR COAST GUARD FAMILIES
 14 WITH SPECIAL MEDICAL NEEDS.—Chapter 18 of part I
 15 of title 14, United States Code, as amended by subsection
 16 (a) of this section, is further amended by adding at the
 17 end the following:

18 **“§ 685. Housing choices for Coast Guard families with**
 19 **special medical needs**

20 “The remoteness or driving distance from a hospital
 21 of an area shall not be the basis, in policy, for preventing
 22 a member of the Coast Guard with a dependent with spe-
 23 cial medical needs, such as diabetes, asthma, or moderate
 24 disabilities, from requesting and being granted assignment

1 to a particular area, unless the Commandant has deter-
 2 mined that such needs cannot be sufficiently met with ap-
 3 propriate services while residing in that area.”.

4 (c) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

5 (1) Section 682(b) of title 14, United States
 6 Code, as redesignated, is amended by striking “sec-
 7 tion 687” and inserting “section 683”.

8 (2) The table of contents for part I of title 14,
 9 United States Code, is amended—

10 (A) by striking the item relating to section
 11 685;

12 (B) by striking the item relating to section
 13 687;

14 (C) by striking the item relating to section
 15 688; and

16 (D) by adding after the item relating to
 17 section 681 the following:

“682. Conveyance of real property.

“683. Coast Guard Housing Fund.

“684. Reports.

“685. Housing choices for Coast Guard families with special medical needs.”.

18 **SEC. 405. AUTHORITY TO CONSTRUCT COAST GUARD CHILD**
 19 **DEVELOPMENT CENTER FACILITIES.**

20 (a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—Section 681 of title 14,
 21 United States Code, is amended—

22 (1) in subsection (a)—

1 (A) by striking “housing or military unac-
2 companied housing,” and inserting “housing,
3 military unaccompanied housing, or Coast
4 Guard child development center facilities,”; and

5 (B) by adding at the end the following:

6 “(3) Coast Guard child development center fa-
7 cilities.”; and

8 (2) in subsection (b), by striking “housing or
9 military unaccompanied housing” and inserting
10 “housing, military unaccompanied housing, or Coast
11 Guard child development center facilities”.

12 (b) CONVEYANCE OF REAL PROPERTY.—Section 682
13 of title 14, United States Code, as redesignated under sec-
14 tion 404 of this Act, is amended—

15 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “housing and
16 military unaccompanied housing” and inserting
17 “housing, military unaccompanied housing, and
18 Coast Guard child development center facilities”;

19 (2) in subsection (b)(1), by striking “housing
20 and military unaccompanied housing” and inserting
21 “housing, military unaccompanied housing, and
22 Coast Guard child development center facilities”;
23 and

24 (3) in subsection (b)(2), by striking “housing or
25 military unaccompanied housing” and inserting

1 “housing, military unaccompanied housing, or Coast
2 Guard child development center facilities”.

3 (c) COAST GUARD HOUSING FUND.—Section 683 of
4 title 14, United States Code, as redesignated under section
5 404 of this Act, is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (b)(2), by striking “housing or
7 military unaccompanied housing” and inserting
8 “housing, military unaccompanied housing, or Coast
9 Guard child development center facilities”;

10 (2) in subsection (b)(3), by striking “housing
11 and military unaccompanied housing” and inserting
12 “housing, military unaccompanied housing, and
13 Coast Guard child development center facilities”;
14 and

15 (3) in subsection (c), by striking “housing and
16 military unaccompanied housing” and inserting
17 “housing, military unaccompanied housing, and
18 Coast Guard child development center facilities”.

19 (d) DEFINITIONS.—Section 680 of title 14, United
20 States Code, is amended—

21 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through
22 (4) as paragraphs (2) through (6), respectively;

23 (2) by inserting before paragraph (2), as red-
24 igned, the following:

1 “(1) The term ‘Coast Guard child development
2 center facilities’ means buildings and ancillary sup-
3 porting facilities constructed and maintained by the
4 Coast Guard to provide child care services for mem-
5 bers of the Coast Guard.”;

6 (3) in paragraph (2), as redesignated, by strik-
7 ing “housing and military unaccompanied housing”
8 and inserting “housing, military unaccompanied
9 housing, and Coast Guard child development center
10 facilities”; and

11 (4) in paragraph (3), as redesignated, by strik-
12 ing “housing and military unaccompanied housing”
13 and inserting “housing, military unaccompanied
14 housing, and Coast Guard child development center
15 facilities”.

16 **SEC. 406. HEAVY POLAR ICEBREAKER DESIGN AND CON-**
17 **STRUCTION.**

18 (a) **COMPETITIVE BIDDING AUTHORITY.**—Notwith-
19 standing the requirement of section 3316(a) of title 46,
20 United States Code regarding classification services for
21 vessels owned by the United States Government, the Com-
22 mandant of the Coast Guard, consistent with the require-
23 ments of chapter 15 of title 14, United States Code, and
24 other applicable Federal law, as a part of any project or
25 program established for the acquisition of 1 or more new

1 heavy polar icebreakers for the Coast Guard, may solicit
2 bids and proposals and enter into contracts that include
3 the provision of classification services by any classification
4 society to which the Secretary of the department in which
5 the Coast Guard is operating has delegated the authority
6 to provide those services for vessels not owned by the
7 United States Government.

8 (b) LIMITATION.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the depart-
10 ment in which the Coast Guard is operating may not
11 expend amounts appropriated for the Coast Guard
12 for any of fiscal years 2015 through 2024, for—

13 (A) design activities related to a capability
14 of a Polar-Class Icebreaker that is based solely
15 on an operational requirement of another Fed-
16 eral department or agency, except for amounts
17 appropriated for design activities for a fiscal
18 year before fiscal year 2016; or

19 (B) long-lead-time materials, production,
20 or post-delivery activities related to such a ca-
21 pability.

22 (2) OTHER AMOUNTS.—Amounts made avail-
23 able to the Secretary under an agreement with an-
24 other Federal department or agency and expended
25 on a capability of a Polar-Class Icebreaker that is

1 based solely on an operational requirement of that or
2 another Federal department or agency shall not be
3 treated as amounts expended by the Secretary for
4 purposes of the limitation established under para-
5 graph (1).

6 **SEC. 407. FORWARD OPERATING FACILITIES.**

7 The Secretary of the department in which the Coast
8 Guard is operating is authorized to construct or lease
9 hangar, berthing, and messing facilities in the Arctic Re-
10 gion and Bering Sea-Aleutian Islands operating area. The
11 facilities shall—

12 (1) support aircraft maintenance, including ex-
13 haust ventilation, heat, engine wash system, head fa-
14 cilities, fuel, ground support services, and electrical
15 power;

16 (2) provide shelter for both current helicopter
17 assets and those projected to be located at Air Sta-
18 tion Kodiak, Alaska, for at least 20 years; and

19 (3) provide berthing and messing facilities for
20 maintenance and aircrew personnel.

21 **SEC. 408. ENHANCED NATIONAL RESPONSE CAPABILITY.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 311 of the Federal Water
23 Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1321) is amended—

24 (1) in subsection (a)(23)—

1 (A) by striking “Unit” each place it ap-
2 pears and inserting “Functions”; and

3 (B) by striking “established” and inserting
4 “maintained”;

5 (2) in subsection (j)(2), by striking “NATIONAL
6 RESPONSE UNIT” through “acting through the Na-
7 tional Response Unit” and inserting the following:

8 “NATIONAL RESPONSE FUNCTIONS.—The Sec-
9 retary of the department in which the Coast Guard
10 is operating—”; and

11 (3) in subsection (j)(4)(C)(vi), by striking “,
12 and into operating procedures of the National Re-
13 sponse Unit”.

14 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 4202(b) of
15 the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 1321 note) is
16 amended—

17 (1) by striking paragraph (2); and

18 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and (4) as
19 paragraphs (2) and (3), respectively.

20 **SEC. 409. UPDATES TO FINES AND PENALTIES.**

21 (a) AIDS TO NAVIGATION AND FALSE DISTRESS
22 MESSAGES.—Chapter 5 of title 14, United States Code,
23 is amended—

24 (1) in section 83, by striking “\$100” and in-
25 serting “\$1,500”;

1 (2) in section 84, by striking “\$500” and in-
 2 serting “\$5,000”;

3 (3) in section 85, by striking “\$100” and in-
 4 serting “\$1,500”; and

5 (4) in section 88(c)(2), by striking “\$5,000”
 6 and inserting “\$10,000”.

7 (b) COAST GUARD ENSIGNS AND PENNANTS.—Sec-
 8 tion 638(b) of title 14, United States Code, is amended
 9 by striking “\$5,000” and inserting “\$50,000”.

10 (c) UNAUTHORIZED USE OF WORDS “COAST
 11 GUARD”.—Section 639 of title 14, United States Code,
 12 is amended by striking “\$1,000” and inserting
 13 “\$10,000”.

14 **SEC. 410. TECHNICAL AMENDMENT; COAST GUARD ACAD-**
 15 **EMY CHARGES AND FEES FOR ATTENDANCE.**

16 Section 197(b) of title 14, United States Code, is
 17 amended by striking “of Homeland Security”.

18 **TITLE V—SHIPPING AND**
 19 **NAVIGATION**

20 **SEC. 501. PROMPT INTERGOVERNMENTAL NOTICE OF MA-**
 21 **RINE CASUALTIES.**

22 Section 6101 of title 46, United States Code, is
 23 amended by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

24 “(c) NOTICE TO STATE AND TRIBAL GOVERN-
 25 MENTS.—

1 “(1) REQUIREMENT TO NOTIFY.—Not later
2 than 24 hours after receiving notice of a reportable
3 marine casualty under this section, the Secretary
4 shall report the marine casualty to the designated
5 official of—

6 “(A) each appropriate State agency of a
7 State; and

8 “(B) each tribal government of an Indian
9 tribe (as defined in section 102 of the Federally
10 Recognized Indian Tribe List Act of 1994 (25
11 U.S.C. 479a)) that has jurisdiction concurrent
12 with the United States or is adjacent to waters
13 in which the marine casualty occurred.

14 “(2) DESIGNATED OFFICIAL.—Each State and
15 tribal government referred to in paragraph (1) shall
16 identify for the Secretary the designated official to
17 receive a report under paragraph (1).”.

18 **SEC. 502. DRUG TESTING REPORTING.**

19 Section 7706 of title 46, United States Code, is
20 amended—

21 (1) in subsection (a), by inserting “an applicant
22 for employment by a Federal agency,” after “Fed-
23 eral agency,”; and

24 (2) in subsection (c), by—

1 (A) inserting “or an applicant for employ-
 2 ment by a Federal agency” after “an em-
 3 ployee”; and

4 (B) striking “the employee.” and inserting
 5 “the employee or the applicant.”.

6 **SEC. 503. PROTECTION AND FAIR TREATMENT OF SEA-**
 7 **FARERS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 111 of title 46, United
 9 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
 10 lowing:

11 **“§ 11113. Protection and fair treatment of seafarers**

12 “(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section shall be
 13 to ensure the protection and fair treatment of seafarers.

14 “(b) SPECIAL FUND.—

15 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in
 16 the Treasury a special fund known as the Support
 17 of Seafarers Fund.

18 “(2) USE OF AMOUNTS IN FUND.—The
 19 amounts deposited into the Fund shall be available
 20 to the Secretary, without fiscal year limitation—

21 “(A) to pay necessary support under sub-
 22 section (c)(1); and

23 “(B) to reimburse a shipowner for nec-
 24 essary support for the duration of a seafarer’s

1 involvement in an investigation under sub-
2 section (c)(2).

3 “(3) AMOUNTS CREDITED TO FUND.—Notwith-
4 standing any other provision of law, the Fund may
5 receive—

6 “(A) any moneys ordered to be paid to the
7 Fund in the form of community service under
8 section 8B1.3 of the United States Sentencing
9 Guidelines Manual or to the extent permitted
10 under paragraph (4); and

11 “(B) amounts reimbursed or recovered
12 under subsection (e).

13 “(4) PREREQUISITE FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE
14 CREDITS.—The Fund may receive credits under
15 paragraph (3)(A) if the unobligated balance of the
16 Fund is less than \$5,000,000.

17 “(5) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATION.—
18 There is authorized to be appropriated, from the
19 Fund, for each fiscal year such sums as may be nec-
20 essary for the purposes set forth in paragraph (2).

21 “(6) REPORT REQUIRED.—

22 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
23 submit to Congress, concurrent with the Presi-
24 dent’s budget submission for a given fiscal year,
25 a report that describes—

1 “(i) the amounts credited to the Fund
2 under paragraph (3) for the preceding fis-
3 cal year;

4 “(ii) in detail, the activities for which
5 amounts were charged; and

6 “(iii) the projected level of expendi-
7 tures from the Fund for the upcoming fis-
8 cal year, based on—

9 “(I) on-going activities; and

10 “(II) new cases, derived from his-
11 toric data.

12 “(B) EXCEPTION.—Subparagraph (A)
13 shall not apply to obligations during the first
14 fiscal year during which amounts are credited
15 to the Fund.

16 “(7) FUND MANAGER.—The Secretary shall
17 designate a Fund manager who shall—

18 “(A) ensure the visibility and account-
19 ability of transactions utilizing the Fund;

20 “(B) prepare the report under paragraph
21 (6);

22 “(C) monitor the unobligated balance of
23 the Fund; and

1 “(D) provide notice to the Secretary and
2 the Attorney General whenever the unobligated
3 balance of the Fund is less than \$5,000,000.

4 “(c) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may—

5 “(1) pay, from amounts appropriated from the
6 Fund, necessary support of—

7 “(A) a seafarer that—

8 “(i) enters, remains, or is paroled into
9 the United States; and

10 “(ii) is involved in an investigation,
11 reporting, documentation, or adjudication
12 of any matter that is related to the admin-
13 istration or enforcement of any treaty, law,
14 or regulation by the Coast Guard; and

15 “(B) a seafarer that the Secretary deter-
16 mines was abandoned in the United States; and

17 “(2) reimburse, from amounts appropriated
18 from the Fund, a shipowner that has provided nec-
19 essary support of a seafarer who has been paroled
20 into the United States to facilitate an investigation,
21 reporting, documentation, or adjudication of any
22 matter that is related to the administration or en-
23 forcement of any treaty, law, or regulation by the
24 Coast Guard, for the costs of necessary support if

1 the Secretary determines that reimbursement is nec-
2 essary to avoid serious injustice.

3 “(d) LIMITATION.—Nothing in this section shall be
4 construed—

5 “(1) to create a right, benefit, or entitlement to
6 necessary support; or

7 “(2) to compel the Secretary to pay or reim-
8 burse the cost of necessary support.

9 “(e) REIMBURSEMENT; RECOVERY.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A shipowner shall reim-
11 burse the Fund an amount equal to the total
12 amount paid from the Fund for necessary support of
13 a seafarer plus a surcharge of 25 percent of the
14 total amount if—

15 “(A) the shipowner—

16 “(i) during the course of an investiga-
17 tion, reporting, documentation, or adju-
18 dication of any matter that the Coast
19 Guard referred to a United States Attor-
20 ney or the Attorney General, fails to pro-
21 vide necessary support of a seafarer who
22 was paroled into the United States to fa-
23 cilitate the investigation, reporting, docu-
24 mentation, or adjudication; and

1 “(ii) subsequently receives a criminal
2 penalty; or

3 “(B) the shipowner, under any cir-
4 cumstance, abandons a seafarer in the United
5 States, as determined by the Secretary.

6 “(2) ENFORCEMENT.—If a shipowner fails to
7 reimburse the Fund under paragraph (1), the Sec-
8 retary may—

9 “(A) proceed in rem against the vessel on
10 which the affected seafarer served in the Fed-
11 eral district court for the district in which the
12 vessel is found; and

13 “(B) withhold or revoke the clearance re-
14 quired under section 60105 of any vessel of the
15 shipowner wherever the vessel is found.

16 “(3) REMEDY.—A vessel may obtain clearance
17 from the Secretary after it is withheld or revoked
18 under paragraph (2)(B) if the shipowner reimburses
19 the Fund the amount required under paragraph (1).

20 “(f) BOND AND SURETY.—

21 “(1) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may require
22 a bond or a surety satisfactory as an alternative to
23 withholding or revoking clearance under subsection
24 (e) if, in the opinion of the Secretary, the bond or
25 surety satisfactory is necessary to facilitate an inves-

1 tigation, reporting, documentation, or adjudication
2 of any matter that is related to the administration
3 or enforcement of any treaty, law, or regulation by
4 the Coast Guard.

5 “(2) SURETY CORPORATIONS.—A surety cor-
6 poration may provide a bond or surety satisfactory
7 under paragraph (1) if the surety corporation is au-
8 thorized by the Secretary of the Treasury under sec-
9 tion 9305 of title 31 to provide surety bonds under
10 section 9304 of title 31.

11 “(3) APPLICATION.—The authority to require a
12 bond or surety satisfactory or to request the with-
13 holding or revocation of the clearance under sub-
14 section (e) applies to any investigation, reporting,
15 documentation, or adjudication of any matter that is
16 related to the administration or enforcement of any
17 treaty, law, or regulation by the Coast Guard.

18 “(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

19 “(1) ABANDONS; ABANDONED.—The term
20 ‘abandons’ or ‘abandoned’ means—

21 “(A) a shipowner’s unilateral severance of
22 ties with a seafarer; or

23 “(B) a shipowner’s failure to provide nec-
24 essary support of a seafarer.

1 “(2) FUND.—The term ‘Fund’ means the Sup-
2 port of Seafarers Fund established under this sec-
3 tion.

4 “(3) NECESSARY SUPPORT.—The term ‘nec-
5 essary support’ means normal wages, lodging, sub-
6 sistence, clothing, medical care (including hos-
7 pitalization), repatriation, and any other expense the
8 Secretary considers appropriate.

9 “(4) SEAFARER.—The term ‘seafarer’ means an
10 alien crewman who is employed or engaged in any
11 capacity on board a vessel subject to the jurisdiction
12 of the United States. A seafarer is a claimant for
13 the purposes of section 30509 of this title.

14 “(5) SHIPOWNER.—The term ‘shipowner’
15 means an individual or entity that owns, has an
16 ownership interest in, or operates a vessel subject to
17 the jurisdiction of the United States.

18 “(6) VESSEL SUBJECT TO THE JURISDICTION
19 OF THE UNITED STATES.—The term ‘vessel subject
20 to the jurisdiction of the United States’ has the
21 meaning given the term in section 70502(c), except
22 that it excludes—

23 “(A) a vessel—

1 “(i) that is owned by the United
2 States, a State or political subdivision
3 thereof, or a foreign nation; and

4 “(ii) that is not engaged in commerce;
5 and

6 “(B) a bareboat—

7 “(i) that is chartered and operated by
8 the United States, a State or political sub-
9 division thereof, or a foreign nation; and

10 “(ii) that is not engaged in commerce.

11 “(h) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary may prescribe
12 regulations to implement this section.”.

13 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-
14 tents for chapter 111 of title 46, United States Code, is
15 amended by inserting after the item relating to section
16 11112 the following:

“11113. Protection and fair treatment of seafarers.”.

17 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
18 authorized to be appropriated to the Support of Seafarers
19 Fund \$1,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2015 and 2016.

20 **SEC. 504. VESSEL REQUIREMENTS FOR NOTICES OF AR-**
21 **RIVAL AND DEPARTURE AND AUTOMATIC**
22 **IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
24 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the depart-
25 ment in which the Coast Guard is operating shall publish

1 a final rule implementing the proposed rule “Vessel Re-
2 quirements for Notices of Arrival and Departure, and
3 Automatic Identification System” (73 Fed. Reg. 76295).

4 (b) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—The Secretary of the
5 department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall
6 ensure, with respect to a final rule issued under subsection
7 (a), that any notice of arrival or notice of departure re-
8 quirement in the final rule applies to vessels in a manner
9 consistent with the regulations promulgated under section
10 109(a) of the Security and Accountability for Every Port
11 Act of 2006 (33 U.S.C. 1223 note) and with section 704
12 of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of
13 2012 (126 Stat. 1580).

14 **SEC. 505. IMPROVED SAFETY INFORMATION FOR VESSELS.**

15 Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment
16 of this Act, the Secretary of the department in which the
17 Coast Guard is operating shall establish a permitting proc-
18 ess by which an operator of a marine exchange or other
19 non-Federal vessel traffic information service may apply
20 for permission to use the automatic identification system
21 to transmit weather, ice, and other important navigation
22 safety information to vessels.

1 **SEC. 506. PROMPT PUBLICATION OF OIL SPILL INFORMA-**
2 **TION.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—In any response to an oil spill in
4 which the Coast Guard serves as the Federal on-scene co-
5 ordinator leading a unified command, the Commandant of
6 the Coast Guard shall publish, on a publicly accessible
7 website, all written incident action plans prepared and ap-
8 proved as a part of the response to the oil spill.

9 (b) TIMELINESS AND DURATION.—The Commandant
10 of the Coast Guard shall—

11 (1) publish each incident action plan under sub-
12 section (a) promptly after the incident action plan is
13 approved for implementation by the unified com-
14 mand, but not later than 12 hours after the begin-
15 ning of the operational period for which the plan is
16 prepared; and

17 (2) ensure that each incident action plan under
18 subsection (a) remains publicly accessible on the
19 website under subsection (a) for the duration of the
20 response to the applicable oil spill.

21 (c) REDACTION OF PERSONAL INFORMATION.—The
22 Commandant may redact information from an incident ac-
23 tion plans published under subsection (a) to the extent
24 necessary to comply with applicable privacy laws and other
25 laws regarding the protection of personal information.

1 **SEC. 507. AREA CONTINGENCY PLANS.**

2 Section 311(j)(4) of the Federal Water Pollution
3 Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1321(j)(4)) is amended—

4 (1) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “, and of
5 tribal governments of Indian tribes (as defined in
6 section 102 of the Federally Recognized Indian
7 Tribe List Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C. 479a))” after
8 “and local agencies”;

9 (2) in subparagraph (B)(ii)—

10 (A) by striking “and local” and inserting
11 “, local, and tribal”; and

12 (B) by striking “wildlife;” and inserting
13 “wildlife, including advance planning with re-
14 spect to the closing and reopening of fishing
15 grounds following a discharge;”;

16 (3) in subparagraph (B)(iii), by striking “and
17 local” and inserting “, local, and tribal”; and

18 (4) in subparagraph (C)—

19 (A) in clause (iv), by inserting “and tribal
20 governments of Indian tribes” after “local agen-
21 cies,”;

22 (B) by redesignating clauses (vii) and (viii)
23 as clauses (viii) and (ix), respectively; and

24 (C) by inserting after clause (vi) the fol-
25 lowing:

1 “(vii) develop a framework for ad-
2 vance planning and decisionmaking with
3 respect to the closing and reopening of
4 fishing grounds following a discharge, in-
5 cluding protocols and standards for the
6 closing and reopening of fishing areas;”.

7 **SEC. 508. COAST GUARD RESPONSE PLAN REQUIREMENTS.**

8 (a) **VESSEL RESPONSE PLAN CONTENTS.**—The Sec-
9 retary of the department in which the Coast Guard is op-
10 erating shall require that each vessel response plan pre-
11 pared for a mobile offshore drilling unit include informa-
12 tion from the facility response plan prepared for the mo-
13 bile offshore drilling unit regarding the planned response
14 to a worst case discharge, and to a threat of such a dis-
15 charge.

16 (b) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

17 (1) **MOBILE OFFSHORE DRILLING UNIT.**—The
18 term “mobile offshore drilling unit” has the meaning
19 given the term in section 1001 of the Oil Pollution
20 Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2701).

21 (2) **RESPONSE PLAN.**—The term “response
22 plan” means a response plan prepared under section
23 311(j) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act
24 (33 U.S.C. 1321(j)).

1 (3) WORST CASE DISCHARGE.—The term
2 “worst case discharge” has the meaning given the
3 term under section 311(a) of the Federal Water Pol-
4 lution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1321(a)).

5 (c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
6 tion shall be construed to require the Coast Guard to re-
7 view or approve a facility response plan for a mobile off-
8 shore drilling unit.

9 **TITLE VI—MISCELLANEOUS**

10 **SEC. 601. WAIVERS.**

11 (a) F/V WESTERN CHALLENGER.—Notwithstanding
12 sections 12112 and 12132 and chapter 551 of title 46,
13 United States Code, the Secretary of the department in
14 which the Coast Guard is operating may issue a license
15 under chapter 121 for the F/V WESTERN CHAL-
16 LENGER (IMO number 5388108).

17 (b) JOHN CRAIG.—

18 (1) EXEMPTION.—Section 8902 of title 46,
19 United States Code, shall not apply to the vessel
20 JOHN CRAIG (United States official number
21 1110613) when such vessel is operating on the por-
22 tion of the Kentucky River, Kentucky, located at ap-
23 proximately mile point 158, in Pool Number 9, be-
24 tween Lock and Dam Number 9 and Lock and Dam
25 Number 10.

1 (2) APPLICATION.—The exemption under para-
2 graph (1) shall apply on and after the date on which
3 the Secretary of the department in which the Coast
4 Guard is operating determines that a licensing re-
5 quirement has been established under Kentucky
6 State law that applies to an operator of the vessel
7 JOHN CRAIG.

8 **SEC. 602. INFLATIONARY ADJUSTMENT FOR REGIONAL**
9 **CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL.**

10 Section 5002(k)(3) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990
11 (33 U.S.C. 2732(k)(3)) is amended by striking “not more
12 than \$1,000,000” and inserting “not less than
13 \$1,400,000”.

○