

tion system to an agency, a State, or a qualified person. The Secretary may also delegate the authority to charge fees under section 12505 for requesting information from or making information available to the vessel identification system.

§ 12507. Penalties

(a) A person shall be fined under title 18, imprisoned for not more than 2 years, or both, if the person with the intent to defraud—

(1) provides false information to the Secretary of Transportation or a State issuing authority regarding the identification of a vessel under this chapter; or

(2) tampers with, removes, or falsifies the unique vessel identification number assigned to a vessel under section 12502 of this title.

(b) A person is liable to the United States Government for a civil penalty of not more than \$10,000 if the person—

(1) provides false information to the Secretary or a State issuing authority regarding the identification of a vessel under this chapter;

(2) violates section 12502 of this title; or

(3) fails to comply with requirements prescribed by the Secretary under section 12505 of this title.

(c) A vessel involved in a violation of this chapter, or regulation under this chapter, and its equipment, may be seized by, and forfeited to, the Government.

(d) If a person, not an individual, is involved in a violation of this chapter, the president or chief executive of the person also is subject to any penalty provided under this section.

(Added Pub. L. 100-710, title I, §101(a), Nov. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 4737.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised section 12507

This section establishes criminal and civil penalties for certain violations of chapter 125 of title 46 (as enacted by this Act).

PART I—STATE BOATING SAFETY PROGRAMS

CHAPTER 131—RECREATIONAL BOATING SAFETY

Sec.	
13101.	Definitions.
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13110.	National Boating Safety Advisory Council.

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

This Chapter establishes the recreational boating safety and facility program administered by the Coast Guard. The general purpose is to encourage State participation in boating safety education and enforcement activities.

AMENDMENTS

2006—Pub. L. 109-304, §16(b)(3), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1705, added item 13101 and redesignated former items 13101 to 13106 as 13102 to 13107, respectively.

1998—Pub. L. 105-178, title VII, §7405(c)(2), June 9, 1998, 112 Stat. 488, substituted “appropriations” for “contract spending” in item 13106.

1984—Pub. L. 98-369, div. A, title X, §1016(c)(2), July 18, 1984, 98 Stat. 1020, struck out item 13107 “National Recreational Boating Safety and Facilities Improvement Fund”.

§ 13101. Definitions

In this chapter:

(1) **ELIGIBLE STATE.**—The term “eligible State” means a State that has a State recreational boating safety program accepted by the Secretary.

(2) **STATE RECREATIONAL BOATING SAFETY PROGRAM.**—The term “State recreational boating safety program” means education, assistance, and enforcement activities conducted for maritime casualty prevention, reduction, and reporting for recreational boating.

(Pub. L. 109-304, §16(b)(2), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1705.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Section 16 of the bill [H.R. 1442, which became Pub. L. 109-304] moves the definitions relating to the recreational boating safety program from section 2102(a)(1) and (3) to chapter 131 because the terms only appear in chapter 131.

Section 16 of the bill also eliminates the special definitions of “State” and “United States” in section 2102(a)(2) as including the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands because the Trust Territory has been terminated. See the definitions of “State” and “United States” in section 2101, which are being moved to chapter 1 and being made applicable title-wide. Those definitions already include the Northern Mariana Islands, the only component of the former Trust Territory still under United States sovereignty.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 13101 was renumbered section 13102 of this title.

§ 13102. State recreational boating safety programs

(a) To encourage greater State participation and uniformity in boating safety efforts, and particularly to permit the States to assume the greater share of boating safety education, assistance, and enforcement activities, the Secretary shall carry out a national recreational boating safety program. Under this program, the Secretary shall make contracts with, and allocate and distribute amounts to, eligible States to assist them in developing, carrying out, and financing State recreational boating safety programs.

(b) The Secretary shall establish guidelines and standards for the program. In doing so, the Secretary—

(1) shall consider, among other things, factors affecting recreational boating safety by contributing to overcrowding and congestion of waterways, such as the increasing number of recreational vessels operating on those waterways and their geographic distribution, the availability and geographic distribution of recreational boating facilities in and among applying States, and State marine casualty and fatality statistics for recreational vessels;

(2) shall consult with the Secretary of the Interior to minimize duplication with the pur-