

tion as narcotic drug, controlled substance, and marijuana.

1985—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 99-36 substituted “certificate of registry, or merchant mariner’s document” for first reference to “certificate, or document”.

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 Title 33, Navigation and Navigable Waters.

**§ 7504. Travel and expense reimbursement**

When a requirement to qualify for the issuance of, or endorsement on, a certificate, license, or document under this part is administered at a place at the request of an applicant or an applicant’s representative, the applicant or representative may reimburse the Secretary for the travel and subsistence expenses incurred by the personnel assigned to perform the administration of the requirement. Amounts received as reimbursement under this section shall be credited to the appropriation for operating expenses of the Coast Guard.

(Added Pub. L. 99-640, § 10(b)(2)(A), Nov. 10, 1986, 100 Stat. 3549.)

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For transfer of authorities, functions, personnel, and assets of the Coast Guard, including the authorities and functions of the Secretary of Transportation relating thereto, to the Department of Homeland Security, and for treatment of related references, see sections 468(b), 551(d), 552(d), and 557 of Title 6, Domestic Security, and the Department of Homeland Security Reorganization Plan of November 25, 2002, as modified, set out as a note under section 542 of Title 6.

**§ 7505. Review of information in National Driver Register**

The Secretary shall make information received from the National Driver Register under section 206(b)(7) of the National Driver Register Act of 1982 (23 U.S.C. 401 note) available to an individual for review and written comment before denying, suspending, revoking, or taking any other action relating to a license, certificate of registry, or merchant mariner’s document authorized to be issued for that individual under this part, based on that information.

(Added Pub. L. 101-380, title IV, § 4105(b)(1), Aug. 18, 1990, 104 Stat. 512.)

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section applicable to incidents occurring after Aug. 18, 1990, see section 1020 of Pub. L. 101-380, set out as a note under section 2701 of Title 33, Navigation and Navigable Waters.

**§ 7506. Convention tonnage for licenses, certificates, and documents**

Notwithstanding any provision of section 14302(c) or 14305 of this title, the Secretary may—

(1) evaluate the service of an individual who is applying for a license, a certificate of registry, or a merchant mariner’s document by using the tonnage as measured under chapter 143 of this title for the vessels on which that service was acquired, and

(2) issue the license, certificate, or document based on that service.

(Added Pub. L. 104-324, title VII, § 745(a), Oct. 19, 1996, 110 Stat. 3942.)

**§ 7507. Authority to extend the duration of licenses, certificates of registry, and merchant mariner documents**

(a) LICENSES AND CERTIFICATES OF REGISTRY.—Notwithstanding sections 7106 and 7107, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating may—

(1) extend for not more than one year an expiring license or certificate of registry issued for an individual under chapter 71 if the Secretary determines that the extension is required to enable the Coast Guard to eliminate a backlog in processing applications for those licenses or certificates of registry or in response to a national emergency or natural disaster, as deemed necessary by the Secretary; or

(2) issue for not more than five years an expiring license or certificate of registry issued for an individual under chapter 71 for the exclusive purpose of aligning the expiration date of such license or certificate of registry with the expiration date of a merchant mariner’s document.

(b) MERCHANT MARINER DOCUMENTS.—Notwithstanding section 7302(g), the Secretary may—

(1) extend for not more than one year an expiring merchant mariner’s document issued for an individual under chapter 73 if the Secretary determines that the extension is required to enable the Coast Guard to eliminate a backlog in processing applications for those licenses or certificates of registry or in response to a national emergency or natural disaster, as deemed necessary by the Secretary; or

(2) issue for not more than five years an expiring merchant mariner’s document issued for an individual under chapter 73 for the exclusive purpose of aligning the expiration date of such merchant mariner’s document with the expiration date of a merchant mariner’s document.

(c) MANNER OF EXTENSION.—Any extensions granted under this section may be granted to individual seamen or a specifically identified group of seamen.

(Added Pub. L. 111-281, title VI, § 615(a), Oct. 15, 2010, 124 Stat. 2971; amended Pub. L. 112-213, title III, § 311, Dec. 20, 2012, 126 Stat. 1569.)

AMENDMENTS

2012—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 112-213 substituted “chapter 71” for “chapter 73” in pars. (1) and (2).

**§ 7508. Authority to extend the duration of medical certificates**

(a) GRANTING OF EXTENSIONS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary may extend for not more than one year a medical certificate issued to an individual holding a license, merchant mariner’s document, or certificate of registry issued under chapter 71 or 73 if the Secretary determines that the extension is required to enable the Coast Guard to eliminate a backlog in processing applications for

medical certificates or is in response to a national emergency or natural disaster.

(b) MANNER OF EXTENSION.—An extension under this section may be granted to individual seamen or a specifically identified group of seamen.

(Added Pub. L. 112-213, title III, §306(a), Dec. 20, 2012, 126 Stat. 1565.)

CHAPTER 77—SUSPENSION AND REVOCATION

Table with 2 columns: Sec. and description. Rows include 7701. General, 7702. Administrative procedure, 7703. Bases for suspension or revocation, 7704. Dangerous drugs as grounds for revocation, 7705. Subpenas and oaths, 7706. Drug testing reporting.

AMENDMENTS

2004—Pub. L. 108-293, title IV, §414(b), Aug. 9, 2004, 118 Stat. 1047, added item 7706.

§ 7701. General

(a) The purpose of suspension and revocation proceedings is to promote safety at sea.

(b) Licenses, certificates of registry, and merchant mariners' documents may be suspended or revoked for acts described in section 7703 of this title.

(c) When a license, certificate of registry, or merchant mariner's document has been revoked under this chapter, the former holder may be issued a new license, certificate of registry, or merchant mariner's document only after—

(1) the Secretary decides, under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, that the issuance is compatible with the requirement of good discipline and safety at sea; and

(2) the former holder provides satisfactory proof that the bases for revocation are no longer valid.

(d) The Secretary may prescribe regulations to carry out this chapter.

(Pub. L. 98-89, Aug. 26, 1983, 97 Stat. 546; Pub. L. 101-380, title IV, §4103(c), Aug. 18, 1990, 104 Stat. 511.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Table with 2 columns: Revised section and Source section (U.S. Code). Row 1: 7701 ..... 46:239(g)

Section 7701 establishes the general purpose of suspension and revocation proceedings, which is to promote safety at sea. This section also provides the Secretary with the authority to suspend or revoke licenses, certificates, and documents, as well as the authority to issue a new license, certificate or document to an individual when the issuance is compatible with the requirements of good discipline and safety at sea. It also provides for necessary regulatory authority to carry out its purposes.

AMENDMENTS

1990—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 101-380 amended subsec. (c) generally. Prior to amendment, subsec. (c) read as follows: "When a license, certificate of registry, or merchant mariner's document has been revoked under this chapter, the former holder may be issued a new license, certificate, or document only after it has been decided, under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, that the

issuance is compatible with the requirements of good discipline and safety at sea."

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 Title 33, Navigation and Navigable Waters.

§ 7702. Administrative procedure

(a) Sections 551-559 of title 5 apply to each hearing under this chapter about suspending or revoking a license, certificate of registry, or merchant mariner's document.

(b) The individual whose license, certificate of registry, or merchant mariner's document has been suspended or revoked under this chapter may appeal, within 30 days, the suspension or revocation to the Secretary.

(c)(1) The Secretary shall request a holder of a license, certificate of registry, or merchant mariner's document to make available to the Secretary, under section 206(b)(4) of the National Driver Register Act of 1982 (23 U.S.C. 401 note),<sup>1</sup> all information contained in the National Driver Register related to an offense described in section 205(a)(3)(A) or (B) of that Act committed by the individual.

(2) The Secretary shall require the testing of the holder of a license, certificate of registry, or merchant mariner's document for use of alcohol and dangerous drugs in violation of law or Federal regulation. The testing may include pre-employment (with respect to dangerous drugs only), periodic, random, and reasonable cause testing, and shall include post-accident testing.

(d)(1) The Secretary may temporarily, for not more than 45 days, suspend and take possession of the license, certificate of registry, or merchant mariner's document held by an individual if—

(A) that individual performs a safety sensitive function on a vessel, as determined by the Secretary; and

(B) there is probable cause to believe that the individual—

(i) has, while acting under the authority of that license, certificate, or document, performed the safety sensitive function in violation of law or Federal regulation regarding use of alcohol or a dangerous drug;

(ii) has been convicted of an offense that would prevent the issuance or renewal of the license, certificate, or document;

(iii) within the 3-year period preceding the initiation of a suspension proceeding, has been convicted of an offense described in section 30304(a)(3)(A) or (B) of title 49; or

(iv) is a security risk that poses a threat to the safety or security of a vessel or a public or commercial structure located within or adjacent to the marine environment.

(2) If a license, certificate, or document is temporarily suspended under this section, an expedited hearing under subsection (a) of this section shall be held within 30 days after the temporary suspension.

(Pub. L. 98-89, Aug. 26, 1983, 97 Stat. 546; Pub. L. 99-36, §1(a)(3), May 15, 1985, 99 Stat. 67; Pub. L.

<sup>1</sup> See References in Text note below.