

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 259

To increase the role of the Secretary of Transportation in administering section 901 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 20, 1999

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

A BILL

To increase the role of the Secretary of Transportation in administering section 901 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. TRANSPORTATION IN AMERICAN VESSELS OF**
4 **GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL AND CERTAIN**
5 **CARGOES.**

6 Section 901(b)(2) of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936
7 (46 U.S.C. App. 1241(b)(2)), is amended to read as fol-
8 lows:

9 “(2)(A) Notwithstanding any other provision of
10 law, the Secretary of Transportation shall have the

1 sole responsibility for determining and designating
 2 the programs that are subject to the requirements of
 3 this subsection. Each department or agency that has
 4 responsibility for a program that is designated by
 5 the Secretary of Transportation pursuant to the pre-
 6 ceding sentence shall, for the purposes of this sub-
 7 section, administer such program pursuant to regu-
 8 lations promulgated by such Secretary.

9 “(B) The Secretary of Transportation shall—

10 “(i) review the administration of the pro-
 11 grams referred to in subparagraph (A);

12 “(ii) resolve any question concerning the
 13 administration of those programs with respect
 14 to this section;

15 “(iii) provide for penalties and sanctions
 16 for violation of this Act; and

17 “(iv) on an annual basis, submit a report
 18 to Congress concerning the administration of
 19 such programs.”.

20 **SEC. 2. CONFORMING CARGO PREFERENCE YEAR TO FED-**
 21 **ERAL FISCAL YEAR.**

22 Section 901b(c)(2) of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936
 23 (46 U.S.C. App. 1241f(c)(2)) is amended by striking
 24 “1986.” and inserting “1986, the 18-month period com-
 25 mencing April 1, 1999, and the 12-month period begin-

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1 ning on the first day of October in the year 2000 and
2 each year thereafter.”.

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