

2018—Pub. L. 115-232 renumbered section 7606 of this title as this section.

1997—Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 105-85 substituted “section” for “sections”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2018 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 115-232 effective Feb. 1, 2019, with provision for the coordination of amendments and special rule for certain redesignations, see section 800 of Pub. L. 115-232, set out as a note preceding section 3001 of this title.

CHAPTER 881—CLAIMS

Sec.	
8821.	Definitions.
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AMENDMENTS

2018—Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title VIII, §807(e)(4), (f)(1), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1838, redesignated chapter 653 of this title as this chapter and items 7621 to 7623 as 8821 to 8823, respectively.

1962—Pub. L. 87-769, §1(2)(B), Oct. 9, 1962, 76 Stat. 768, struck out item 7625 “Claims against the United States: private property; loss or damage”.

1960—Pub. L. 86-533, §1(10)(B), June 29, 1960, 74 Stat. 247, struck out item 7624 “Reports to Congress”.

§ 8821. Definitions

(a) In this chapter “vessel in the naval service” means—

- (1) any vessel of the Navy, manned by the Navy, or chartered on bareboat charter to the Navy; or
- (2) when the Coast Guard is operating as a service in the Navy, any vessel of the Coast Guard, manned by the Coast Guard, or chartered on bareboat charter to the Coast Guard.

(b) In this chapter “settle” means consider, ascertain, adjust, determine, and dispose of a claim, whether by full or partial allowance or by disallowance.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 472, §7621; renumbered §8821, Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title VIII, §807(d)(9), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1837.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
7621	46 U.S.C. 793.	July 3, 1944, ch. 399, § 3, 58 Stat. 724.

In subsection (a) the words “vessel in the naval service” are substituted for the words “vessels of the Navy or in the naval service”. The defined term is used throughout the chapter, and by definition includes vessels of the Navy. The words “when the Coast Guard is operating as a service in the Navy” are substituted for the words “the Coast Guard when operating as a part of the Navy” to conform to the terminology of 14 U.S.C. 3.

Subsection (b) is inserted for clarity, and is based on the source laws for this revised chapter.

AMENDMENTS

2018—Pub. L. 115-232 renumbered section 7621 of this title as this section.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2018 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 115-232 effective Feb. 1, 2019, with provision for the coordination of amendments and special rule for certain redesignations, see section 800 of Pub. L. 115-232, set out as a note preceding section 3001 of this title.

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For transfer of authorities, functions, personnel, and assets of the Coast Guard, including the authorities and functions of the Secretary of Transportation relating thereto, to the Department of Homeland Security, and for treatment of related references, see sections 468(b), 551(d), 552(d), and 557 of Title 6, Domestic Security, and the Department of Homeland Security Reorganization Plan of November 25, 2002, as modified, set out as a note under section 542 of Title 6.

§ 8822. Admiralty claims against the United States

(a) The Secretary of the Navy may settle, or compromise, and pay in an amount not more than \$15,000,000 an admiralty claim against the United States for—

- (1) damage caused by a vessel in the naval service or by other property under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Navy;
- (2) compensation for towage and salvage service, including contract salvage, rendered to a vessel in the naval service or to other property under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Navy; or
- (3) damage caused by a maritime tort committed by any agent or employee of the Department of the Navy or by property under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Navy.

(b) If a claim under this section is settled or compromised for more than \$15,000,000, the Secretary shall certify it to Congress.

(c) In any case where the amount to be paid is not more than \$1,000,000, the Secretary may delegate his authority under this section to any person designated by him.

(d) Upon acceptance of payment by the claimant, the settlement or compromise of a claim under this section is final and conclusive notwithstanding any other provision of law.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 472, §7622; Pub. L. 89-67, July 7, 1965, 79 Stat. 212; Pub. L. 92-417, §1(5), Aug. 29, 1972, 86 Stat. 654; Pub. L. 101-189, div. A, title XVI, §1633, Nov. 29, 1989, 103 Stat. 1608; Pub. L. 107-107, div. A, title X, §1014(a), Dec. 28, 2001, 115 Stat. 1212; renumbered §8822, Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title VIII, §807(d)(9), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1837.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
7622	46 U.S.C. 797. 46 U.S.C. 799.	July 3, 1944, ch. 399, § 7, 58 Stat. 726. July 3, 1944, ch. 399, § 9; added Aug. 2, 1946, ch. 739, 60 Stat. 803.

In subsection (a) the words “consider, ascertain, adjust, determine” are omitted as covered by the word “settle”, as defined in §7621(b) of this title. The words “vessel in the naval service” are substituted for the words “vessels of the Navy or in the naval service”, in view of the definition in §7621(a) of this title. The words “pay in an amount not more than \$1,000,000, a claim” are substituted for the words “pay the amount of any claim, so determined, compromised, or settled” and for the words “the payment of any claim on which a net amount exceeding \$1,000,000 is determined to be due from the United States, or which is compromised or settled at a net amount exceeding \$1,000,000 payable by the United States, shall not be authorized by this section”.