

In subsection (a), the words “certificate of documentation” and “certificate” are substituted for “register” for consistency with chapter 121 of the revised title. In paragraph (2), the words “sold or” are omitted as unnecessary. The words “owned only by citizens of the United States” are substituted for “no foreign subject or citizen has . . . any share, by way of trust, confidence, or otherwise” for consistency in the revised title and to eliminate unnecessary words.

§ 60104. Depositing certificates of documentation with consular officers

(a) REQUIREMENT OF MASTER.—When a vessel owned by citizens of the United States, on a voyage from a port in the United States, arrives at a foreign port, the master of the vessel shall deposit the vessel’s certificate of documentation with a consular officer at the foreign port if there is a consular officer at that port.

(b) RETURN OF CERTIFICATE.—When the master produces a clearance from the appropriate officer of the foreign port, the consular officer shall return the certificate of documentation to the master if the master has complied with the provisions of law related to the discharge of seamen in a foreign country and the payment of fees of consular officers.

(c) CIVIL PENALTY AND COLLECTION.—The master of a vessel failing to deposit the certificate of documentation as required by subsection (a) is liable to the United States Government for a civil penalty of \$500. The consular officer shall bring an action to recover the penalty in any court of competent jurisdiction. The action shall be brought in the name of the consular officer for the benefit of the United States.

(Pub. L. 109–304, §9(b), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1675.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
60104	46 App.:354. 46 App.:355.	R.S. §4309; Apr. 5, 1906, ch. 1366, §3, 34 Stat. 100. R.S. §4310; Apr. 5, 1906, ch. 1366, §3, 34 Stat. 100.

In this section, the words “certificate of documentation” are substituted for “register” and “papers” for consistency with chapter 121 of title 46. The words “sea-letter, and Mediterranean passport” in R.S. §4309 are omitted because the use of those documents was discontinued by Presidential proclamation on April 10, 1815. The words “consular officer” are substituted for “consul or vice consul” for consistency with 22 U.S.C. 4205. The words “commercial agent, or vice commercial agent” in R.S. §§4309 and 4310 are omitted because of the abolition of the grade of commercial agent by the Act of Apr. 5, 1906 (ch. 1366, 34 Stat. 99).

In subsection (b), the words “or commander” are omitted as unnecessary and for consistency in the section.

In subsection (c), the word “failing” is substituted for “refuses or neglects” to eliminate unnecessary words. The words “liable to the United States Government for a civil penalty” are substituted for “liable to a penalty” for clarity and for consistency in the revised title.

§ 60105. Clearance of vessels

(a) VESSELS OF THE UNITED STATES.—Except as otherwise provided by law, a vessel of the United States shall obtain clearance from the Secretary of Homeland Security before proceeding from a port or place in the United States—

- (1) for a foreign port or place;
- (2) for another port or place in the United States if the vessel has on board foreign merchandise for which entry has not been made; or
- (3) outside the territorial sea to visit a hovering vessel or to receive merchandise while outside the territorial sea.

(b) OTHER VESSELS.—Except as otherwise provided by law, a vessel that is not a vessel of the United States shall obtain clearance from the Secretary before proceeding from a port or place in the United States—

- (1) for a foreign port or place;
- (2) for another port or place in the United States; or
- (3) outside the territorial sea to visit a hovering vessel or to receive or deliver merchandise while outside the territorial sea.

(c) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary may by regulation—

- (1) prescribe the manner in which clearance under this section is to be obtained, including the documents, data, or information which shall be submitted or transmitted, pursuant to an authorized data interchange system, to obtain the clearance;
- (2) permit clearance to be obtained before all requirements for clearance are complied with, but only if the owner or operator of the vessel files a bond in an amount set by the Secretary conditioned on the compliance by the owner or operator with all specified requirements for clearance within a time period (not exceeding 4 business days) established by the Secretary; and
- (3) permit clearance to be obtained at a place other than a designated port of entry, under conditions the Secretary may prescribe.

(Pub. L. 109–304, §9(b), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1675.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
60105	46 App.:91.	R.S. §4197; Aug. 5, 1935, ch. 438, title II, §209, 49 Stat. 526; June 16, 1938, ch. 476, §1, 52 Stat. 758; Sept. 1, 1954, ch. 1213, title V, §501(a), 68 Stat. 1140; Pub. L. 103–182, title VI, §686(b), Dec. 8, 1993, 107 Stat. 2221; Pub. L. 106–476, title I, §1452(a)(3), Nov. 9, 2000, 114 Stat. 2167.

The Secretary of Homeland Security is substituted for the Customs Service and for the Secretary of the Treasury 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).

§ 60106. State inspection laws

When State law requires a certificate of inspection for goods carried on a vessel, a vessel transporting the goods may not be cleared until the certificate is produced.

(Pub. L. 109–304, §9(b), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1676.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
60106	46 App.:97.	R.S. §4202.

This section is substituted for the source provision to eliminate unnecessary words.

§ 60107. Payment of fees on departing vessel

A departing vessel may be cleared only when all legal fees that have accrued on the vessel are paid and proof of payment is presented to the individual granting the clearance.

(Pub. L. 109-304, §9(b), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1676.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
60107	46 App.:100.	R.S. §4206.

This section is substituted for the source provision to eliminate unnecessary words.

§ 60108. Duty to transport tendered cargo

Clearance may be refused to a vessel or vehicle transporting cargo destined for a domestic or foreign port when the owner, master, or other individual in charge refuses to accept cargo tendered in good condition, with proper charges, for the same or an intermediate port by a citizen of the United States. This section does not apply if the vessel or vehicle is already fully loaded (giving appropriate consideration to its proper loading) or is not adaptable to transport the tendered cargo.

(Pub. L. 109-304, §9(b), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1676.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
60108	46 App.:334.	Sept. 7, 1916, ch. 451, §36, 39 Stat. 738.

Only the word "cargo" is used, instead of "merchandise", "freight", and "cargo", for consistency in the section.

§ 60109. Duty to transport money and securities of the United States Government

Before being given clearance, a vessel owned by a citizen of the United States and bound on a voyage from a port in the United States to another port in the United States or in a foreign country, or on a voyage from a port in a foreign country to a port in the United States, shall receive on board any bullion, coin, notes, bonds, or other securities of the United States Government that an agency, consular officer, or other agent of the Government offers. The vessel shall transport the items securely and deliver them promptly to the proper authorities or consignees on arriving at the port of destination. Compensation shall be paid for services provided under this section that is equal to compensation paid to other carriers in the ordinary transaction of business.

(Pub. L. 109-304, §9(b), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1676.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
60109	46 App.:98.	R.S. §4204; Apr. 5, 1906, ch. 1366, §3, 34 Stat. 100.

This section is substituted for the source provision to eliminate unnecessary words.

CHAPTER 603—TONNAGE TAXES AND LIGHT MONEY

- Sec.
- 60301. Regular tonnage taxes.
- 60302. Special tonnage taxes.
- 60303. Light money.
- 60304. Presidential suspension of tonnage taxes and light money.
- 60305. Vessels in distress.
- 60306. Vessels not engaged in trade.
- 60307. Vessels engaged in coastwise trade or the fisheries.
- 60308. Vessels engaged in Great Lakes trade.
- 60309. Passenger vessels making trips between ports of the United States and foreign ports.
- 60310. Vessels making daily trips on interior waters.
- 60311. Hospital vessels in time of war.
- 60312. Rights under treaties preserved.

§ 60301. Regular tonnage taxes

(a) LOWER RATE.—A tax is imposed at the rate of 4.5 cents per ton, not to exceed a total of 22.5 cents per ton per year, for fiscal years 2006 through 2010, and 2 cents per ton, not to exceed a total of 10 cents per ton per year, for each fiscal year thereafter, at each entry in a port of the United States of—

(1) a vessel entering from a foreign port or place in North America, Central America, the West Indies Islands, the Bahama Islands, the Bermuda Islands, or the coast of South America bordering the Caribbean Sea; or

(2) a vessel returning to the same port or place in the United States from which it departed, and not entering the United States from another port or place, except—

- (A) a vessel of the United States;
- (B) a recreational vessel (as defined in section 2101 of this title); or
- (C) a barge.

(b) HIGHER RATE.—A tax is imposed at the rate of 13.5 cents per ton, not to exceed a total of 67.5 cents per ton per year, for fiscal years 2006 through 2010, and 6 cents per ton, not to exceed a total of 30 cents per ton per year, for each fiscal year thereafter, on a vessel at each entry in a port of the United States from a foreign port or place not named in subsection (a)(1).

(c) EXCEPTION FOR VESSELS ENTERING OTHER THAN BY SEA.—Subsection (a) does not apply to a vessel entering other than by sea from a foreign port or place at which tonnage, lighthouse, or other equivalent taxes are not imposed on vessels of the United States.

(Pub. L. 109-304, §9(b), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1677; Pub. L. 109-171, title IV, §4001, Feb. 8, 2006, 120 Stat. 27; Pub. L. 110-181, div. C, title XXXV, §3524, Jan. 28, 2008, 122 Stat. 600.)