

**§ 1478. Personal, flag state, and foreign state considerations**

In the direction and conduct of measures under this chapter the Secretary shall use his best endeavors to—

- (1) assure the avoidance of risk to human life;
- (2) render all possible aid to distressed persons, including facilitating repatriation of ships' crews; and
- (3) not unnecessarily interfere with rights and interests of others, including the flag state of any ship involved, other foreign states threatened by damage, and persons otherwise concerned.

(Pub. L. 93-248, §9, Feb. 5, 1974, 88 Stat. 9.)

**§ 1479. Federal liability for unreasonable damages**

**(a) Payment of compensation**

The United States shall be obliged to pay compensation to the extent of the damage caused by measures which exceed those reasonably necessary to achieve the end mentioned in section 1472 of this title.

**(b) Jurisdiction**

Actions against the United States seeking compensation for any excessive measures may be brought in the United States Court of Federal Claims, in any district court of the United States, and in those courts enumerated in section 460 of title 28. For purposes of this chapter, American Samoa shall be included within the judicial district of the District Court of the United States for the District of Hawaii, and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands shall be included within the judicial districts of both the District Court of the United States for the District of Hawaii and the District Court of Guam.

**(c) Burden of proof**

With respect to intervention for a substance identified pursuant to section 1473(a) of this title, the United States has the burden of establishing that, under the circumstances present at the time of the intervention, the substance could reasonably pose a grave and imminent danger analogous to that posed by a substance enumerated in the protocol.

(Pub. L. 93-248, §10, Feb. 5, 1974, 88 Stat. 10; Pub. L. 95-302, §1(4), June 26, 1978, 92 Stat. 345; Pub. L. 97-164, title I, §161(6), Apr. 2, 1982, 96 Stat. 49; Pub. L. 102-572, title IX, §902(b)(1), Oct. 29, 1992, 106 Stat. 4516.)

AMENDMENTS

1992—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 102-572 substituted “United States Court of Federal Claims” for “United States Claims Court”.

1982—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 97-164 substituted “Claims Court” for “Court of Claims”.

1978—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 95-302 added subsec. (c).

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1992 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 102-572 effective Oct. 29, 1992, see section 911 of Pub. L. 102-572, set out as a note under section 171 of Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1982 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 97-164 effective Oct. 1, 1982, see section 402 of Pub. L. 97-164, set out as a note under

section 171 of Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1978 AMENDMENT

For effective date of amendment by Pub. L. 95-302, see section 2 of Pub. L. 95-302, set out as a note under section 1487 of this title.

TERMINATION OF TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

For termination of Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, see note set out preceding section 1681 of Title 48, Territories and Insular Possessions.

**§ 1480. Notification by Secretary of State**

The Secretary of State shall notify without delay foreign states concerned, the Secretary-General of the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization, and persons affected by measures taken under this chapter.

(Pub. L. 93-248, §11, Feb. 5, 1974, 88 Stat. 10.)

**§ 1481. Violations; penalties**

(a) A person commits a class A misdemeanor if that person—

- (1) willfully violates a provision of this chapter or a regulation issued thereunder; or
- (2) willfully refuses or fails to comply with any lawful order or direction given pursuant to this chapter; or
- (3) willfully obstructs any person who is acting in compliance with an order or direction under this chapter.

(b) In a criminal proceeding for an offense under paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection (a) of this section it shall be a defense for the accused to prove that he used all due diligence to comply with any order or direction that he had reasonable cause to believe that compliance would have resulted in serious risk to human life.

(Pub. L. 93-248, §12, Feb. 5, 1974, 88 Stat. 10; Pub. L. 101-380, title IV, §4302(l), Aug. 18, 1990, 104 Stat. 539.)

AMENDMENTS

1990—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 101-380 substituted “A person commits a class A misdemeanor if that person” for “Any person who” in introductory provisions and struck out “, shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned not more than one year, or both” after “under this chapter” in par. (3).

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1990 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 101-380 applicable to incidents occurring after Aug. 18, 1990, see section 1020 of Pub. L. 101-380, set out as an Effective Date note under section 2701 of this title.

**§ 1482. Consultation for nomination and nomination of experts, negotiators, etc.; proposal of amendments to list of substances other than convention oil; Presidential acceptance of amendments**

**(a) Nomination of experts and proposal of amendments to list of substances**

The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, may nominate individuals to the list of experts provided for in article III of the convention and article II of the