agent employed or retained by the Government under this chapter.

- (c) PROCEDURE.—A civil action under this section shall be heard and determined under chapter 309 of this title.
- (d) Tolling of Limitations Period.—If a claim is filed with the Secretary of Transportation, the running of the limitations period for bringing a civil action is suspended until the Secretary denies the claim, and for 60 days thereafter. The Secretary is deemed to have denied the claim if the Secretary does not act on the claim within 6 months after the claim is filed, unless the Secretary for good cause shown agrees with the claimant on a different period for the Secretary to act on the claim.
- (e) INTERPLEADER.—If the Secretary acknowledges the indebtedness of the Government under the insurance and there is a dispute about the persons entitled to receive payment, the Government may bring a civil action interpleading those persons. The action shall be brought in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia or in the district court for the district in which any of those persons resides. A person not residing or found in the district may be made a party by service in any reasonable manner the court directs. If the court is satisfied that unknown persons might make a claim under the insurance, the court may direct service on those unknown persons by publication in the Federal Register. Judgment after service by publication in the Federal Register discharges the Government from further liability to all per-

(Pub. L. 109-304, §8(c), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1631.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
53911	46 App.:1292.	June 29, 1936, ch. 858, title XII, §1212, as added Sept. 7, 1950, ch. 906, 64 Stat. 776.

§ 53912. Expiration date

The authority of the Secretary of Transportation to provide insurance and reinsurance under this chapter expires on December 31, 2020.

(Pub. L. 109–304, §8(c), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1632; Pub. L. 110–417, div. C, title XXXV, §3509, Oct. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 4769; Pub. L. 113–66, div. C, title XXXV, §3502, Dec. 26, 2013, 127 Stat. 1085.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
53912	46 App.:1294.	June 29, 1936, ch. 858, title XII, \$1214, as added Sept. 7, 1950, ch. 906, 64 Stat. 777; Aug. 3, 1955, ch. 492, 69 Stat. 440, Pub. L. 86-120, July 31, 1959, 73 Stat. 266; Pub. L. 89-89, July 27, 1965, 79 Stat. 264; Pub. L. 91-469, §34, Oct. 21, 1970, 84 Stat. 1035; Pub. L. 94-523, §5, Oct. 17, 1976, 90 Stat. 2474; Pub. L. 96-195, Feb. 25, 1980, 94 Stat. 63; Pub. L. 99-59, July 3, 1985, 99 Stat. 110; Pub. L. 101-115, §7(b). Oct. 13, 1989, 103 Stat. 694; Pub. L. 104-106, title X, \$1094, Feb. 10, 1996, 110 Stat. 461; Pub. L. 104-239, §12, Oct. 8, 1996, 110 Stat. 3134; Pub. L. 108-375, div. C, title XXXV, \$302(a), Oct. 28, 2004, 118 Stat. 2195.

AMENDMENTS

2013—Pub. L. 113-66 substituted "December 31, 2020" for "December 31, 2015".

2008—Pub. L. 110-417 substituted "December 31, 2015." for "December 31, 2010."

CHAPTER 541—MISCELLANEOUS

Sec 1

54101. Assistance for small shipyards and maritime communities 1

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior chapter 541, Miscellaneous, consisting of section 54101 and relating to assistance for small shippards and maritime communities, added by Pub. L. 110–181, div. C, title XXXV, \$3523(a)(6)(A), Jan. 28, 2008, 122 Stat. 599, was repealed by Pub. L. 110–417, div. C, title XXXV, \$3508(b), Oct. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 4769, as amended by Pub. L. 111–84, div. A, title X, \$1073(c)(14), Oct. 28, 2009, 123 Stat. 2475, effective Oct. 14, 2008, and as if included in Pub. L. 110–417 as enacted.

§ 54101. Assistance for small shipyards and maritime communities

- (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Administrator of the Maritime Administration shall execute agreements with shipyards to provide assistance—
 - (1) in the form of grants, loans, and loan guarantees to small shipyards for capital improvements; and
 - (2) for maritime training programs to foster technical skills and operational productivity in communities whose economies are related to or dependent upon the maritime industry.
- (b) AWARDS.—In providing assistance under the program, the Administrator shall—
 - (1) take into account—
 - (A) the economic circumstances and conditions of maritime communities:
 - (B) projects that would be effective in fostering efficiency, competitive operations, and quality ship construction, repair, and reconfiguration; and
 - (C) projects that would be effective in fostering employee skills and enhancing productivity; and

¹ So in original. Probably should be followed by a period.