

mission, after consultation with other cognizant agencies, for the exchange of navigational information.

(b) Vessels upon navigable waters of United States inside high seas lines

The radiotelephone required by subsection (a) of this section shall be carried on board the described vessels, dredges, and floating plants upon the navigable waters of the United States, which includes all waters of the territorial sea of the United States as described in Presidential Proclamation 5928 of December 27, 1988.

(Pub. L. 92-63, § 4, Aug. 4, 1971, 85 Stat. 164; Pub. L. 102-241, § 16, Dec. 19, 1991, 105 Stat. 2213; Pub. L. 104-324, title VII, § 704, Oct. 19, 1996, 110 Stat. 3933; Pub. L. 107-295, title III, § 321, Nov. 25, 2002, 116 Stat. 2103.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Presidential Proclamation 5928 of December 27, 1988, referred to in subsec. (b), is set out as a note under section 1331 of Title 43, Public Lands.

AMENDMENTS

2002—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 107-295 substituted “United States, which includes all waters of the territorial sea of the United States as described in Presidential Proclamation 5928 of December 27, 1988” for “United States inside the lines established pursuant to section 151 of this title”.

1996—Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 104-324 inserted “as measured under section 14502 of title 46, or an alternate tonnage measured under section 14302 of that title as prescribed by the Secretary under section 14104 of that title,” after “one hundred gross tons”.

1991—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 102-241 amended par. (1) generally, substituting “twenty meters or over in length” for “three hundred gross tons and upward”.

VESSEL COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT REGULATIONS

Pub. L. 101-380, title IV, § 4118, Aug. 18, 1990, 104 Stat. 523, provided that: “The Secretary shall, not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act [Aug. 18, 1990], issue regulations necessary to ensure that vessels subject to the Vessel Bridge-to-Bridge Radiotelephone Act of 1971 (33 U.S.C. 1203) are also equipped as necessary to—

“(1) receive radio marine navigation safety warnings; and

“(2) engage in radio communications on designated frequencies with the Coast Guard, and such other vessels and stations as may be specified by the Secretary.”

§ 1204. Radiotelephone for exclusive use of master, person in charge, or pilot; frequency listening watch; portable radiotelephone equipment

The radiotelephone required by this chapter is for the exclusive use of the master or person in charge of the vessel, or the person designated by the master or person in charge to pilot or direct the movement of the vessel, who shall maintain a listening watch on the designated frequency. Nothing contained herein shall be interpreted as precluding the use of portable radiotelephone equipment to satisfy the requirements of this chapter.

(Pub. L. 92-63, § 5, Aug. 4, 1971, 85 Stat. 165.)

§ 1205. Radiotelephone capability; maintenance; restoration; consequences of loss; navigation of vessel

Whenever radiotelephone capability is required by this chapter, a vessel's radiotelephone equipment shall be maintained in effective operating condition. If the radiotelephone equipment carried aboard a vessel ceases to operate, the master shall exercise due diligence to restore it or cause it to be restored to effective operating condition at the earliest practicable time. The failure of a vessel's radiotelephone equipment shall not, in itself, constitute a violation of this chapter, nor shall it obligate the master of any vessel to moor or anchor his vessel; however, the loss of radiotelephone capability shall be given consideration in the navigation of the vessel.

(Pub. L. 92-63, § 6, Aug. 4, 1971, 85 Stat. 165.)

§ 1206. Exemptions; terms and conditions

The Secretary may, if he considers that marine navigational safety will not be adversely affected or where a local communication system fully complies with the intent of this concept but does not conform in detail, issue exemptions from any provisions of this chapter, on such terms and conditions as he considers appropriate.

(Pub. L. 92-63, § 7, Aug. 4, 1971, 85 Stat. 165.)

§ 1207. Regulations

(a) Operating and technical conditions and characteristics; frequencies, emission, and power of radiotelephone equipment

The Federal Communications Commission shall, after consultation with other cognizant agencies, prescribe regulations necessary to specify operating and technical conditions and characteristics including frequencies, emission, and power of radiotelephone equipment required under this chapter.

(b) Enforcement

The Secretary shall, subject to the concurrence of the Federal Communications Commission, prescribe regulations for the enforcement of this chapter.

(Pub. L. 92-63, § 8, Aug. 4, 1971, 85 Stat. 165.)

§ 1208. Penalties

(a) Master, person in charge, or pilot subject to penalty

Whoever, being the master or person in charge of a vessel subject to this chapter, fails to enforce or comply with this chapter or the regulation, hereunder; or

Whoever, being designated by the master or person in charge of a vessel subject to this chapter to pilot or direct the movement of the vessel, fails to enforce or comply with this chapter or the regulations hereunder—

Is liable to a civil penalty of not more than \$500 to be assessed by the Secretary.

(b) Vessels subject to penalty; jurisdiction

Every vessel navigating in violation of this chapter or the regulations hereunder is liable to a civil penalty of not more than \$500 to be as-