

§ 44103. Financial responsibility to pay liability for death or injury

(Pub. L. 109-304, §7, Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1555.)

(a) GENERAL REQUIREMENT.—The owner or charterer of a vessel to which this chapter applies shall establish, under regulations prescribed by the Federal Maritime Commission, financial responsibility to meet liability for death or injury to passengers or other individuals on a voyage to or from a port in the United States.

(b) AMOUNTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amount of financial responsibility required under subsection (a) shall be based on the number of passenger accommodations as follows:

(A) \$20,000 for each of the first 500 passenger accommodations.

(B) \$15,000 for each additional passenger accommodation between 501 and 1,000.

(C) \$10,000 for each additional passenger accommodation between 1,001 and 1,500.

(D) \$5,000 for each additional passenger accommodation over 1,500.

(2) MULTIPLE VESSELS.—If the owner or charterer is operating more than one vessel subject to this chapter, the amount of financial responsibility shall be based on the number of passenger accommodations on the vessel with the largest number of passenger accommodations.

(c) AVAILABILITY TO PAY JUDGMENT.—The amount determined under subsection (b) shall be available to pay a judgment for damages (whether less than or more than \$20,000) for death or injury to a passenger or other individual on a voyage to or from a port in the United States.

(d) MEANS OF ESTABLISHING.—Financial responsibility under this section may be established by one or more of the following if acceptable to the Commission:

(1) Insurance.

(2) Surety bond issued by a bonding company authorized to do business in the United States.

(3) Qualification as a self-insurer.

(4) Other evidence of financial responsibility.

(Pub. L. 109-304, §7, Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1554.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Table with 3 columns: Revised Section, Source (U.S. Code), Source (Statutes at Large). Row 1: 44103, 46 App.:817d(a) (1st-5th, 29th-last words), (b), Pub. L. 89-777, §2(a) (1st-5th, 29th-last words), (b), Nov. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 1356.

In subsection (d)(2), the words “issued by a bonding company authorized to do business in the United States” are substituted for 46 App. U.S.C. 817d(b) to eliminate unnecessary words. The words “or any State thereof or the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, or any territory or possession of the United States” are omitted as unnecessary because of the definition of “United States” in chapter 1 of the revised title.

§ 44104. Civil penalty

A person that violates section 44102 or 44103 of this title is liable to the United States Government for a civil penalty of not more than \$5,000, plus \$200 for each passage sold, to be assessed by the Federal Maritime Commission. The Commission may remit or mitigate the penalty on terms the Commission considers proper.

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Table with 3 columns: Revised Section, Source (U.S. Code), Source (Statutes at Large). Row 1: 44104, 46 App.:817d(c), 46 App.:817e(c), Pub. L. 89-777, §§2(c), 3(c), Nov. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 1357.

§ 44105. Refusal of clearance

The Secretary of Homeland Security shall refuse the clearance required by section 60105 of this title, at the port or place of departure from the United States, of a vessel that is subject to this chapter and does not have evidence issued by the Federal Maritime Commission of compliance with sections 44102 and 44103 of this title.

(Pub. L. 109-304, §7, Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1555.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Table with 3 columns: Revised Section, Source (U.S. Code), Source (Statutes at Large). Row 1: 44105, 46 App.:817d(e), 46 App.:817e(e), Pub. L. 89-777, §§2(e), 3(e), Nov. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 1357, 1358; Pub. L. 103-182, title VI, §689(c), Dec. 8, 1993, 107 Stat. 2222.

The words “Secretary of Homeland Security” are substituted for “Customs Service” because the functions of the Customs Service and of the Secretary of the Treasury relating thereto were transferred to the Secretary of Homeland Security by section 403(1) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Pub. L. 107-296, 116 Stat. 2178).

§ 44106. Conduct of proceedings

Part A of this subtitle applies to proceedings conducted by the Federal Maritime Commission under this chapter.

(Pub. L. 109-304, §7, Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1555.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Table with 3 columns: Revised Section, Source (U.S. Code), Source (Statutes at Large). Row 1: 44106, 46 App.:817d(d), 46 App.:817e(d), Pub. L. 89-777, §§2(d), 3(d), Nov. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 1357, 1358; Pub. L. 104-324, title VII, §746(c), Oct. 19, 1996, 110 Stat. 3943.

The authority to prescribe regulations is omitted as unnecessary because it is already provided by section 305 of the revised title.

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