

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 151

To amend the International Maritime Satellite Telecommunications Act to ensure the continuing provision of certain global satellite safety services after the privatization of the business operations of the International Mobile Satellite Organization, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 19, 1999

Mr. SARBANES introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To amend the International Maritime Satellite Telecommunications Act to ensure the continuing provision of certain global satellite safety services after the privatization of the business operations of the International Mobile Satellite Organization, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. CONTINUING PROVISION OF GLOBAL SAT-**
 2 **ELLITE SAFETY SERVICES AFTER PRIVATIZA-**
 3 **TION OF BUSINESS OPERATIONS OF INTER-**
 4 **NATIONAL MOBILE SATELLITE ORGANIZA-**
 5 **TION.**

6 (a) **AUTHORITY.**—The International Maritime Sat-
 7 ellite Telecommunications Act (47 U.S.C. 751 et seq.) is
 8 amended by adding at the end the following:

9 “GLOBAL SATELLITE SAFETY SERVICES AFTER
 10 PRIVATIZATION OF BUSINESS OPERATIONS OF INMARSAT
 11 “SEC. 506. In order to ensure the continued provision
 12 of global maritime distress and safety satellite tele-
 13 communications services after the privatization of the
 14 business operations of INMARSAT, the President may
 15 maintain on behalf of the United States membership in
 16 the International Mobile Satellite Organization.”.

17 (b) **REPEAL OF SUPERSEDED AUTHORITY.**—

18 (1) **REPEAL.**—That Act is further amended by
 19 striking sections 502, 503, 504, and 505 (47 U.S.C.
 20 751, 752, 753, and 757).

21 (2) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made
 22 by paragraph (1) shall take effect on the date on
 23 which the International Mobile Satellite Organiza-
 24 tion ceases to operate directly a global mobile sat-
 25 ellite system.