

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

| <i>Revised Section</i> | <i>Source (U.S. Code)</i> | <i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i> |
|------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| 31105 | 46 App.:783 (proviso). | Mar. 3, 1925, ch. 428, § 3 (proviso), 43 Stat. 1112. |

The word “counterclaim” is substituted for “cross-libel”, and the words “original action” are substituted for “original libel”, to conform to the terminology in the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (28 App. U.S.C.).

§ 31106. Exoneration and limitation

The United States is entitled to the exemptions from and limitations of liability provided by law to an owner, charterer, operator, or agent of a vessel.

(Pub. L. 109–304, § 6(c), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1522.)

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|------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| 31106 | 46 App.:789. | Mar. 3, 1925, ch. 428, § 9, 43 Stat. 1113. |

§ 31107. Interest

A judgment in a civil action under this chapter may not include interest for the period before the judgment is issued unless the claim is based on a contract providing for interest.

(Pub. L. 109–304, § 6(c), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1522.)

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|------------------------|---|---|
| 31107 | 46 App.:782 (last sentence words after last comma). | Mar. 3, 1925, ch. 428, § 2 (last sentence words after last comma), 43 Stat. 1112. |

§ 31108. Arbitration, compromise, or settlement

The Attorney General may arbitrate, compromise, or settle a claim under this chapter if a civil action based on the claim has been commenced.

(Pub. L. 109–304, § 6(c), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1522.)

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|------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| 31108 | 46 App.:786. | Mar. 3, 1925, ch. 428, § 6, 43 Stat. 1113. |

The words “claim under this chapter” are substituted for “claim on which a libel or cross libel would lie under the provisions of this chapter” to eliminate unnecessary words.

§ 31109. Payment of judgment or settlement

The proper accounting officer of the United States shall pay a final judgment, arbitration award, or settlement under this chapter on presentation of an authenticated copy. Payment shall be made from any money in the Treasury appropriated for the purpose.

(Pub. L. 109–304, § 6(c), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1522.)

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| 31109 | 46 App.:787. | Mar. 3, 1925, ch. 428, § 7, 43 Stat. 1113. |

Reference to an arbitration award is added for consistency with sections 30912 and 31108 of the revised title.

§ 31110. Subpoenas to officers or members of crew

An officer or member of the crew of a public vessel may not be subpoenaed in a civil action under this chapter without the consent of—

(1) the Secretary of the department or the head of the independent establishment having control of the vessel at the time the cause of action arose; or

(2) the master or commanding officer of the vessel at the time the subpoena is issued.

(Pub. L. 109–304, § 6(c), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1522.)

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|------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| 31110 | 46 App.:784. | Mar. 3, 1925, ch. 428, § 4, 43 Stat. 1112. |

§ 31111. Claims by nationals of foreign countries

A national of a foreign country may not maintain a civil action under this chapter unless it appears to the satisfaction of the court in which the action is brought that the government of that country, in similar circumstances, allows nationals of the United States to sue in its courts.

(Pub. L. 109–304, § 6(c), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1522.)

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|------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| 31111 | 46 App.:785. | Mar. 3, 1925, ch. 428, § 5, 43 Stat. 1113. |

§ 31112. Lien not recognized or created

This chapter shall not be construed as recognizing the existence of or as creating a lien against a public vessel of the United States.

(Pub. L. 109–304, § 6(c), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1522.)

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|------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| 31112 | 46 App.:788. | Mar. 3, 1925, ch. 428, § 8, 43 Stat. 1113. |

§ 31113. Reports

The Attorney General shall report to Congress at each session thereof all claims settled under this chapter.

(Pub. L. 109–304, § 6(c), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1523.)