

(4) Historic resources significant to the Nation's maritime heritage are being lost or substantially altered, often inadvertently, with increasing frequency.

(5) The preservation of this irreplaceable maritime heritage is in the public interest so that its vital legacy of cultural, educational, aesthetic, inspirational, and economic benefits will be maintained and enriched for future generations of Americans.

(6) The current governmental and non-governmental historic preservation programs and activities are inadequate to ensure future generations a genuine opportunity to appreciate and enjoy the rich maritime heritage of our Nation.

(7) A coordinated national program is needed immediately to redress the adverse consequences of a period of indifference during which the maritime heritage of the United States has become endangered and to ensure the future preservation of the Nation's maritime heritage.

(8) A national maritime heritage policy would greatly increase public awareness of, and participation in, the preservation of the Nation's maritime heritage.

(Pub. L. 103-451, § 2, Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4769.)

SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 103-451, § 1, Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4769, provided that: "This Act [enacting this chapter] may be cited as the 'National Maritime Heritage Act of 1994'."

§ 5402. National maritime heritage policy

It shall be the policy of the Federal Government, in partnership with the States and local governments and private organizations and individuals, to—

(1) use measures, including financial and technical assistance, to foster conditions under which our modern society and our historic maritime resources can exist in productive harmony;

(2) provide leadership in the preservation of the historic maritime resources of the United States;

(3) contribute to the preservation of historic maritime resources and give maximum encouragement to organizations and individuals undertaking preservation by private means; and

(4) assist State and local governments to expand their maritime historic preservation programs and activities.

(Pub. L. 103-451, § 3, Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4770.)

§ 5403. National Maritime Heritage Grants Program

(a) Establishment

There is hereby established within the Department of the Interior the National Maritime Heritage Grants Program, to foster in the American public a greater awareness and appreciation of the role of maritime endeavors in our Nation's history and culture. The Program shall consist of—

(1) annual grants to the National Trust for Historic Preservation for subgrants adminis-

tered by the National Trust for maritime heritage education projects under subsection (b) of this section;

(2) grants to State Historic Preservation Officers for maritime heritage preservation projects carried out or administered by those Officers under subsection (c) of this section; and

(3) grants for interim projects under subsection (j) of this section.

(b) Grants for maritime heritage education projects

(1) Grants to National Trust for Historic Preservation

The Secretary, subject to paragraphs (2), (3), and (4),¹ and the availability of amounts for that purpose under section 5405(b)(1)(A) of this title, shall make an annual grant to the National Trust for maritime heritage education projects.

(2) Use of grants

Amounts received by the National Trust as an annual grant under this subsection shall be used to make subgrants to State and local governments and private nonprofit organizations to carry out education projects which have been approved by the Secretary under subsection (f) of this section and which consist of—

(A) assistance to any maritime museum or historical society for—

(i) existing and new educational programs, exhibits, educational activities, conservation, and interpretation of artifacts and collections;

(ii) minor improvements to educational and museum facilities; and

(iii) other similar activities;

(B) activities designed to encourage the preservation of traditional maritime skills, including—

(i) building and operation of vessels of all sizes and types for educational purposes;

(ii) special skills such as wood carving, sail making, and rigging;

(iii) traditional maritime art forms; and

(iv) sail training;

(C) other educational activities relating to historic maritime resources, including—

(i) maritime educational waterborne-experience programs in historic vessels or vessel reproductions;

(ii) maritime archaeological field schools; and

(iii) educational programs on other aspects of maritime history;

(D) heritage programs focusing on maritime historic resources, including maritime heritage trails and corridors; or

(E) the construction and use of reproductions of historic maritime resources for educational purposes, if a historic maritime resource no longer exists or would be damaged or consumed through direct use.

¹ So in original. No pars. (3) and (4) have been enacted.