

**§ 2648. Persons and supplies: sea, land, and air transportation**

Whenever the Secretary of Defense considers that space is available, the following persons and supplies may be transported on vessels, vehicles, or aircraft operated by the Department of Defense:

- (1) Members of Congress.
- (2) Other officers of the United States traveling on official business.
- (3) Secretaries and supplies of the Armed Services Department of the Young Men's Christian Association.
- (4) Officers and employees of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico on official business.
- (5) The families of members of the armed forces, officers and employees of the Department of Defense or the Coast Guard, and persons described in paragraphs (1), (2), and (4).

However, a person described in paragraph (4) or (5) may be so transported only if the transportation is without expense to the United States.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 266, §4744; Pub. L. 86-624, §4(d), July 12, 1960, 74 Stat. 411; renumbered §2648 and amended Pub. L. 108-375, div. A, title X, §1072(a), (b)(1), Oct. 28, 2004, 118 Stat. 2057; Pub. L. 111-383, div. A, title III, §352(d), (e)(1), Jan. 7, 2011, 124 Stat. 4193.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
4744 .....	10:1369. 10:1370. 10:1371 (less last 29 words).	Mar. 2, 1907, ch. 2511 (6th proviso, less last 29 words under "Transportation of the Army and Its Supplies"), 34 Stat. 1170. June 30, 1921, ch. 33 (8th proviso under "Transportation of the Army and Its Supplies"), 42 Stat. 81. Mar. 3, 1911, ch. 209 (3d proviso under "Transportation of the Army and Its Supplies"), 36 Stat. 1051.

Reference to the Philippine government, contained in the source statute for 10:1371, is omitted, since the Philippine Republic now has the status of a foreign country and only possessions of the United States are intended to be covered by the source statute. The words "Armed Services Department" are substituted for the words "Army and Navy Department", in 10:1370, to reflect the present name of that Department of the Young Men's Christian Association. (See also third sentence of revision note for section 4746 of this title, below.)

AMENDMENTS

2011—Pub. L. 111-383 substituted "Persons and supplies: sea, land, and air transportation" for "Persons and supplies: sea transportation" in section catchline and inserted ", vehicles, or aircraft" after "vessels" in introductory provisions.

2004—Pub. L. 108-375, §1072(b)(1), in introductory provisions, substituted "Secretary of Defense" for "Secretary of the Army" and struck out "Army transport agencies or, within bulk space allocations made to the Department of the Army, on vessels operated by any military transport agency of" before "the Department of Defense", redesignated pars. (4) to (8) as (1) to (5), respectively, in par. (5), substituted "members of the armed forces, officers and employees of the Department of Defense or the Coast Guard, and persons described in

paragraphs (1), (2), and (4)" for "persons described in clauses (1), (2), (4), (5), and (7)", in concluding provisions, substituted "paragraph (4) or (5)" for "clause (7) or (8)", and struck out former pars. (1) to (3) which read as follows:

"(1) Members of the Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard.

"(2) Officers and employees of the Department of the Army, the Department of the Navy, the Department of the Air Force, or the Coast Guard.

"(3) Supplies of the Department of the Navy."  
Pub. L. 108-375, §1072(a), renumbered section 4744 of this title as this section.

1960—Pub. L. 86-624 struck out cl. (6) which authorized transportation of officers and employees of the Territory of Hawaii, redesignated cls. (7) to (9) as (6) to (8), respectively, and substituted "clauses (1), (2), (4), (5), and (7)" for "clauses (1), (2), (4), (5), (6), and (8)" in redesignated cl. (8), and "clause (7) or (8)" for "clause (8) or (9)" in closing sentence.

**§ 2649. Civilian passengers and commercial cargoes: transportation on Department of Defense vessels, vehicles, and aircraft**

(a) AUTHORITY.—Whenever space is unavailable on commercial lines and is available on vessels, vehicles, or aircraft operated by the Department of Defense, civilian passengers and commercial cargo may, in the discretion of the Secretary of Defense, be transported on those vessels, vehicles, or aircraft. Rates for transportation under this section may not be less than those charged by commercial lines for the same kinds of service, except that in the case of transportation provided in response to an emergency, a disaster, or a request for humanitarian assistance, any amount charged for such transportation may not exceed the cost of providing the transportation.

(b) CREDITING OF RECEIPTS.—Any amount received under subsection (a) with respect to transportation provided in response to an emergency, a disaster, or a request for humanitarian assistance may be credited to the appropriation, fund, or account used in incurring the obligation for which such amount is received. In all other cases, amounts received under subsection (a) shall be covered into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts.

(c) TRANSPORTATION OF ALLIED AND CIVILIAN PERSONNEL AND CARGO DURING CONTINGENCIES OR DISASTER RESPONSES.—When space is available on vessels, vehicles, or aircraft operated by the Department of Defense and the Secretary of Defense determines that operations in the area of a contingency operation or disaster response would be facilitated if allied and civilian personnel and cargo were to be transported using such vessels, vehicles, or aircraft, the Secretary may provide such transportation on a noninterference basis, without charge.

(d) COMMERCIAL INSURANCE.—The Secretary may enter into a contract or other arrangement with one or more commercial providers to make insurance products available to non-Department of Defense shippers using the Defense Transportation System to insure against the loss or damage of the shipper's cargo. Any such contract or arrangement shall provide that—

- (1) any insurance premium is collected by the commercial provider;
- (2) any claim for loss or damage is processed and paid by the commercial provider;