

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1783

To amend title 46, United States Code, to require the Maritime Administrator, in making determinations regarding the non-availability of qualified United States flag capacity to meet national defense requirements, to identify any actions that could be taken to enable such capacity to meet some or all of those requirements, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 2, 2011

Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself and Mr. VITTER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

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

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “American Mariners
3 Job Protection Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. IDENTIFICATION OF ACTIONS TO ENABLE QUALI-**
5 **FIED UNITED STATES FLAG CAPACITY TO**
6 **MEET NATIONAL DEFENSE REQUIREMENTS.**

7 (a) IDENTIFICATION OF ACTIONS.—Section 501(b) of
8 title 46, United States Code, is amended—

9 (1) by inserting “(1)” before “When the head”;

10 and

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

12 “(2) The Administrator of the Maritime Administra-
13 tion shall—

14 “(A) in each determination referred to in para-
15 graph (1), identify any actions that could be taken
16 to enable qualified United States flag capacity to
17 meet national defense requirements;

18 “(B) provide each such determination to the
19 Secretary of Transportation and the head of the
20 agency referred to in paragraph (1) for which the
21 determination is made; and

22 “(C) publish each such determination on the
23 Internet site of the Department of Transportation
24 within 48 hours after it is provided to the Secretary
25 of Transportation.

1 “(3)(A) The Secretary of Transportation, in con-
2 sultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security, shall
3 notify the Committees on Appropriations, Transportation
4 and Infrastructure, and Homeland Security of the House
5 of Representatives and the Committees on Appropriations
6 and Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Sen-
7 ate—

8 “(i) of any request for a waiver of the naviga-
9 tion or vessel-inspection laws under this section not
10 later than 48 hours after receiving the request; and

11 “(ii) of the issuance of any waiver of compli-
12 ance of such a law not later than 48 hours after
13 such issuance.

14 “(B) The Secretary shall include in each notification
15 under subparagraph (A)(ii) an explanation of—

16 “(i) the reasons the waiver is necessary; and

17 “(ii) the reasons actions referred to in subpara-
18 graph (A) are not feasible.”.

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