

maritime lien, the remedy provided by such a lien, or the defenses thereto, including any defense under the doctrine of laches.

(Pub. L. 100-710, title I, §102(c), Nov. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 4748; Pub. L. 107-295, title II, §205(a)(1), Nov. 25, 2002, 116 Stat. 2095; Pub. L. 111-281, title IX, §913(a)(1), Oct. 15, 2010, 124 Stat. 3017.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised section</i>	<i>Source section (U.S. Code)</i>
31343	46:925

Section 31343 provides that any person claiming a lien on a vessel covered by a preferred mortgage may record a notice of lien. This notice must state the nature of the lien, date it was established; the amount; and the name and address of the person claiming a lien, and it must be acknowledged. The Secretary must record a notice of lien if it complies with these requirements. When any part of the indebtedness is discharged, the claimant shall provide the Secretary with a written, acknowledged certificate of discharge of the indebtedness, and the Secretary shall record the certificate. This section makes no substantive change to law.

Section 31343(c) provides that, on the full and final discharge of an indebtedness that is the basis for a claim, the person having the claim shall provide the Secretary with an acknowledged certificate of discharge on the request of the Secretary or owner of the vessel. This subsection makes a substantive change to law by not requiring partial discharges to be filed, as well as making the filing of discharge certificates only at the request of the Secretary or owner of the vessel.

HOUSE FLOOR STATEMENT

Subsection (d) of this section requires a person claiming a lien on a vessel covered by a preferred mortgage under section 31322(d) to record and discharge the lien as provided by the law of the State in which the vessel is titled.

AMENDMENTS

2010—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 111-281 struck out “of Transportation” after “Secretary” in introductory provisions.

2002—Pub. L. 107-295, §205(a)(1)(A), substituted “notices of claim of maritime lien” for “liens on preferred mortgage vessels” in section catchline.

Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 107-295, §205(a)(1)(B), substituted “documented, or for which an application for documentation has been filed, under chapter 121” for “covered by a preferred mortgage filed or recorded under this chapter” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 107-295, §205(a)(1)(C), amended subsec. (b) generally. Prior to amendment, subsec. (b) read as follows: “The Secretary shall record a notice complying with subsection (a) of this section.”

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 107-295, §205(a)(1)(D), amended subsec. (c) generally. Prior to amendment, subsec. (c) read as follows: “On full and final discharge of the indebtedness that is the basis for a claim recorded under subsection (b) of this section, on request of the Secretary or owner, the person having the claim shall provide the Secretary with an acknowledged certificate of discharge of the indebtedness. The Secretary shall record the certificate.”

Subsecs. (e), (f). Pub. L. 107-295, §205(a)(1)(E), added subsecs. (e) and (f).

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2002 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 107-295 effective Jan. 1, 2003, see section 205(e) of Pub. L. 107-295, set out as a note under section 31325 of this title.

Subtitle IV—Regulation of Ocean Shipping

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PART A—OCEAN SHIPPING

CHAPTER 401—GENERAL

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§ 40101. Purposes

The purposes of this part are to—

(1) establish a nondiscriminatory regulatory process for the common carriage of goods by water in the foreign commerce of the United States with a minimum of government intervention and regulatory costs;

(2) provide an efficient and economic transportation system in the ocean commerce of the United States that is, insofar as possible, in harmony with, and responsive to, international shipping practices;

(3) encourage the development of an economically sound and efficient liner fleet of vessels of the United States capable of meeting national security needs; and

(4) promote the growth and development of United States exports through competitive and efficient ocean transportation and by placing a greater reliance on the marketplace.

(Pub. L. 109-304, §7, Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1523.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
40101	46 App.:1701.	Pub. L. 98-237, §2, Mar. 20, 1984, 98 Stat. 67; Pub. L. 105-258, title I, §101, Oct. 14, 1998, 112 Stat. 1902.

EFFECTS ON CERTAIN AGREEMENTS AND CONTRACTS

Pub. L. 98-237, §20(d), Mar. 20, 1984, 98 Stat. 90; Pub. L. 105-258, title I, §117(1), Oct. 14, 1998, 112 Stat. 1914, provided that: “All agreements, contracts, modifications, licenses, and exemptions previously issued, approved, or effective under the Shipping Act, 1916 [former 46 U.S.C. App. 801 et seq., see Disposition Table preceding section 101 of this title], or the Shipping Act of 1984 [former 46 U.S.C. App. 1701 et seq., see Disposition