

tions prescribed by the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating:

(A) A self-propelled commercial vessel of at least 65 feet overall length.

(B) A vessel carrying more than a number of passengers for hire determined by the Secretary.

(C) A towing vessel of more than 26 feet in overall length and 600 horsepower.

(D) Any other vessel for which the Secretary decides that electronic charts are necessary for the safe navigation of the vessel.

**(2) Exemptions and waivers**

The Secretary may—

(A) exempt a vessel from paragraph (1), if the Secretary finds that electronic charts are not necessary for the safe navigation of the vessel on the waters on which the vessel operates; and

(B) waive the application of paragraph (1) with respect to operation of vessels on navigable waters of the United States specified by the Secretary, if the Secretary finds that electronic charts are not needed for safe navigation on those waters.

**(b) Regulations**

The Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall prescribe regulations implementing subsection (a) of this section before January 1, 2007, including requirements for the operation and maintenance of the electronic charts required under subsection (a) of this section.

(Pub. L. 92-340, § 4A, as added Pub. L. 108-293, title IV, § 410, Aug. 9, 2004, 118 Stat. 1045.)

**§ 1224. Considerations by Secretary**

In carrying out his duties and responsibilities under section 1223 of this title, the Secretary shall—

(a) take into account all relevant factors concerning navigation and vessel safety, protection of the marine environment, and the safety and security of United States ports and waterways, including but not limited to—

(1) the scope and degree of the risk or hazard involved;

(2) vessel traffic characteristics and trends, including traffic volume, the sizes and types of vessels involved, potential interference with the flow of commercial traffic, the presence of any unusual cargoes, and other similar factors;

(3) port and waterway configurations and variations in local conditions of geography, climate, and other similar factors;

(4) the need for granting exemptions for the installation and use of equipment or devices for use with vessel traffic services for certain classes of small vessels, such as self-propelled fishing vessels and recreational vessels;

(5) the proximity of fishing grounds, oil and gas drilling and production operations, or any other potential or actual conflicting activity;

(6) environmental factors;

(7) economic impact and effects;

(8) existing vessel traffic services; and

(9) local practices and customs, including voluntary arrangements and agreements within the maritime community; and

(b) at the earliest possible time, consult with and receive and consider the views of representatives of the maritime community, ports and harbor authorities or associations, environmental groups, and other parties who may be affected by the proposed actions.

(Pub. L. 92-340, § 5, formerly title I, § 104, July 10, 1972, 86 Stat. 427; renumbered and amended Pub. L. 95-474, § 2, Oct. 17, 1978, 92 Stat. 1474; Pub. L. 107-295, title IV, § 443(2), Nov. 25, 2002, 116 Stat. 2132.)

AMENDMENTS

2002—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 107-295 substituted “safety, protection of the marine environment, and the safety and security of United States ports and waterways,” for “safety and protection of the marine environment,” in introductory provisions.

1978—Pub. L. 95-474 substituted provision relating to factors to be considered by the Secretary and to consultation by the Secretary with affected groups for provision relating to the issuance of rules and regulations by the Secretary.

STUDY OF DESIRABILITY AND FEASIBILITY OF SHORE-STATION SYSTEMS FOR MONITORING VESSELS

Section 3 of Pub. L. 95-474 authorized the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce and other appropriate departments or agencies of the Federal Government to study the desirability and feasibility of shore-station systems for monitoring vessels within the Fishery Conservation Zone as defined in former section 1802(8) of Title 16, Conservation, required the Secretary to report his findings to Congress, within two years after Oct. 17, 1978, and authorized appropriations for such study for fiscal years 1979 and 1980.

**§ 1225. Waterfront safety**

**(a) In general**

The Secretary may take such action as is necessary to—

(1) prevent damage to, or the destruction of, any bridge or other structure on or in the navigable waters of the United States, or any land structure or shore area immediately adjacent to such waters; and

(2) protect the navigable waters and the resources therein from harm resulting from vessel or structure damage, destruction, or loss. Such action may include, but need not be limited to—

(A) establishing procedures, measures, and standards for the handling, loading, unloading, storage, stowage, and movement on the structure (including the emergency removal, control, and disposition) of explosives or other dangerous articles and substances, including oil or hazardous material as those terms are defined in section 2101 of title 46;

(B) prescribing minimum safety equipment requirements for the structure to assure adequate protection from fire, explosion, natural disaster, and other serious accidents or casualties;

(C) establishing water or waterfront safety zones, or other measures for limited, con-

trolled, or conditional access and activity when necessary for the protection of any vessel, structure, waters, or shore area; and (D) establishing procedures for examination to assure compliance with the requirements prescribed under this section.

**(b) State law**

Nothing contained in this section, with respect to structures, prohibits a State or political subdivision thereof from prescribing higher safety equipment requirements or safety standards than those which may be prescribed by regulations hereunder.

(Pub. L. 92-340, § 6, formerly title I, § 105, July 10, 1972, 86 Stat. 427; renumbered and amended Pub. L. 95-474, § 2, Oct. 17, 1978, 92 Stat. 1475.)

CODIFICATION

In subsec. (a)(2)(A), “section 2101 of title 46” substituted for “section 4417a of the Revised Statutes [46 U.S.C. 391a]” on authority of Pub. L. 98-89, § 2(b), Aug. 26, 1983, 97 Stat. 598, section 1 of which enacted Title 46, Shipping.

AMENDMENTS

1978—Pub. L. 95-474 substituted provisions relating to waterfront safety for provision requiring the Secretary to report to Congress within one year his recommendations for legislation to achieve coordination between functions authorized under Pub. L. 92-340 and the functions of any other agencies and to eliminate duplication of these functions.

**§ 1226. Port, harbor, and coastal facility security**

**(a) General authority**

The Secretary may take actions described in subsection (b) of this section to prevent or respond to an act of terrorism against—

- (1) an individual, vessel, or public or commercial structure, that is—
  - (A) subject to the jurisdiction of the United States; and
  - (B) located within or adjacent to the marine environment; or
- (2) a vessel of the United States or an individual on board that vessel.

**(b) Specific authority**

Under subsection (a) of this section, the Secretary may—

- (1) carry out or require measures, including inspections, port and harbor patrols, the establishment of security and safety zones, and the development of contingency plans and procedures, to prevent or respond to acts of terrorism;
- (2) recruit members of the Regular Coast Guard and the Coast Guard Reserve and train members of the Regular Coast Guard and the Coast Guard Reserve in the techniques of preventing and responding to acts of terrorism; and
- (3) dispatch properly trained and qualified armed Coast Guard personnel on vessels and public or commercial structures on or adjacent to waters subject to United States jurisdiction to deter or respond to acts of terrorism or transportation security incidents, as defined in section 70101 of title 46.

**(c) Nondisclosure of port security plans**

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, information related to security plans, proce-

dures, or programs for passenger vessels or passenger terminals authorized under this chapter is not required to be disclosed to the public.

(Pub. L. 92-340, § 7, as added Pub. L. 99-399, title IX, § 906, Aug. 27, 1986, 100 Stat. 890; amended Pub. L. 104-324, title III, § 302, Oct. 19, 1996, 110 Stat. 3917; Pub. L. 107-295, title I, § 107(a), Nov. 25, 2002, 116 Stat. 2088.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 1226, Pub. L. 92-340, § 7, formerly title I, § 106, July 10, 1972, 86 Stat. 427; renumbered § 7 and amended Pub. L. 95-474, § 2, Oct. 17, 1978, 92 Stat. 1475, related to requirement respecting federally licensed pilots on any foreign or domestic self-propelled vessel engaged in the foreign trade when operating in the navigable waters of the United States in areas, etc., where a pilot is not otherwise required by State law, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 98-557, § 29(g), Oct. 30, 1984, 98 Stat. 2875.

AMENDMENTS

- 2002—Subsec. (b)(3). Pub. L. 107-295 added par. (3).  
1996—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 104-324 added subsec. (c).

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For transfer of authorities, functions, personnel, and assets of the Coast Guard, including the authorities and functions of the Secretary of Transportation relating thereto, to the Department of Homeland Security, and for treatment of related references, see sections 468(b), 551(d), 552(d), and 557 of Title 6, Domestic Security, and the Department of Homeland Security Reorganization Plan of November 25, 2002, as modified, set out as a note under section 542 of Title 6.

REPORT ON USE OF NON-COAST GUARD PERSONNEL

Pub. L. 107-295, title I, § 107(b), Nov. 25, 2002, 116 Stat. 2088, provided that: “The Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall evaluate and report to the Congress on—

- “(1) the potential use of Federal, State, or local government personnel, and documented United States Merchant Marine personnel, to supplement Coast Guard personnel under section 7(b)(3) of the Ports and Waterways Safety Act (33 U.S.C. 1226(b)(3));
- “(2) the possibility of using personnel other than Coast Guard personnel to carry out Coast Guard personnel functions under that section and whether additional legal authority would be necessary to use such personnel for such functions; and
- “(3) the possibility of utilizing the United States Merchant Marine Academy, State maritime academies, or Coast Guard approved maritime industry schools in the United States, to provide training under that section.”

**§ 1227. Investigatory powers**

**(a) Secretary**

The Secretary may investigate any incident, accident, or act involving the loss or destruction of, or damage to any structure subject to this chapter, or which affects or may affect the safety or environmental quality of the ports, harbors, or navigable waters of the United States.

**(b) Powers**

In an investigation under this section, the Secretary may issue subpoenas to require the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents or other evidence relating to such incident, accident, or act. If any person refuses to obey a subpoena, the Secretary may request the Attorney General to invoke the aid of the appropriate district court of the United States to

which is binding upon the United States in accordance with constitutional requirements, may—

(1) require vessels in the vessel traffic service area to utilize or to comply with the vessel traffic service, including the carrying or installation of equipment and devices as necessary for the use of the service; and

(2) waive, by order or regulation, the application of any United States law or regulation concerning the design, construction, operation, equipment, personnel qualifications, and manning standards for vessels operating in waters over which the United States exercises jurisdiction if such vessel is not en route to or from a United States port or place, and if vessels en route to or from a United States port or place are accorded equivalent waivers of laws and regulations of the neighboring nation, when operating in waters over which that nation exercises jurisdiction.

**(d) Ship reporting systems**

The Secretary, in cooperation with the International Maritime Organization, is authorized to implement and enforce two mandatory ship reporting systems, consistent with international law, with respect to vessels subject to such reporting systems entering the following areas of the Atlantic Ocean: Cape Cod Bay, Massachusetts Bay, and Great South Channel (in the area generally bounded by a line starting from a point on Cape Ann, Massachusetts at 42 deg. 39' N., 70 deg. 37' W; then northeast to 42 deg. 45' N., 70 deg. 13' W; then southeast to 42 deg. 10' N., 68 deg. 31' W, then south to 41 deg. 00' N., 68 deg. 31' W; then west to 41 deg. 00' N., 69 deg. 17' W; then northeast to 42 deg. 05' N., 70 deg. 02' W, then west to 42 deg. 04' N., 70 deg. 10' W; and then along the Massachusetts shoreline of Cape Cod Bay and Massachusetts Bay back to the point on Cape Ann at 42 deg. 39' N., 70 deg. 37' W) and in the coastal waters of the Southeastern United States within about 25 nm along a 90 nm stretch of the Atlantic seaboard (in an area generally extending from the shoreline east to longitude 80 deg. 51.6' W with the southern and northern boundary at latitudes 30 deg. 00' N., 31 deg. 27' N., respectively).

(Pub. L. 92-340, §11, as added Pub. L. 95-474, §2, Oct. 17, 1978, 92 Stat. 1477; amended Pub. L. 105-383, title III, §313, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3424.)

AMENDMENTS

1998—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 105-383 added subsec. (d).

**§ 1231. Regulations**

**(a) In general**

In accordance with the provisions of section 553 of title 5, the Secretary shall issue, and may from time to time amend or repeal, regulations necessary to implement this chapter.

**(b) Procedures**

The Secretary, in the exercise of this regulatory authority, shall establish procedures for consulting with, and receiving and considering the views of all interested parties, including—

(1) interested Federal departments and agencies,

(2) officials of State and local governments,

(3) representatives of the maritime community,

(4) representatives of port and harbor authorities or associations,

(5) representatives of environmental groups,

(6) any other interested parties who are knowledgeable or experienced in dealing with problems involving vessel safety, port and waterways safety, and protection of the marine environment, and

(7) advisory committees consisting of all interested segments of the public when the establishment of such committees is considered necessary because the issues involved are highly complex or controversial.

(Pub. L. 92-340, §12, as added Pub. L. 95-474, §2, Oct. 17, 1978, 92 Stat. 1477.)

**§ 1231a. Towing Safety Advisory Committee**

**(a) Establishment; membership**

There is established a Towing Safety Advisory Committee (hereinafter referred to as the “Committee”). The Committee shall consist of eighteen members with particular expertise, knowledge, and experience regarding shallow-draft inland and coastal waterway navigation and towing safety as follows:

(1) Seven members representing the barge and towing industry, reflecting a regional geographic balance.

(2) One member representing the offshore mineral and oil supply vessel industry.

(3) One member representing holders of active licensed Masters or Pilots of towing vessels with experience on the Western Rivers and the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway.

(4) One member representing the holders of active licensed Masters of towing vessels in offshore service.

(5) One member representing Masters who are active ship-docking or harbor towing vessel.<sup>1</sup>

(6) One member representing licensed or unlicensed towing vessel engineers with formal training and experience.

(7) Two members representing each of the following groups:

(A) Port districts, authorities, or terminal operators.

(B) Shippers (of whom at least one shall be engaged in the shipment of oil or hazardous materials by barge).

(8) Two members representing the general public.

**(b) Appointments; Chairman, Vice Chairman, and observers; publication in Federal Register**

The Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating (hereinafter referred to as the “Secretary”) shall appoint the members of the Committee. The Secretary shall designate one of the members of the Committee as the Chairman and one of the members as the Vice Chairman. The Vice Chairman shall act as Chairman in the absence or incapacity of, or in the event of a vacancy in the office of, the

<sup>1</sup> So in original.