

(2) **EXPERTISE.**—Each member of the Committee shall have particular expertise, knowledge, and experience in matters relating to the function of the Committee.

(3) **REPRESENTATION.**—Each member of the Committee shall represent 1 of the following:

- (A) Chemical manufacturing entities.
- (B) Entities related to marine handling or transportation of chemicals.
- (C) Vessel design and construction entities.
- (D) Marine safety or security entities.
- (E) Marine environmental protection entities.

(4) **DISTRIBUTION.**—The Secretary shall, based on the needs of the Coast Guard, determine the number of members of the Committee who represent each entity specified in paragraph (3). Neither this paragraph nor any other provision of law shall be construed to require an equal distribution of members representing each entity specified in paragraph (3).

(Added Pub. L. 115-282, title VI, §601(a), Dec. 4, 2018, 132 Stat. 4280.)

§ 15102. National Commercial Fishing Safety Advisory Committee

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is established a National Commercial Fishing Safety Advisory Committee (in this section referred to as the “Committee”).

(b) **FUNCTION.**—The Committee shall—

(1) advise and provide recommendations in writing to the Secretary on matters relating to the safe operation of vessels to which chapter 45 of this title applies, including the matters of—

- (A) navigation safety;
- (B) safety equipment and procedures;
- (C) marine insurance;
- (D) vessel design, construction, maintenance, and operation; and
- (E) personnel qualifications and training;

(2) review regulations proposed under chapter 45 of this title (during preparation of the regulations); and

(3) review marine casualties and investigations of vessels covered by chapter 45 of this title and make recommendations to the Secretary to improve safety and reduce vessel casualties.

(c) **MEMBERSHIP.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Committee shall consist of 18 members appointed by the Secretary in accordance with this section and section 15109 of this chapter.

(2) **EXPERTISE.**—Each member of the Committee shall have particular expertise, knowledge, and experience in matters relating to the function of the Committee.

(3) **REPRESENTATION.**—Members of the Committee shall be appointed as follows:

- (A) 10 members shall represent the commercial fishing industry and—
 - (i) as a group, shall together reflect a regional and representational balance; and
 - (ii) as individuals, shall each have experience—

(I) in the operation of vessels to which chapter 45 of this title applies; or

(II) as a crew member or processing line worker on a fish processing vessel.

(B) 1 member shall represent naval architects and marine engineers.

(C) 1 member shall represent manufacturers of equipment for vessels to which chapter 45 of this title applies.

(D) 1 member shall represent education and training professionals related to fishing vessel, fish processing vessel, and fish tender vessel safety and personnel qualifications.

(E) 1 member shall represent underwriters that insure vessels to which chapter 45 of this title applies.

(F) 1 member shall represent owners of vessels to which chapter 45 of this title applies.

(G) 3 members shall represent the general public and, to the extent possible, shall include—

- (i) an independent expert or consultant in maritime safety;
- (ii) a marine surveyor who provides services to vessels to which chapter 45 of this title applies; and
- (iii) a person familiar with issues affecting fishing communities and the families of fishermen.

(d) **QUORUM.**—A quorum of 10 members is required to send any written recommendations from the Committee to the Secretary.

(e) **SAVINGS CLAUSE.**—Nothing in this section shall preclude the Secretary from taking emergency action to ensure safety and preservation of life at sea.

(Added Pub. L. 115-282, title VI, §601(a), Dec. 4, 2018, 132 Stat. 4281; amended Pub. L. 116-283, div. G, title LVXXXIII [LXXXIII], §8335(a)(1), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 4706.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2021—Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 116-283, §8335(a)(1)(A)(i)(I), inserted “and provide recommendations in writing to” after “advise” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (b)(3). Pub. L. 116-283, §8335(a)(1)(A)(i)(II), (ii), added par. (3).

Subsecs. (d), (e). Pub. L. 116-283, §8335(a)(1)(B), added subsecs. (d) and (e).

§ 15103. National Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is established a National Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee (in this section referred to as the “Committee”).

(b) **FUNCTION.**—The Committee shall advise the Secretary on matters relating to personnel in the United States merchant marine, including the training, qualifications, certification, documentation, and fitness of mariners.

(c) **MEMBERSHIP.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Committee shall consist of 19 members appointed by the Secretary in accordance with this section and section 15109 of this chapter.