

§ 12136. Surrender of certificates of documentation

(a) SURRENDER.—An invalid certificate of documentation, or a certificate with an invalid endorsement, shall be surrendered as provided by regulations prescribed by the Secretary.

(b) CONDITIONS FOR SURRENDER.—

(1) VESSELS OVER 1,000 TONS.—The Secretary may condition approval of the surrender of the certificate of documentation for a vessel over 1,000 gross tons.

(2) VESSELS COVERED BY MORTGAGE.—The Secretary may approve the surrender of the certificate of documentation of a vessel covered by a mortgage filed or recorded under section 31321 of this title only if the mortgagee consents.

(3) NOTICE OF LIEN.—The Secretary may not refuse to approve the surrender of the certificate of documentation for a vessel solely on the basis that a notice of a claim of a lien on the vessel has been recorded under section 31343(a) of this title.

(c) CONTINUED APPLICATION OF CERTAIN LAWS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), until the certificate of documentation is surrendered with the approval of the Secretary, a documented vessel is deemed to continue to be documented under this chapter for purposes of—

(A) chapter 313 of this title for an instrument filed or recorded before the date of invalidation and an assignment after that date;

(B) sections 56101 and 56102(a)(2) and chapter 563 of this title; and

(C) any other law of the United States identified by the Secretary by regulation as a law to which the Secretary applies this subsection.

(2) EXCEPTION.—This subsection does not apply when a vessel is forfeited or sold by order of a district court of the United States.

(Pub. L. 109–304, §5, Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1506.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Table with 3 columns: Revised Section, Source (U.S. Code), Source (Statutes at Large). Rows include 12136(a) through 12136(c)(2).

In subsection (a), the words “or a certificate with an invalid endorsement” are added for clarity.

DOCUMENTATION SURRENDER AND INVALIDATION

Pub. L. 101–225, title III, §301(b), Dec. 12, 1989, 103 Stat. 1922, provided that: “Section 12111(c)(3) [now section 12136(b)(2)] of title 46, United States Code, does not apply to a mortgage that—

“(1) was filed or recorded before January 1, 1989; and

“(2) was not a preferred mortgage (as that term is defined in section 31301(6) of that title) on that date.”

§ 12137. Recording of vessels built in the United States

The Secretary may provide for recording and certifying information about vessels built in the

United States that the Secretary considers to be in the public interest.

(Pub. L. 109–304, §5, Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1507.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Table with 3 columns: Revised Section, Source (U.S. Code), Source (Statutes at Large). Row includes 12137.

§ 12138. List of documented vessels

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall publish periodically a list of all documented vessels and information about those vessels that the Secretary considers pertinent or useful. The list shall contain a notation clearly indicating all vessels classed by the American Bureau of Shipping.

(b) VESSELS FOR CABLE LAYING, MAINTENANCE, AND REPAIR.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation shall develop, maintain, and periodically update an inventory of vessels that are documented under this chapter, are at least 200 feet in length, and have the capability to lay, maintain, or repair a submarine cable, without regard to whether a particular vessel is classed as a cable ship or cable vessel.

(2) INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED.—For each vessel listed in the inventory, the Secretary of Transportation shall include in the inventory—

(A) the name, length, beam, depth, and other distinguishing characteristics of the vessel;

(B) the abilities and limitations of the vessel with respect to laying, maintaining, and repairing a submarine cable; and

(C) the name and address of the person to whom inquiries regarding the vessel may be made.

(3) PUBLICATION.—The Secretary of Transportation shall publish in the Federal Register an updated inventory every 6 months.

(Pub. L. 109–304, §5, Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1507.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Table with 3 columns: Revised Section, Source (U.S. Code), Source (Statutes at Large). Rows include 12138(a) and 12138(b).

In subsection (b), the word “Secretary” is substituted for “Secretary of Transportation” for consistency in the chapter.

§ 12139. Reports

(a) IN GENERAL.—To ensure compliance with this chapter and laws governing the qualifications of vessels to engage in the coastwise trade and the fisheries, the Secretary may require owners, masters, charterers, and mortgagees of documented vessels to submit reports in any reasonable form and manner the Secretary may prescribe.

(b) VESSELS REBUILT OUTSIDE UNITED STATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, if a vessel exceeding