

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
51704(a)	46 App.:1295d(c)(1).	June 29, 1936, ch. 858, title XIII, §1305(c), as added Pub. L. 101-595, title VII, §712, Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 2998.
51704(b)	46 App.:1295d(c)(2)(A), (4).	
51704(c)	46 App.:1295d(c)(2)(B), (3).	

In subsection (c)(5), the words “or titled under the law of a State” are substituted for “documented under the laws of . . . any State” for consistency with the terminology in 46 U.S.C. 2101(46) (which is being moved to chapter 1 of the revised title) and 46 U.S.C. ch. 125.

§ 51705. Training for use of force against piracy

The Secretary of Transportation, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating, shall certify a training curriculum for United States mariners on the use of force against pirates. The curriculum shall include—

- (1) information on waters designated as high-risk waters by the Commandant of the Coast Guard;
- (2) information on current threats and patterns of attack by pirates;
- (3) tactics for defense of a vessel, including instruction on the types, use, and limitations of security equipment;
- (4) standard rules for the use of force for self-defense as developed by the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating under section 912(c) of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-281; 46 U.S.C. 8107 note), including instruction on firearm safety for crewmembers of vessels carrying cargo under section 55305 of this title; and
- (5) procedures to follow to improve crewmember survivability if captured and taken hostage by pirates.

(Added Pub. L. 112-213, title V, § 502(a), Dec. 20, 2012, 126 Stat. 1574.)

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

DEADLINE

Pub. L. 112-213, title V, § 502(b), Dec. 20, 2012, 126 Stat. 1575, provided that: “The Secretary of Transportation shall certify the curriculum required under the amendment made by subsection (a) [enacting this section] not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this Act [Dec. 20, 2012].”

§ 51706. Centers of excellence for domestic maritime workforce training and education

(a) DESIGNATION.—The Secretary of Transportation may designate as a center of excellence for domestic maritime workforce training and education a covered training entity located in a State that borders on the—

- (1) Gulf of Mexico;
- (2) Atlantic Ocean;
- (3) Long Island Sound;
- (4) Pacific Ocean;
- (5) Great Lakes;
- (6) Mississippi River System;

- (7) Arctic; or
- (8) Gulf of Alaska.

(b) ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary may enter into a cooperative agreement (as that term is used in section 6305 of title 31) with a center of excellence designated under subsection (a) to support maritime workforce training and education at the center of excellence, including efforts of the center of excellence to—

- (1) admit additional students;
- (2) recruit and train faculty;
- (3) expand facilities;
- (4) create new maritime career pathways; or
- (5) award students credit for prior experience, including military service.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section,

(1) COVERED TRAINING ENTITY.—the term “covered training entity” means an entity that is—

- (A) a community or technical college; or
- (B) a maritime training center—
 - (i) operated by, or under the supervision of, a State; and
 - (ii) with a maritime training program in operation on the date of enactment of this section.

(2) ARCTIC.—The term “Arctic” has the meaning that term has under section 112 of the Arctic Research and Policy Act of 1984 (15 U.S.C. 4111).

(Added Pub. L. 115-91, div. C, title XXXV, § 3507(a), Dec. 12, 2017, 131 Stat. 1914, § 54102; renumbered § 51706, Pub. L. 116-283, div. C, title XXXV, § 3507(a), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 4405.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The date of enactment of this section, referred to in subsec. (c)(1)(B)(ii), is the date of enactment of Pub. L. 115-91, which was approved Dec. 12, 2017.

AMENDMENTS

2021—Pub. L. 116-283 renumbered section 54102 of this title as this section.

§ 51707. Merchant mariner recruitment, training, and retention strategic plan

(a)¹ STRATEGIC PLAN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this section, and at least once every five years thereafter until the termination date under paragraph (6), the Secretary of Transportation, acting through the Administrator of the Maritime Administration, shall publish in the Federal Register a plan to recruit, train, and retain merchant mariners for the five-year period following the date of publication of the most recently published plan under this paragraph.

(2) CONTENTS.—A plan published under paragraph (1) shall contain—

- (A) a strategy to address merchant mariner recruitment, training, and retention issues in the United States; and
- (B) demonstration and research priorities concerning merchant mariner recruitment, training, and retention.

¹ So in original. No subsec. (b) has been enacted.

(3) **FACTORS.**—In developing a plan under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall take into account, at a minimum—

- (A) the availability of existing research (as of the date of publication of the plan); and
- (B) the need to ensure results that have broad applicability for the United States merchant marine workforce development.

(4) **CONSULTATION.**—In developing a plan under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall consult with representatives of the maritime industry, labor organizations, including the Commander of the Transportation Command and the Commander of the Military Sealift Command, and other governmental entities and stakeholders in the maritime industry.

(5) **TRANSMITTAL TO CONGRESS.**—The Secretary shall transmit copies of any plan published under paragraph (1) to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate.

(6) **TERMINATION DATE.**—The requirement to publish a plan under this paragraph shall terminate on the date that the Administrator of the Maritime Administration determines that there is an adequate number of United States mariners for sustained strategic sealift.

(Added Pub. L. 116-283, div. C, title XXXV, §3508(a), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 4405.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The date of the enactment of this section, referred to in subsec. (a)(1), is the date of enactment of Pub. L. 116-283, which was approved Jan. 1, 2021.

CHAPTER 519—MERCHANT MARINE AWARDS

- Sec.
- 51901. Awards for individual acts or service.
 - 51902. Gallant Ship Award.
 - 51903. Multiple awards.
 - 51904. Presentation to representatives.
 - 51905. Flags and grave markers.
 - 51906. Special certificates for civilian service to armed forces.
 - 51907. Provision of decorations, medals, and replacements¹
 - 51908. Prohibition against unauthorized manufacture, sale, possession, or display of awards.

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2008—Pub. L. 110-181, div. C, title XXXV, §3523(a)(5)(B), Jan. 28, 2008, 122 Stat. 599, substituted “Provision of decorations, medals, and replacements” for “Manufacture and sale of awards and replacements.” in item 51907.

§ 51901. Awards for individual acts or service

(a) **GENERAL AUTHORITY.**—The Secretary of Transportation may award decorations and medals of appropriate design (including ribbons, ribbon bars, emblems, rosettes, miniature facsimiles, plaques, citations, or other suitable devices or insignia) for individual acts or service

¹ So in original. Probably should be followed by a period.

in the merchant marine of the United States. The design may be similar to the design of a decoration or medal authorized for members of the armed forces for similar acts or service.

(b) **SPECIFIC AUTHORITY.**—The Secretary may award—

- (1) a Merchant Marine Distinguished Service Medal to an individual for outstanding acts, conduct, or valor beyond the line of duty;
- (2) a Merchant Marine Meritorious Service Medal to an individual for meritorious acts, conduct, or valor in the line of duty, but not of the outstanding character that would warrant the award of the Merchant Marine Distinguished Service Medal;
- (3) a decoration or medal to an individual for service during a war, national emergency proclaimed by the President or Congress, or operations by the armed forces outside the continental United States under conditions of danger to life and property; and
- (4) a decoration or medal to an individual for other acts or service of conspicuous gallantry, intrepidity, and extraordinary heroism under conditions of danger to life and property that would warrant a similar decoration or medal for a member of the armed forces.

(Pub. L. 109-304, §8(b), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1584.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
51901(a)	46 App.:2001.	Pub. L. 100-324, §§2, 3, 5(d), May 30, 1988, 102 Stat. 576, 577.
51901(b)	46 App.:2004(d). 46 App.:2002.	

§ 51902. Gallant Ship Award

(a) **AWARDS TO VESSELS.**—The Secretary of Transportation may award a Gallant Ship Award and a citation to a vessel (including a foreign vessel) participating in outstanding or gallant action in a marine disaster or other emergency to save life or property at sea. The Secretary may award a plaque to the vessel, and a replica of the plaque may be preserved as a permanent historical record.

(b) **AWARDS TO CREWS.**—The Secretary of Transportation may award an appropriate citation ribbon bar to the master and each individual serving, at the time of the action, on a vessel issued an award under subsection (a).

(c) **CONSULTATION.**—The Secretary of Transportation shall consult with the Secretary of State before awarding an award or citation to a foreign vessel or its crew under this section.

(Pub. L. 109-304, §8(b), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1584.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
51902	46 App.:2003.	Pub. L. 100-324, §4, May 30, 1988, 102 Stat. 576.

In subsection (a), the words “a vessel (including a foreign vessel)” are substituted for “a United States vessel or to a foreign-flag vessel” to eliminate unnecessary words.