

operates or contracts for the operation of any ship referred to in section 3(b)(1)(A) of the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships [33 U.S.C. 1902(b)(1)(A)] that may not be able to comply with the requirements of that section shall report to the Congress describing—

- (1) the technical and operational impediments to achieving that compliance;
- (2) an alternative schedule for achieving that compliance as rapidly as is technologically feasible;
- (3) the ships operated or contracted for operation by the agency for which full compliance with section 3(b)(2)(A) [33 U.S.C. 1902(b)(2)(A)] is not technologically feasible; and
- (4) any other information which the agency head considers relevant and appropriate.

#### (c) Congressional action

Upon receipt of the compliance report under subsection (b) of this section, the Congress shall modify the applicability of Annex V to ships referred to in section 3(b)(1)(A) of the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships [33 U.S.C. 1902(b)(1)(A)], as may be appropriate with respect to the requirements of Annex V to the Convention.

(Pub. L. 100-220, title II, § 2201, Dec. 29, 1987, 101 Stat. 1464; Pub. L. 104-66, title I, § 1121(c), Dec. 21, 1995, 109 Stat. 724; Pub. L. 104-324, title VIII, § 802(a), Oct. 19, 1996, 110 Stat. 3944.)

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

For effective date of this section, referred to in subsecs. (a) and (b), see section 2002 of Pub. L. 100-220, set out as an Effective Date of 1987 Amendment note under section 1901 of this title.

The Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships, referred to in subsec. (a), is Pub. L. 96-478, Oct. 21, 1980, 94 Stat. 2297, as amended, which is classified principally to this chapter (§1901 et seq.). For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1901 of this title and Tables.

#### CODIFICATION

Section was formerly set out as a note under section 1902 of this title.

Section was enacted as part of the Marine Plastic Pollution Research and Control Act of 1987 and as part of the United States-Japan Fishery Agreement Approval Act of 1987, and not as part of the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships which comprises this chapter.

#### AMENDMENTS

1996—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 104-324 struck out “for a period of 6 years” after “triennially thereafter” and inserted “and, not later than 1 year after October 19, 1996, and annually thereafter, shall publish in the Federal Register a list of the enforcement actions taken against any domestic or foreign ship (including any commercial or recreational ship) pursuant to the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships (33 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.)” before period at end.

1995—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 104-66 substituted “triennially” for “biennially”.

#### SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 1914 of this title.

### § 1914. Coordination

#### (a) Establishment of Marine Debris Coordinating Committee

The Secretary of Commerce shall establish a Marine Debris Coordinating Committee.

#### (b) Membership

The Committee shall include a senior official from—

- (1) the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, who shall serve as the Chairperson of the Committee;
- (2) the Environmental Protection Agency;
- (3) the United States Coast Guard;
- (4) the United States Navy; and
- (5) such other Federal agencies that have an interest in ocean issues or water pollution prevention and control as the Secretary of Commerce determines appropriate.

#### (c) Meetings

The Committee shall meet at least twice a year to provide a forum to ensure the coordination of national and international research, monitoring, education, and regulatory actions addressing the persistent marine debris problem.

#### (d) Monitoring

The Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, in cooperation with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, shall utilize the marine debris data derived under title V of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 (33 U.S.C. 2801 et seq.) to assist—

- (1) the Committee in ensuring coordination of research, monitoring, education and regulatory actions; and
- (2) the United States Coast Guard in assessing the effectiveness of this Act and the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships [33 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.] in ensuring compliance under section 1913 of this title.

(Pub. L. 100-220, title II, § 2203, Dec. 29, 1987, 101 Stat. 1466; Pub. L. 104-324, title VIII, § 802(b), Oct. 19, 1996, 110 Stat. 3944.)

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972, referred to in subsec. (d), is Pub. L. 92-532, Oct. 23, 1972, 86 Stat. 1052, as amended. Title V of the Act, popularly known as the National Coastal Monitoring Act, is classified generally to chapter 41 (§2801 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of title V to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 2801 of this title and Tables.

This Act, referred to in subsec. (d)(2), probably should be “this title” meaning title II of Pub. L. 100-220, Dec. 29, 1987, 101 Stat. 1460, as amended, known as the Marine Plastic Pollution Research and Control Act of 1987. For complete classification of title II to the Code, see Short Title of 1987 Amendment note set out under section 1901 of this title and Tables.

The Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships, referred to in subsec. (d)(2), is Pub. L. 96-478, Oct. 21, 1980, 94 Stat. 2297, as amended, which is classified principally to this chapter (§1901 et seq.). For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1901 of this title and Tables.

#### CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Marine Plastic Pollution Research and Control Act of 1987 and as part of the United States-Japan Fishery Agreement Approval Act of 1987, and not as part of the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships which comprises this chapter.

#### AMENDMENTS

1996—Pub. L. 104-324 amended section generally. Prior to amendment, section read as follows: “Not later than

September 30, 1988, the Secretary of Commerce shall submit to the Congress a report on the effects of plastic materials on the marine environment. The report shall—

- “(1) identify and quantify the harmful effects of plastic materials on the marine environment;
- “(2) assess the specific effects of plastic materials on living marine resources in the marine environment;
- “(3) identify the types and classes of plastic materials that pose the greatest potential hazard to living marine resources;
- “(4) analyze, in consultation with the Director of the National Bureau of Standards, plastic materials which are claimed to be capable of reduction to environmentally benign submits under the action of normal environmental forces (including biological decomposition, photodegradation, and hydrolysis); and
- “(5) recommend legislation which is necessary to prohibit, tax, or regulate sources of plastic materials that enter the marine environment.”

### § 1915. Plastic pollution public education program

#### (a) Outreach program

##### (1) In general

Not later than April 1, 1988, the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, in consultation with the Secretary of Transportation, shall jointly commence and thereafter conduct a public outreach program to educate the public (including recreational boaters, fishermen, and other users of the marine environment) regarding—

- (A) the harmful effects of plastic pollution;
- (B) the need to reduce such pollution;
- (C) the need to recycle plastic materials;
- (D) the need to reduce the quantity of plastic debris in the marine environment; and
- (E) the requirements under this Act and the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships (33 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.) with respect to ships and ports, and the authority of citizens to report violations of this Act and the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships (33 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.).

##### (2) Authorized activities

###### (A) Public outreach program

A public outreach program under paragraph (1) may include—

- (i) developing and implementing a voluntary boaters' pledge program;
- (ii) workshops with interested groups;
- (iii) public service announcements;
- (iv) distribution of leaflets and posters; and
- (v) any other means appropriate to educating the public.

###### (B) Grants and cooperative agreements

To carry out this section, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating, the Secretary of Commerce, and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency are authorized to award grants, enter into cooperative agreements with appropriate officials of other Federal agencies and agencies of States and political subdivisions of States and with public and private entities, and provide other financial assistance to eligible recipients.

#### (C) Consultation

In developing outreach initiatives for groups that are subject to the requirements of this title and the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships (33 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.), the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, shall consult with—

- (i) the heads of State agencies responsible for implementing State boating laws; and
- (ii) the heads of other enforcement agencies that regulate boaters or commercial fishermen.

#### (b) Citizen Pollution Patrols

The Secretary of Commerce, along with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating, shall conduct a program to encourage the formation of volunteer groups, to be designated as “Citizen Pollution Patrols”, to assist in monitoring, reporting, cleanup, and prevention of ocean and shoreline pollution.

(Pub. L. 100-220, title II, §2204, Dec. 29, 1987, 101 Stat. 1466; Pub. L. 104-324, title VIII, §802(c), Oct. 19, 1996, 110 Stat. 3945.)

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

This Act and this title, referred to in subsec. (a)(1)(E), (2)(C), probably should all be “this title” meaning title II of Pub. L. 100-220, Dec. 29, 1987, 101 Stat. 1460, as amended, known as the Marine Plastic Pollution Research and Control Act of 1987. For complete classification of title II to the Code, see Short Title of 1987 Amendment note set out under section 1901 of this title and Tables.

The Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships, referred to in subsec. (a)(1)(E), (2)(C), is Pub. L. 96-478, Oct. 21, 1980, 94 Stat. 2297, as amended, which is classified principally to this chapter (§1901 et seq.). For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1901 of this title and Tables.

#### CODIFICATION

Section was formerly set out as a note under section 6981 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare.

Section was enacted as part of the Marine Plastic Pollution Research and Control Act of 1987 and as part of the United States-Japan Fishery Agreement Approval Act of 1987, and not as part of the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships which comprises this chapter.

#### AMENDMENTS

1996—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 104-324, §802(c)(1)-(4), struck out “for a period of at least 3 years,” after “conduct” in introductory provisions and added subpar. (E).

Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 104-324, §802(c)(5), added par. (2) and struck out heading and text of former par. (2). Text read as follows: “A public outreach program under paragraph (1) may include—

- “(A) workshops with interested groups;
- “(B) public service announcements;
- “(C) distribution of leaflets and posters; and
- “(D) any other means appropriate to educating the public.”