Public Law 96-459  
96th Congress  
An Act

Oct. 15, 1980  
[H.R. 6554]

To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1981 and a supplemental appropriation for fiscal year 1980 for certain maritime programs of the Department of Commerce, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "Maritime Appropriation Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1981".

Sec. 2. Funds are authorized to be appropriated without fiscal year limitation as the appropriation Act may provide for the use of the Department of Commerce for fiscal year 1981 as follows:

(1) for acquisition, construction, or reconstruction of vessels and construction-differential subsidy and cost of national defense features incident to the construction, reconstruction, or reconditioning of ships, not to exceed $135,000,000; except that no funds authorized by this paragraph may be paid to subsidize the construction of any vessel which will not be offered for enrollment in a sealift readiness program approved by the Secretary of Defense;

(2) for payment of obligations incurred for operating-differential subsidy, not to exceed $347,697,000; except that no funds authorized by this paragraph may be paid for the operation of any vessel which is not offered for participation in a sealift readiness program approved by the Secretary of Defense;

(3) for expenses necessary for research and development activities, not to exceed $17,070,000;

(4) for maritime education and training expenses, not to exceed $32,543,000, including not to exceed $18,201,000 for maritime training at the Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, New York; $12,460,000 for financial assistance to State marine schools, of which amount, $2,100,000 shall be for fuel oil for State marine school training vessels; and $1,882,000 for supplementary training courses authorized under section 216(c) of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936; and

(5) for operating expenses, not to exceed $38,864,000, including not to exceed $7,208,000 for reserve fleet expenses, and not to exceed $31,656,000 for other operating expenses.

Sec. 3. There are authorized to be appropriated for the fiscal year 1981, in addition to the amounts authorized by section 2 of this Act, such additional supplemental amounts for the activities for which appropriations are authorized under section 2 of this Act, as may be necessary for increases in salary, pay, retirement, or other employee benefits authorized by law, and for increased costs for public utilities, food service, and other expenses of the Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, New York.

Sec. 4. Paragraph (2) of section 2 of the Maritime Appropriation Authorization Act for fiscal year 1980 (Public Law 96-112) is amended by striking "$256,208,000" and substituting "$300,515,000".
Sec. 5. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 27 of the Merchant Marine Act of 1920 as amended, the Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating, shall cause the vessel Fundy Pride, built in Cape Saint Mary's, Nova Scotia, and now owned by the State of Maine, as represented by the Department of Educational and Cultural Services to be documented as a vessel of the United States, upon compliance of the usual requirements, to engage in the coastwise trade and the fisheries, so long as such vessel is owned by the State of Maine.

Approved October 15, 1980.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

HOUSE REPORT No. 96-840 (Comm. on Merchant Marine and Fisheries).
SENATE REPORT No. 96-709 (Comm. on Commerce, Science, and Transportation).
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 126 (1980):
   Apr. 15, considered and passed House.
   June 3, considered and passed Senate, amended.
   Sept. 30, House concurred in one Senate amendment and in another with an amendment; Senate concurred in House amendment.
WEEKLY COMPILATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS, Vol. 16, No. 42:
   Oct. 15, Presidential statement.