

chapter, the Secretary or Administrator, as appropriate, may refer the matter to the Attorney General of the United States for collection in any appropriate district court of the United States.

**(g) Compromise, modification, or remission**

Before referring any civil penalty that is subject to assessment or has been assessed under this section to the Attorney General, the Secretary, or Administrator, as appropriate, may compromise, modify, or remit, with or without conditions, the civil penalty.

**(h) Nonpayment penalty**

Any person who fails to pay on a timely basis a civil penalty assessed under this section shall also be liable to the United States for interest on the penalty at an annual rate equal to 11 percent compounded quarterly, attorney fees and costs for collection proceedings, and a quarterly nonpayment penalty for each quarter during which such failure to pay persists. That nonpayment penalty shall be in an amount equal to 20 percent of the aggregate amount of that person's penalties and nonpayment penalties that are unpaid as of the beginning of that quarter.

(Pub. L. 111-281, title X, §1042, Oct. 15, 2010, 124 Stat. 3030.)

**Editorial Notes**

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsecs. (a)(1), (c), and (f), was in the original "this title", meaning title X of Pub. L. 111-281, Oct. 15, 2010, 124 Stat. 3023, which enacted this chapter and repealed chapter 37 (§2401 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of title X to the Code, see Tables.

**§ 3853. Liability in rem**

A vessel operated in violation of the Convention, this chapter, or any regulation prescribed under this chapter, is liable in rem for any fine imposed under title 18 or civil penalty assessed pursuant to section 3852 of this title, and may be proceeded against in the United States district court of any district in which the vessel may be found.

(Pub. L. 111-281, title X, §1043, Oct. 15, 2010, 124 Stat. 3031; Pub. L. 111-330, §1(20), Dec. 22, 2010, 124 Stat. 3571.)

**Editorial Notes**

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original "this title", meaning title X of Pub. L. 111-281, Oct. 15, 2010, 124 Stat. 3023, which enacted this chapter and repealed chapter 37 (§2401 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of title X to the Code, see Tables.

AMENDMENTS

2010—Pub. L. 111-330 substituted "under title 18" for "under section 18".

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2010 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 111-330, §1, Dec. 22, 2010, 124 Stat. 3569, provided that the amendment made by section 1(20) is effective with the enactment of Pub. L. 111-281.

**§ 3854. Vessel clearance or permits; refusal or revocation; bond or other surety**

If any vessel that is subject to the Convention or this chapter, or its owner, operator, or person in charge, is liable for a fine or civil penalty under section 3852 or 3853 of this title, or if reasonable cause exists to believe that the vessel, its owner, operator, or person in charge may be subject to a fine or civil penalty under section 3852 or 3853 of this title, the Secretary may refuse or revoke the clearance required by section 60105 of title 46. Clearance may be granted upon the filing of a bond or other surety satisfaction to the Secretary.

(Pub. L. 111-281, title X, §1044, Oct. 15, 2010, 124 Stat. 3031.)

**Editorial Notes**

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original "this title", meaning title X of Pub. L. 111-281, Oct. 15, 2010, 124 Stat. 3023, which enacted this chapter and repealed chapter 37 (§2401 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of title X to the Code, see Tables.

**§ 3855. Warnings, detentions, dismissals, exclusion**

**(a) In general**

If a vessel is detected to be in violation of the Convention, this chapter, or any regulation prescribed under this chapter, the Secretary may warn, detain, dismiss, or exclude the vessel from any port or offshore terminal under the jurisdiction of the United States.

**(b) Notifications**

If action is taken under subsection (a), the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of State, shall make the notifications required by the Convention.

(Pub. L. 111-281, title X, §1045, Oct. 15, 2010, 124 Stat. 3031.)

**Editorial Notes**

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsec. (a), was in the original "this title", meaning title X of Pub. L. 111-281, Oct. 15, 2010, 124 Stat. 3023, which enacted this chapter and repealed chapter 37 (§2401 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of title X to the Code, see Tables.

**§ 3856. Referrals for appropriate action by foreign country**

Notwithstanding sections 3851, 3852, 3853, and 3855 of this title, if a violation of the Convention is committed by a vessel registered in or of the nationality of a country that is a party to the Convention, or by a vessel operated under the authority of a country that is a party to the Convention, the Secretary, acting in coordination with the Secretary of State, may refer the matter to the government of the country of the vessel's registry or nationality, or under whose authority the vessel is operating, for appropriate action, rather than taking the actions otherwise required or authorized by this subchapter.