

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Mr. CRUZ, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. SULLIVAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard, 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. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2024”.

6 (b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for
7 this division is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Commandant defined.

TITLE I—COAST GUARD

Subtitle A—Authorization of Appropriations

Sec. 101. Authorization of appropriations.

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Sec. 102. Authorized levels of military strength and training.

Subtitle B—Acquisition

- Sec. 111. Modification of prohibition on use of lead systems integrators.
- Sec. 112. Service life extension programs.
- Sec. 113. Consideration of life-cycle cost estimates for acquisition and procurement.
- Sec. 114. Great Lakes icebreaking.
- Sec. 115. Regular Polar Security Cutter updates.
- Sec. 116. Floating drydock for United States Coast Guard Yard.

Subtitle C—Organization and Authorities

- Sec. 131. Modification of treatment of minor construction and improvement project management.
- Sec. 132. Preparedness plans for Coast Guard properties located in tsunami inundation zones.
- Sec. 133. Public availability of information.
- Sec. 134. Delegation of ports and waterways safety authorities in Saint Lawrence Seaway.
- Sec. 135. Additional Pribilof Island transition completion actions.
- Sec. 136. Policy and briefing on availability of naloxone to treat opioid, including fentanyl, overdoses.
- Sec. 137. Great Lakes and Saint Lawrence River cooperative vessel traffic service.
- Sec. 138. Policy on methods to reduce incentives for illicit maritime drug trafficking.
- Sec. 139. Procurement of tactical maritime surveillance systems.
- Sec. 140. Plan for joint and integrated maritime operational and leadership training for United States Coast Guard and Taiwan Coast Guard Administration.
- Sec. 141. Modification of authority for special purpose facilities.
- Sec. 142. Timely reimbursement of damage claims for Coast Guard property.
- Sec. 143. Enhanced use property pilot program.
- Sec. 144. Coast Guard property provision.

Subtitle D—Personnel

- Sec. 151. Direct hire authority for certain personnel.
- Sec. 152. Temporary exemption from authorized end strength for enlisted members on active duty in Coast Guard in pay grades E-8 and E-9.
- Sec. 153. Additional available guidance and considerations for reserve selection boards.
- Sec. 154. Family leave policies for the Coast Guard.
- Sec. 155. Authorization for maternity uniform allowance for officers.
- Sec. 156. Housing.
- Sec. 157. Uniform funding and management system for morale, well-being, and recreation programs and Coast Guard Exchange.
- Sec. 158. Coast Guard embedded behavioral health technician program.
- Sec. 159. Expansion of access to counseling.
- Sec. 160. Command sponsorship for dependents of members of Coast Guard assigned to Unalaska, Alaska.
- Sec. 161. Travel allowance for members of Coast Guard assigned to Alaska.

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- Sec. 162. Consolidation of authorities for college student precommissioning initiative.
- Sec. 163. Tuition Assistance and Advanced Education Assistance Pilot Program.
- Sec. 164. Modifications to career flexibility program.
- Sec. 165. Recruitment, relocation, and retention incentive program for civilian firefighters employed by Coast Guard in remote locations.
- Sec. 166. Reinstatement of training course on workings of Congress; Coast Guard Museum.
- Sec. 167. Modification of designation of Vice Admirals.
- Sec. 168. Commandant Advisory Judge Advocate.
- Sec. 169. Special Advisor to Commandant for Tribal and Native Hawaiian affairs.
- Sec. 170. Notification.

Subtitle E—Coast Guard Academy

- Sec. 171. Modification of Board of Visitors.
- Sec. 172. Study on Coast Guard Academy oversight.
- Sec. 173. Electronic locking mechanisms to ensure Coast Guard Academy cadet room security.
- Sec. 174. Coast Guard Academy student advisory board and access to timely and independent wellness support services for cadets and candidates.
- Sec. 175. Report on existing behavioral health and wellness support services facilities at Coast Guard Academy.
- Sec. 176. Required posting of information.
- Sec. 177. Installation of behavioral health and wellness rooms.
- Sec. 178. Coast Guard Academy room reassignment.
- Sec. 179. Authorization for use of Coast Guard Academy facilities and equipment by covered foundations.
- Sec. 180. Concurrent jurisdiction at Coast Guard Academy.

Subtitle F—Reports

- Sec. 181. Maritime domain awareness in Coast Guard sector for Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands.
- Sec. 182. Report on condition of Missouri River dayboards.
- Sec. 183. Study on Coast Guard missions.
- Sec. 184. Annual report on progress of certain homeporting projects.
- Sec. 185. Report on Bay class icebreaking tug fleet replacement.
- Sec. 186. Feasibility study on supporting additional port visits and deployments in support of Operation Blue Pacific.
- Sec. 187. Study and gap analysis with respect to Coast Guard Air Station Corpus Christi aviation hangar.
- Sec. 188. Report on impacts of joint travel regulations on members of Coast Guard who rely on ferry systems.
- Sec. 189. Report on Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps program.
- Sec. 190. Reports on United States collaboration with shipyards of Canada and Finland.

TITLE II—SHIPPING AND NAVIGATION

Subtitle A—Merchant Mariner Credentials

- Sec. 201. Merchant mariner credentialing.
- Sec. 202. Nonoperating individual.

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Sec. 203. Merchant mariner licensing and documentation system requirements.

Subtitle B—Vessel Safety

- Sec. 211. Grossly negligent operations of a vessel.
 Sec. 212. Administrative procedure for security risks.
 Sec. 213. Study of amphibious vessels.
 Sec. 214. Performance driven examination schedule.
 Sec. 215. Ports and waterways safety.
 Sec. 216. Study on Bering Strait vessel traffic projections and emergency response posture at ports of the United States.
 Sec. 217. Underwater inspections brief.
 Sec. 218. St. Lucie River railroad bridge.
 Sec. 219. Authority to establish safety zones for special activities in exclusive economic zone.
 Sec. 220. Improving Vessel Traffic Service monitoring.
 Sec. 221. Designating pilotage waters for the Straits of Mackinac.
 Sec. 222. Receipts; international agreements for ice patrol services.
 Sec. 223. Requirements for certain fishing vessels and fish tender vessels.

Subtitle C—Matters Involving Uncrewed Systems

- Sec. 231. Establishment of National Advisory Committee on Autonomous Maritime Systems.
 Sec. 232. Pilot program for governance and oversight of small uncrewed maritime systems.
 Sec. 233. Coast Guard training course.
 Sec. 234. NOAA membership on Autonomous Vessel Policy Council.
 Sec. 235. Technology pilot program.
 Sec. 236. Uncrewed systems capabilities report and briefing.
 Sec. 237. Definitions.

Subtitle D—Other Matters

- Sec. 241. Controlled substance onboard vessels.
 Sec. 242. Information on type approval certificates.
 Sec. 243. Clarification of authorities.
 Sec. 244. Anchorages.
 Sec. 245. Amendments to passenger vessel security and safety requirements.
 Sec. 246. Cyber-incident training.
 Sec. 247. Extension of pilot program to establish a cetacean desk for Puget Sound region.
 Sec. 248. Suspension of enforcement of use of devices broadcasting on AIS for purposes of marking fishing gear.
 Sec. 249. Classification societies.
 Sec. 250. Abandoned and derelict vessel removals.

TITLE III—OIL POLLUTION RESPONSE

- Sec. 301. Salvage and marine firefighting response capability.
 Sec. 302. Use of marine casualty investigations.
 Sec. 303. Timing of review.
 Sec. 304. Online incident reporting system.
 Sec. 305. Investment of Exxon Valdez oil spill court recovery in high yield investments and marine research.

TITLE IV—SEXUAL ASSAULT AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT
RESPONSE

- Sec. 401. Independent review of Coast Guard reforms.
- Sec. 402. Comprehensive policy and procedures on retention and access to evidence and records relating to sexual misconduct and other misconduct.
- Sec. 403. Consideration of request for transfer of a cadet at the Coast Guard Academy who is the victim of a sexual assault or related offense.
- Sec. 404. Designation of officers with particular expertise in military justice or healthcare.
- Sec. 405. Safe-to-Report policy for Coast Guard.
- Sec. 406. Modification of reporting requirements on covered misconduct in Coast Guard.
- Sec. 407. Modifications to the officer involuntary separation process.
- Sec. 408. Review of discharge characterization.
- Sec. 409. Convicted sex offender as grounds for denial.
- Sec. 410. Definition of covered misconduct.
- Sec. 411. Notification of changes to Uniform Code of Military Justice or Manual for Courts Martial relating to covered misconduct.
- Sec. 412. Complaints of retaliation by victims of sexual assault or sexual harassment and related persons.
- Sec. 413. Development of policies on military protective orders.
- Sec. 414. Coast Guard implementation of independent review commission recommendations on addressing sexual assault and sexual harassment in the military.
- Sec. 415. Policy relating to care and support of victims of covered misconduct.
- Sec. 416. Establishment of special victim capabilities to respond to allegations of certain special victim offenses.
- Sec. 417. Members asserting post-traumatic stress disorder, sexual assault, or traumatic brain injury.
- Sec. 418. Participation in CATCH a Serial Offender program.
- Sec. 419. Accountability and transparency relating to allegations of misconduct against senior leaders.
- Sec. 420. Confidential reporting of sexual harassment.
- Sec. 421. Report on policy on whistleblower protections.
- Sec. 422. Review and modification of Coast Guard Academy policy on sexual harassment and sexual violence.
- Sec. 423. Coast Guard and Coast Guard Academy access to defense sexual assault incident database.
- Sec. 424. Director of Coast Guard Investigative Service.
- Sec. 425. Modifications and revisions relating to reopening retired grade determinations.
- Sec. 426. Inclusion and command review of information on covered misconduct in personnel service records.
- Sec. 427. Flag officer review of, and concurrence in, separation of members who have reported sexual misconduct.
- Sec. 428. Expedited transfer in cases of sexual misconduct or domestic violence.
- Sec. 429. Access to temporary separation program for victims of alleged sex-related offenses.
- Sec. 430. Policy and program to expand prevention of sexual misconduct.
- Sec. 431. Continuous vetting of security clearances.
- Sec. 432. Training and education programs for covered misconduct prevention and response.

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TITLE V—COMPTROLLER GENERAL REPORTS

- Sec. 501. Comptroller General report on Coast Guard research, development, and innovation program.
- Sec. 502. Comptroller General study on vessel traffic service center employment, compensation, and retention.
- Sec. 503. Comptroller General review of quality and availability of Coast Guard behavioral health care and resources for personnel wellness.
- Sec. 504. Comptroller General study on Coast Guard efforts to reduce prevalence of missing or incomplete medical records and sharing of medical data with Department of Veterans Affairs and other entities.
- Sec. 505. Comptroller General study on Coast Guard training facility infrastructure.
- Sec. 506. Comptroller General study on facility and infrastructure needs of Coast Guard stations conducting border security operations.
- Sec. 507. Comptroller General study on Coast Guard basic allowance for housing.
- Sec. 508. Comptroller General report on safety and security infrastructure at Coast Guard Academy.
- Sec. 509. Comptroller General study on athletic coaching at Coast Guard Academy.
- Sec. 510. Comptroller General study and report on permanent change of station process.

TITLE VI—AMENDMENTS

- Sec. 601. Amendments.

TITLE VII—NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC
ADMINISTRATIONSubtitle A—National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned
Officer Corps

- Sec. 701. Title and qualifications of head of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps and Office of Marine and Aviation Operations; promotions of flag officers.
- Sec. 702. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration vessel fleet.
- Sec. 703. Cooperative Aviation Centers.
- Sec. 704. Eligibility of former officers to compete for certain positions.
- Sec. 705. Alignment of physical disqualification standard for obligated service agreements with standard for veterans' benefits.
- Sec. 706. Streamlining separation and retirement process.
- Sec. 707. Separation of ensigns found not fully qualified.
- Sec. 708. Repeal of limitation on educational assistance.
- Sec. 709. Disposal of survey and research vessels and equipment of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Subtitle B—South Pacific Tuna Treaty Matters

- Sec. 721. References to South Pacific Tuna Act of 1988.
- Sec. 722. Definitions.
- Sec. 723. Prohibited acts.
- Sec. 724. Exceptions.
- Sec. 725. Criminal offenses.
- Sec. 726. Civil penalties.

Sec. 727. Licenses.
 Sec. 728. Enforcement.
 Sec. 729. Findings by Secretary of Commerce.
 Sec. 730. Disclosure of information.
 Sec. 731. Closed area stowage requirements.
 Sec. 732. Observers.
 Sec. 733. Fisheries-related assistance.
 Sec. 734. Arbitration.
 Sec. 735. Disposition of fees, penalties, forfeitures, and other moneys.
 Sec. 736. Additional agreements.

Subtitle C—Other Matters

Sec. 741. North Pacific Research Board enhancement.

1 **SEC. 2. COMMANDANT DEFINED.**

2 In this Act, the term “Commandant” means the
 3 Commandant of the Coast Guard.

4 **TITLE I—COAST GUARD**
 5 **Subtitle A—Authorization of**
 6 **Appropriations**

7 **SEC. 101. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

8 Section 4902 of title 14, United States Code, is
 9 amended—

10 (1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1) by
 11 striking “fiscal years 2022 and 2023” and inserting
 12 “fiscal years 2025 and 2026”;

13 (2) in paragraph (1)—

14 (A) in subparagraph (A) by striking
 15 clauses (i) and (ii) and inserting the following:

16 “(i) \$11,287,500,000 for fiscal year 2025;

17 and

18 “(ii) \$11,851,875,000 for fiscal year
 19 2026.”;

1 (B) in subparagraph (B) by striking
2 “\$23,456,000” and inserting “\$25,570,000”;
3 and

4 (C) in subparagraph (C) by striking
5 “\$24,353,000” and inserting “\$26,848,500”;

6 (3) in paragraph (2)(A) by striking clauses (i)
7 and (ii) and inserting the following:

8 “(i) \$3,627,600,000 for fiscal year 2025;
9 and

10 “(ii) \$3,651,480,000 for fiscal year
11 2026.”;

12 (4) in paragraph (3) by striking subparagraphs
13 (A) and (B) and inserting the following:

14 “(A) \$15,415,000 for fiscal year 2025; and

15 “(B) \$16,185,750 for fiscal year 2026.”;

16 and

17 (5) by striking paragraph (4) and inserting the
18 following:

19 “(4) For retired pay, including the payment of
20 obligations otherwise chargeable to lapsed appropria-
21 tions for purposes of retired pay, payments under
22 the Retired Serviceman’s Family Protection Plan
23 and the Survivor Benefit Plan, payment for career
24 status bonuses, payment of continuation pay under
25 section 356 of title 37, concurrent receipts, combat-

1 related special compensation, and payments for med-
2 ical care of retired personnel and their dependents
3 under chapter 55 of title 10, \$1,210,840,000 for fis-
4 cal year 2025.”.

5 **SEC. 102. AUTHORIZED LEVELS OF MILITARY STRENGTH**
6 **AND TRAINING.**

7 Section 4904 of title 14, United States Code, is
8 amended—

9 (1) in subsection (a) by striking “fiscal years
10 2022 and 2023” and inserting “fiscal years 2025
11 and 2026”; and

12 (2) in subsection (b)—

13 (A) in paragraph (1) by striking “2,500”
14 and inserting “3,000”;

15 (B) in paragraph (2) by striking “165”
16 and inserting “200”;

17 (C) in paragraph (3) by striking “385”
18 and inserting “450”; and

19 (D) in paragraph (4) by striking “1,200”
20 and inserting “1,300”.

21 **Subtitle B—Acquisition**

22 **SEC. 111. MODIFICATION OF PROHIBITION ON USE OF**
23 **LEAD SYSTEMS INTEGRATORS.**

24 Section 1105 of title 14, United States Code, is
25 amended by adding at the end the following:

1 “(c) LEAD SYSTEMS INTEGRATOR DEFINED.—In
2 this section, the term ‘lead systems integrator’ has the
3 meaning given such term in section 805(c) of the National
4 Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006 (Public
5 Law 109–163).”.

6 **SEC. 112. SERVICE LIFE EXTENSION PROGRAMS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 11 of
8 title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the
9 end the following:

10 **“§ 1138. Service life extension programs**

11 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Requirements for a Level 1 or
12 Level 2 acquisition project or program under sections
13 1131 through 1134 shall not apply to an acquisition by
14 the Coast Guard that is a service life extension program.

15 “(b) SERVICE LIFE EXTENSION PROGRAM DE-
16 FINED.—In this section, the term ‘service life extension
17 program’ means a capital investment that is solely in-
18 tended to extend the service life and address obsolescence
19 of components or systems of a particular capability or
20 asset.”.

21 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
22 ter 11 of such title is amended by inserting after the item
23 relating to section 1137 the following:

“1138. Service life extension programs.”.

24 (c) MAJOR ACQUISITIONS.—Section 5103 of title 14,
25 United States Code, is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (a) by striking “major acquisi-
2 tion programs” and inserting “Level 1 Acquisitions
3 or Level 2 Acquisitions”;

4 (2) in subsection (b) by striking “major acquisi-
5 tion program” and inserting “Level 1 Acquisition or
6 Level 2 Acquisition”; and

7 (3) by amending subsection (f) to read as fol-
8 lows:

9 “(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

10 “(1) LEVEL 1 ACQUISITION.—The term ‘Level 1
11 Acquisition’ has the meaning given such term in sec-
12 tion 1171.

13 “(2) LEVEL 2 ACQUISITION.—The term ‘Level 2
14 Acquisition’ has the meaning given such term in sec-
15 tion 1171.”.

16 (d) MAJOR ACQUISITION PROGRAM RISK ASSESS-
17 MENT.—Section 5107 of title 14, United States Code, is
18 amended by striking “section 5103(f)” and inserting “sec-
19 tion 1171”.

20 **SEC. 113. CONSIDERATION OF LIFE-CYCLE COST ESTI-**
21 **MATES FOR ACQUISITION AND PROCURE-**
22 **MENT.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 11 of
24 title 14, United States Code, is further amended by adding
25 at the end the following:

1 **“§ 1139. Consideration of life-cycle cost estimates for**
2 **acquisition and procurement**

3 “In carrying out the acquisition and procurement of
4 vessels and aircraft, the Secretary of the department in
5 which the Coast Guard is operating, acting through the
6 Commandant, shall consider the life-cycle cost estimates
7 of vessels and aircraft, as applicable, during the design
8 and evaluation processes to the maximum extent prac-
9 ticable.”.

10 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
11 ter 11 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by in-
12 serting after the item relating to section 1138 (as added
13 by this Act) the following:

“1139. Consideration of life-cycle cost estimates for acquisition and procure-
ment.”.

14 **SEC. 114. GREAT LAKES ICEBREAKING.**

15 (a) GREAT LAKES ICEBREAKER.—

16 (1) STRATEGY.—Not later than 90 days after
17 the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant
18 shall submit to the Committee on Commerce,
19 Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the
20 Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of
21 the House of Representatives a strategy detailing
22 how the Coast Guard will complete design and con-
23 struction of a Great Lakes icebreaker at least as ca-
24 pable as the Coast Guard cutter *Mackinaw* (WLBB—

1 30) as expeditiously as possible after funding is pro-
2 vided for such icebreaker, including providing a cost
3 estimate and an estimated delivery timeline that
4 would facilitate the expedited delivery detailed in the
5 strategy.

6 (2) GREAT LAKES ICEBREAKER PILOT PRO-
7 GRAM.—

8 (A) IN GENERAL.—During the 5 ice sea-
9 sons beginning after the date of enactment of
10 this Act, the Commandant shall conduct a pilot
11 program to determine the extent to which the
12 Coast Guard Great Lakes icebreaking cutter
13 fleet is capable of maintaining tier one and tier
14 two waterways open 95 percent of the time dur-
15 ing an ice season.

16 (B) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days
17 after the end of each of the 5 ice seasons begin-
18 ning after the date of enactment of this Act,
19 the Commandant shall submit to the Committee
20 on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of
21 the Senate and the Committee on Transpor-
22 tation and Infrastructure of the House of Rep-
23 resentatives a report that details—

24 (i) the results of the pilot program re-
25 quired under subparagraph (A); and

1 (ii) any relevant new performance
2 measures implemented by the Coast
3 Guard, including the measures described in
4 pages 5 through 7 of the report of the
5 Coast Guard titled “Domestic Icebreaking
6 Operations” and submitted to Congress on
7 July 26, 2024, as required by section
8 11212(a)(3) of the Don Young Coast
9 Guard Authorization Act of 2022 (Public
10 Law 117–263), and the results of the im-
11 plementation of such measures.

12 (b) MODIFICATION TO REPORTING REQUIREMENT
13 RELATING TO ICEBREAKING OPERATIONS IN GREAT
14 LAKES.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 11213(f) of the Don
16 Young Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2022
17 (Public Law 117–263) is amended to read as fol-
18 lows:

19 “(f) PUBLIC REPORT.—Not later than July 1 after
20 the first winter in which the Commandant has submitted
21 the report required by paragraph (3) of section 11212(a),
22 the Commandant shall publish on a publicly accessible
23 website of the Coast Guard a report on the cost to the
24 Coast Guard of meeting the proposed standards described
25 in paragraph (2) of such section.”.

1 (2) PUBLIC REPORT.—Section 11272(c) of the
2 James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization
3 Act for Fiscal Year 2023 is amended by adding at
4 the end the following:

5 “(7) PUBLIC REPORT.—

6 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30
7 days after the date of enactment of the Coast
8 Guard Authorization Act of 2024, the Com-
9 mandant shall brief the Committee on Trans-
10 portation and Infrastructure of the House or
11 Representatives and the Committee on Com-
12 merce, Science, and Transportation of the Sen-
13 ate on the cost to the Coast Guard of meeting
14 the requirements of section 564 of title 14,
15 United States Code, in fiscal year 2024.

16 “(B) SECONDARY BRIEFINGS.—Not later
17 than November 1, 2025 and November 1,
18 2026, the Commandant shall brief the commit-
19 tees described in subparagraph (A) on the cost
20 to the Coast Guard of meeting the requirements
21 of section 564 of title 14, United States Code,
22 in fiscal years 2025 and 2026, respectively.”.

23 **SEC. 115. REGULAR POLAR SECURITY CUTTER UPDATES.**

24 (a) REPORT.—

1 (1) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than
2 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the
3 Commandant and the Chief of Naval Operations
4 shall submit to the Committee on Transportation
5 and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives,
6 the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Trans-
7 portation of the Senate, and the Committees on
8 Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Rep-
9 resentatives a report on the status of acquisition of
10 Polar Security Cutters.

11 (2) ELEMENTS.—The report under paragraph
12 (1) shall include—

13 (A) a detailed timeline for the acquisition
14 process of Polar Security Cutters, including ex-
15 pected milestones and a projected commis-
16 sioning date for the first 3 Polar Security Cut-
17 ters;

18 (B) an accounting of the previously appro-
19 priated funds spent to date on the Polar Secu-
20 rity Cutter Program, updated cost projections
21 for Polar Security Cutters, and projections for
22 when additional funds will be required;

23 (C) potential factors and risks that could
24 further delay or imperil the completion of Polar
25 Security Cutters; and

1 (D) a review of the acquisition of Polar Se-
2 curity Cutters to date, including factors that led
3 to substantial cost overruns and delivery delays.

4 (b) BRIEFINGS.—

5 (1) PROVISION TO CONGRESS.—Not later than
6 90 days after the submission of the report under
7 subsection (a), and not less frequently than every 90
8 days thereafter, the Commandant and the Chief of
9 Naval Operations shall provide to the Committee on
10 Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of
11 Representatives, the Committee on Commerce,
12 Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and the
13 Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and
14 the House of Representatives a briefing on the sta-
15 tus of the Polar Security Cutter acquisition process.

16 (2) TIMELINE.—The briefings under paragraph
17 (1) shall occur after any key milestone in the Polar
18 Security Cutter acquisition process, but not less fre-
19 quently than every 90 days.

20 (3) ELEMENTS.—Each briefing under para-
21 graph (1) shall include—

22 (A) a summary of acquisition progress
23 since the most recent previous briefing con-
24 ducted pursuant to paragraph (1);

1 (B) an updated timeline and budget esti-
2 mate for acquisition and building of pending
3 Polar Security Cutters; and

4 (C) an explanation of any delays or addi-
5 tional costs incurred in the acquisition progress.

6 (c) NOTIFICATIONS.—In addition to the briefings re-
7 quired under subsection (b), the Commandant and the
8 Chief of Naval Operations shall notify the Committee on
9 Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Rep-
10 resentatives, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and
11 Transportation of the Senate, and the Committees on
12 Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Represent-
13 atives within 3 business days of any significant change to
14 the scope or funding level of the Polar Security Cutter
15 acquisition strategy of such change.

16 **SEC. 116. FLOATING DRYDOCK FOR UNITED STATES COAST**
17 **GUARD YARD.**

18 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter III of chapter 11 of
19 title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the
20 end the following:

21 **“§ 1159. Floating drydock for United States Coast**
22 **Guard Yard**

23 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection
24 (b), the Commandant may not acquire, procure, or con-
25 struct a floating dry dock for the Coast Guard Yard.

1 “(b) PERMISSIBLE ACQUISITION, PROCUREMENT, OR
2 CONSTRUCTION METHODS.—Notwithstanding subsection
3 (a) of this section and section 1105(a), the Commandant
4 may—

5 “(1) provide for an entity other than the Coast
6 Guard to contract for the acquisition, procurement,
7 or construction of a floating drydock by contract,
8 lease, purchase, or other agreement;

9 “(2) construct a floating drydock at the Coast
10 Guard Yard; or

11 “(3) acquire or procure a commercially avail-
12 able floating drydock.

13 “(c) EXEMPTIONS FROM REQUIREMENTS.—Sections
14 1131, 1132, 1133, and 1171 shall not apply to an acquisi-
15 tion or procurement under subsection (b).

16 “(d) DESIGN STANDARDS AND CONSTRUCTION
17 PRACTICES.—To the extent practicable, a floating drydock
18 acquired, procured, or constructed under this section shall
19 reflect commercial design standards and commercial con-
20 struction practices that are consistent with the best inter-
21 ests of the Federal Government.

22 “(e) BERTHING REQUIREMENT.—Any floating dry-
23 dock acquired, procured, or constructed under subsection
24 (b) shall be berthed at the Coast Guard Yard in Balti-
25 more, Maryland, when lifting or maintaining vessels.

1 “(f) FLOATING DRY DOCK DEFINED.—In this sec-
 2 tion, the term ‘floating dry dock’ means equipment that
 3 is—

4 “(1) constructed in the United States; and

5 “(2) capable of meeting the lifting and mainte-
 6 nance requirements of a vessel that is at least 418
 7 feet in length with a gross tonnage of 4,500 gross
 8 tons.”.

9 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
 10 ter 11 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by in-
 11 serting after the item relating to section 1158 the fol-
 12 lowing:

“1159. Floating drydock for United States Coast Guard Yard.”.

13 **Subtitle C—Organization and** 14 **Authorities**

15 **SEC. 131. MODIFICATION OF TREATMENT OF MINOR CON-** 16 **STRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT PROJECT** 17 **MANAGEMENT.**

18 Section 903(d)(1) of title 14, United States Code, is
 19 amended by striking “\$1,500,000” and inserting
 20 “\$2,000,000”.

21 **SEC. 132. PREPAREDNESS PLANS FOR COAST GUARD PROP-** 22 **ERTIES LOCATED IN TSUNAMI INUNDATION** 23 **ZONES.**

24 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the
 25 date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant, in con-

1 sultation with the Administrator of the National Oceanic
2 and Atmospheric Administration and the heads of other
3 appropriate Federal agencies, shall develop a location-spe-
4 cific tsunami preparedness plan for each property con-
5 cerned.

6 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—In developing each prepared-
7 ness plan under subsection (a), the Commandant shall en-
8 sure that the plan—

9 (1) minimizes the loss of human life;

10 (2) maximizes the ability of the Coast Guard to
11 meet the mission of the Coast Guard;

12 (3) is included in the emergency action plan for
13 each Coast Guard unit or sector located within the
14 applicable tsunami inundation zone;

15 (4) designates an evacuation route to an assem-
16 bly area located outside the tsunami inundation
17 zone;

18 (5) takes into consideration near-shore and dis-
19 tant tsunami inundation of the property concerned;

20 (6) includes—

21 (A) maps of all applicable tsunami inunda-
22 tion zones;

23 (B) evacuation routes and instructions for
24 all individuals located on the property con-
25 cerned;

1 (C) procedures to begin evacuations as ex-
2 peditiously as possible upon detection of a seis-
3 mic or other tsunamigenic event;

4 (D) evacuation plans for Coast Guard avia-
5 tion and afloat assets; and

6 (E)(i) routes for evacuation on foot from
7 any location within the property concerned; or

8 (ii) if an on-foot evacuation is not possible,
9 an assessment of whether there is a need for
10 vertical evacuation refuges that would allow
11 evacuation on foot;

12 (7) in the case of a property concerned that is
13 at risk for a near-shore tsunami, is able to be com-
14 pletely executed within 15 minutes of detection of a
15 seismic event, or if complete execution is not possible
16 within 15 minutes, within a timeframe the Com-
17 mandant considers reasonable to minimize the loss
18 of life; and

19 (8) not less frequently than annually, is—

20 (A) exercised by each Coast Guard unit
21 and sector located in the applicable tsunami in-
22 undation zone;

23 (B) communicated through an annual in-
24 person training to Coast Guard personnel and

1 depends located or living on the property
2 concerned; and

3 (C) evaluated by the relevant District
4 Commander for each Coast Guard unit and sec-
5 tor located within the applicable tsunami inun-
6 dation zone.

7 (c) CONSULTATION.—In developing each prepared-
8 ness plan under subsection (a), the Commandant shall
9 consult relevant State, Tribal, and local government enti-
10 ties, including emergency management officials.

11 (d) BRIEFING.—Not later than 14 months after the
12 date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant shall pro-
13 vide a briefing to the Committee on Commerce, Science,
14 and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on
15 Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Rep-
16 resentatives on each plan developed under subsection (a),
17 including the status of implementation and feasibility of
18 each such plan.

19 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

20 (1) PROPERTY CONCERNED.—The term “prop-
21 erty concerned” means any real property owned, op-
22 erated, or leased by the Coast Guard within a tsu-
23 nami inundation zone.

24 (2) TSUNAMIGENIC EVENT.—The term
25 “tsunamigenic event” means any event, such as an

1 earthquake, volcanic eruption, submarine landslide,
2 coastal rockfall, or other event, with the magnitude
3 to cause a tsunami.

4 (3) VERTICAL EVACUATION REFUGE.—The
5 term “vertical evacuation refuge” means a structure
6 or earthen mound designated as a place of refuge in
7 the event of a tsunami, with sufficient height to ele-
8 vate evacuees above the tsunami inundation depth,
9 designed and constructed to resist tsunami load ef-
10 fects.

11 **SEC. 133. PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 11269 of the Don Young
13 Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2022 (Public Law 117–
14 263) is—

15 (1) transferred to appear at the end of sub-
16 chapter II of chapter 5 of title 14, United States
17 Code;

18 (2) redesignated as section 529; and

19 (3) amended—

20 (A) by striking the section enumerator and
21 heading and inserting the following:

22 **“§ 529. Public availability of information”;**

23 (B) by striking “Not later than” and in-
24 serting the following:

25 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than”;

1 (C) by striking “the number of migrant”
2 and inserting “the number of drug and per-
3 son”; and

4 (D) by adding at the end the following:

5 “(b) CONTENTS.—In making information about
6 interdictions publicly available under subsection (a), the
7 Commandant shall include a description of the following:

8 “(1) The number of incidents in which drugs
9 were interdicted, the amount and type of drugs
10 interdicted, and the Coast Guard sectors and geo-
11 graphic areas of responsibility in which such inci-
12 dents occurred.

13 “(2) The number of incidents in which persons
14 were interdicted, the number of persons interdicted,
15 the number of those persons who were unaccom-
16 panied minors, and the Coast Guard sectors and ge-
17 ographic areas of responsibility in which such inci-
18 dents occurred.

19 “(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this pro-
20 vision shall be construed to require the Coast Guard to
21 collect the information described in subsection (b), and
22 nothing in this provision shall be construed to require the
23 Commandant to publicly release confidential, classified,
24 law enforcement sensitive, or otherwise protected informa-
25 tion.”.

1 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

2 (1) The analysis for chapter 5 of title 14,
3 United States Code, is amended by inserting after
4 the item relating to section 528 the following:

“529. Public availability of information on monthly drug and migrant interdic-
tions.”.

5 (2) The table of sections in section 11001(b) of
6 the Don Young Coast Guard Authorization Act of
7 2022 (division K of Public Law 117–263) is amend-
8 ed by striking the item relating to section 11269.

9 **SEC. 134. DELEGATION OF PORTS AND WATERWAYS SAFETY**

10 **AUTHORITIES IN SAINT LAWRENCE SEAWAY.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 70032 of title 46, United
12 States Code, is amended to read as follows:

13 **“§ 70032. Delegation of ports and waterways authori-
14 ties in Saint Lawrence Seaway**

15 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection
16 (b), the authority granted to the Secretary under sections
17 70001, 70002, 70003, 70004, and 70011 may not be dele-
18 gated with respect to the Saint Lawrence Seaway to any
19 agency other than the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway
20 Development Corporation. Any other authority granted
21 the Secretary under subchapters I through III and this
22 subchapter shall be delegated by the Secretary to the
23 Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corpora-
24 tion to the extent the Secretary determines such delega-

1 tion is necessary for the proper operation of the Saint
2 Lawrence Seaway.

3 “(b) EXCEPTION.—The Secretary of the department
4 in which the Coast Guard is operating, after consultation
5 with the Secretary or the head of an agency to which the
6 Secretary has delegated the authorities in subsection (a),
7 may—

8 “(1) issue and enforce special orders in accord-
9 ance with section 70002;

10 “(2) establish water or waterfront safety zones,
11 or other measures, for limited, controlled, or condi-
12 tional access and activity when necessary for the
13 protection of any vessel structure, waters, or shore
14 area, as permitted in section 70011(b)(3); and

15 “(3) take actions for port, harbor, and coastal
16 facility security in accordance with section 70116.”.

17 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
18 ter 700 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by
19 striking the item relating to section 70032 and inserting
20 the following:

“70032. Delegation of ports and waterways authorities in Saint Lawrence Sea-
way.”.

1 **SEC. 135. ADDITIONAL PRIBILOF ISLAND TRANSITION COM-**
2 **PLETION ACTIONS.**

3 Section 11221 of the Don Young Coast Guard Au-
4 thorization Act of 2022 (Public Law 117–263) is amended
5 by adding at the end the following:

6 “(e) ADDITIONAL REPORTS ON STATUS OF USE OF
7 FACILITIES AND HELICOPTER BASING.—Beginning with
8 the first quarterly report required under subsection (a)
9 submitted after the date of enactment of the Coast Guard
10 Authorization Act of 2024, the Secretary shall include in
11 each such report—

12 “(1) the status of the use of recently renovated
13 Coast Guard housing facilities, food preparation fa-
14 cilities, and maintenance and repair facilities on St.
15 Paul Island, Alaska, including a projected date for
16 full use and occupancy of such facilities in support
17 of Coast Guard missions in the Bering Sea; and

18 “(2) a detailed plan for the acquisition and con-
19 struction of a hangar in close proximity to existing
20 St. Paul airport facilities for the prosecution of
21 Coast Guard operational missions, including plans
22 for the use of land needed for such hangar.”.

1 **SEC. 136. POLICY AND BRIEFING ON AVAILABILITY OF**
2 **NALOXONE TO TREAT OPIOID, INCLUDING**
3 **FENTANYL, OVERDOSES.**

4 (a) **POLICY.**—Not later than 1 year after the date
5 of enactment of this Act, the Commandant shall update
6 the policy of the Coast Guard regarding the use, at Coast
7 Guard facilities, onboard Coast Guard assets, and during
8 Coast Guard operations, of medication to treat drug
9 overdoses, including the use of naloxone or other similar
10 medication to treat opioid, including fentanyl, overdoses.

11 (b) **AVAILABILITY.**—The updated policy required
12 under subsection (a) shall require naloxone or other simi-
13 lar medication be available—

14 (1) at each Coast Guard clinic;

15 (2) at each independently located Coast Guard
16 unit;

17 (3) onboard each Coast Guard cutter; and

18 (4) for response to opioid, including fentanyl,
19 overdoses at other appropriate Coast Guard installa-
20 tions and facilities and onboard other Coast Guard
21 assets.

22 (c) **PARTICIPATION IN TRACKING SYSTEM.**—Not
23 later than 1 year after the earlier of the date of enactment
24 of this Act or the date on which the tracking system estab-
25 lished under section 706 of the National Defense Author-
26 ization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (10 U.S.C. 1090 note)

1 is established, the Commandant shall ensure the participa-
2 tion of the Coast Guard in the such tracking system.

3 (d) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.—Not later
4 than 1 year after the earlier of the date of enactment of
5 this Act or the date on which the tracking system estab-
6 lished under section 706 of the National Defense Author-
7 ization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (10 U.S.C. 1090 note)
8 is established, the Secretary of the department in which
9 the Coast Guard is operating when not operating as a
10 service in the Navy and the Secretary of Defense shall fi-
11 nalize a memorandum of understanding to facilitate Coast
12 Guard access such tracking system.

13 (e) BRIEFING.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after
15 the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant
16 shall provide the Committee on Commerce, Science,
17 and Transportation of the Senate and the Com-
18 mittee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the
19 House of Representatives a briefing on the use, by
20 members and personnel of the Coast Guard at Coast
21 Guard facilities, onboard Coast Guard assets, and
22 during Coast Guard operations, of—

23 (A) naloxone or other similar medication to
24 treat opioid, including fentanyl, overdoses; and

25 (B) opioids, including fentanyl.

1 (2) ELEMENTS.—The briefing required under
2 paragraph (1) shall include the following:

3 (A) A description of—

4 (i) the progress made in the imple-
5 mentation of the updated policy required
6 under subsection (a);

7 (ii) the prevalence and incidence of
8 the illegal use of fentanyl and other con-
9 trolled substances in the Coast Guard dur-
10 ing the 5-year period preceding the brief-
11 ing;

12 (iii) processes of the Coast Guard to
13 mitigate substance abuse in the Coast
14 Guard, particularly with respect to
15 fentanyl; and

16 (iv) the status of the memorandum of
17 understanding required under subsection
18 (d).

19 (B) For the 5-year period preceding the
20 briefing, a review of instances in which
21 naloxone or other similar medication was used
22 to treat opioid, including fentanyl, overdoses at
23 a Coast Guard facility, onboard a Coast Guard
24 asset, or during a Coast Guard operation.

1 (f) PRIVACY.—In carrying out the requirements of
2 this section, the Commandant shall ensure compliance
3 with all applicable privacy law, including section 552a of
4 title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the
5 “Privacy Act”), and the privacy regulations promulgated
6 under section 264(e) of the Health Insurance Portability
7 and Accountability Act (42 U.S.C. 1320d–2 note).

8 (g) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—For purposes of the
9 availability requirement under subsection (b), with respect
10 to a Coast Guard installation comprised of multiple Coast
11 Guard facilities or units, naloxone or other similar medica-
12 tion available at a single Coast Guard facility within the
13 installation shall be considered to be available to all Coast
14 Guard facilities or units on the installation if appropriate
15 arrangements are in place to ensure access, at all times
16 during operations, to the naloxone or other similar medica-
17 tion contained within such single Coast Guard facility.

18 **SEC. 137. GREAT LAKES AND SAINT LAWRENCE RIVER CO-**

19 **OPERATIVE VESSEL TRAFFIC SERVICE.**

20 Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment
21 of this Act, the Secretary of the department in which the
22 Coast Guard is operating shall issue or amend regulations
23 to address any applicable arrangements with the Canadian
24 Coast Guard regarding vessel traffic services cooperation

1 and vessel traffic management data exchanges within the
2 Saint Lawrence Seaway and the Great Lakes.

3 **SEC. 138. POLICY ON METHODS TO REDUCE INCENTIVES**
4 **FOR ILLICIT MARITIME DRUG TRAFFICKING.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the
6 date of the enactment of this Act, the Commandant, in
7 consultation with the Administrator of the Drug Enforce-
8 ment Administration, the Secretary of State, and the Sec-
9 retary of Defense, shall develop a policy, consistent with
10 the Constitution of the United States, as well as domestic
11 and international law, to address, disincentivize, and inter-
12 dict illicit trafficking by sea of controlled substances (and
13 precursors of controlled substances) being transported to
14 produce illicit synthetic drugs.

15 (b) ELEMENTS.—The policy required under sub-
16 section (a) shall—

17 (1) include a requirement that, to the maximum
18 extent practicable, a vessel unlawfully transporting a
19 controlled substance or precursors of a controlled
20 substance being transported to produce illicit syn-
21 thetic drugs, be seized or appropriately disposed of
22 consistent with domestic and international law, as
23 well as any international agreements to which the
24 United States is a party; and

1 (2) aim to reduce incentives for illicit maritime
2 drug trafficking on a global scale, including in the
3 Eastern Pacific Ocean, the Indo-Pacific region, the
4 Caribbean, and the Middle East.

5 (c) BRIEFING.—Not later than 1 year after the date
6 of the enactment of this Act, the Commandant shall brief
7 the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transpor-
8 tation, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Com-
9 mittee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
10 of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and
11 Infrastructure, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the
12 Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Rep-
13 resentatives on—

14 (1) the policy developed pursuant to subsection
15 (a); and

16 (2) recommendations with respect to—

17 (A) additional methods for reducing illicit
18 drug trafficking; and

19 (B) additional resources necessary to im-
20 plement the policy required under subsection
21 (a) and methods recommended under subpara-
22 graph (A).

1 **SEC. 139. PROCUREMENT OF TACTICAL MARITIME SUR-**
2 **VEILLANCE SYSTEMS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection
4 (b), subject to the availability of appropriations and if the
5 Secretary of Homeland Security determines that there is
6 a need, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall—

7 (1) procure a tactical maritime surveillance sys-
8 tem, or similar technology, for use by the Coast
9 Guard and U.S. Customs and Border Protection in
10 the areas of operation of—

11 (A) Coast Guard Sector San Diego in Cali-
12 fornia;

13 (B) Coast Guard Sector San Juan in Puer-
14 to Rico; and

15 (C) Coast Guard Sector Key West in Flor-
16 ida;

17 (2) continue the use, at Coast Guard Station
18 South Padre Island, of the system procured under
19 section 11266 of the James M. Inhofe National De-
20 fense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (Pub-
21 lic Law 117–263); and

22 (3) for purposes of data integration and land-
23 based data access, procure a land-based maritime
24 domain awareness system capable of sharing data
25 with the Coast Guard and U.S. Customs and Border

1 Protection for each area of operation described in
2 paragraphs (1) and (2)—

3 (A) to operate in conjunction with the tac-
4 tical maritime surveillance system procured for
5 such area of operation under this section; and

6 (B) to be installed in the order in which
7 such tactical maritime surveillance systems are
8 installed.

9 (b) STUDY; LIMITATION.—

10 (1) STUDY REQUIRED.—Prior to the procure-
11 ment or operation of a tactical maritime surveillance
12 system, or similar technology, that is deployed from
13 a property owned by the Department of Defense, the
14 Secretary of Homeland Security shall complete a
15 study, in coordination with Secretary of Defense,
16 analyzing the potential impacts to the national secu-
17 rity of the United States of such operation.

18 (2) LIMITATION.—If it is determined by the
19 Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary
20 of Defense through the study required under para-
21 graph (1) that the placement or installation of a sys-
22 tem described in subsection (a) negatively impacts
23 the national security of the United States, such sys-
24 tem shall not be procured or installed.

1 **SEC. 140. PLAN FOR JOINT AND INTEGRATED MARITIME**
2 **OPERATIONAL AND LEADERSHIP TRAINING**
3 **FOR UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AND TAI-**
4 **WAN COAST GUARD ADMINISTRATION.**

5 (a) **PURPOSE.**—The purpose of this section is to re-
6 quire a plan to increase joint and integrated training op-
7 portunities for the United States Coast Guard and the
8 Taiwan Coast Guard Administration.

9 (b) **PLAN.**—

10 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 180 days
11 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Com-
12 mandant, in consultation with the Secretary of State
13 and the Secretary of Defense, shall complete a plan
14 to expand opportunities for additional joint and inte-
15 grated training activities for the United States Coast
16 Guard and the Taiwan Coast Guard Administration.

17 (2) **ELEMENTS.**—The plan required by para-
18 graph (1) shall include the following:

19 (A) The estimated costs for fiscal years
20 2024 through 2029—

21 (i) to deploy United States Coast
22 Guard mobile training teams to Taiwan to
23 meaningfully enhance the maritime secu-
24 rity, law enforcement, and deterrence capa-
25 bilities of Taiwan; and

1 (ii) to accommodate the participation
2 of an increased number of members of the
3 Taiwan Coast Guard Administration in
4 United States Coast Guard-led maritime
5 training courses, including associated
6 training costs for such members, such as
7 costs for lodging, meals and incidental ex-
8 penses, travel, training of personnel, and
9 instructional materials.

10 (B) A strategy for increasing the number
11 of seats, as practicable, for members of the Tai-
12 wan Coast Guard Administration at each of the
13 following United States Coast Guard training
14 courses:

15 (i) The International Maritime Offi-
16 cers Course.

17 (ii) The International Leadership and
18 Management Seminar.

19 (iii) The International Crisis Com-
20 mand and Control Course.

21 (iv) The International Maritime Do-
22 main Awareness School.

23 (v) The International Maritime
24 Search and Rescue Planning School.

1 (vi) The International Command Cen-
2 ter School.

3 (C) An assessment of—

4 (i) the degree to which integrated and
5 joint United States Coast Guard and Tai-
6 wan Coast Guard Administration maritime
7 training would assist in—

8 (I) preventing, detecting, and
9 suppressing illegal, unreported, and
10 unregulated fishing operations in the
11 South China Sea and surrounding
12 waters; and

13 (II) supporting counter-illicit
14 drug trafficking operations in the
15 South China Sea and surrounding
16 waters; and

17 (ii) whether the frequency of United
18 States Coast Guard training team visits to
19 Taiwan should be increased to enhance the
20 maritime security, law enforcement, and
21 deterrence capabilities of Taiwan.

22 (3) BRIEFING.—Not later than 60 days after
23 the date on which the plan required under para-
24 graph (1) is completed, the Commandant shall pro-
25 vide to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and

1 Transportation and the Committee on Foreign Rela-
2 tions of the Senate and the Committee on Transpor-
3 tation and Infrastructure and the Committee on
4 Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives a
5 briefing on the contents of the plan.

6 **SEC. 141. MODIFICATION OF AUTHORITY FOR SPECIAL**
7 **PURPOSE FACILITIES.**

8 Section 907 of title 14, United States Code, is
9 amended—

10 (1) in subsection (a), in the first sentence—

11 (A) by striking “20 years” and inserting
12 “30 years”;

13 (B) by striking “or National” and insert-
14 ing “National”; and

15 (C) by inserting before the period “, med-
16 ical facilities, Coast Guard child development
17 centers (as such term is defined in section
18 2921), and training facilities, including small
19 arms firing ranges”; and

20 (2) in subsection (b)—

21 (A) by striking the period and inserting a
22 semicolon;

23 (B) by striking “means any facilities” and
24 inserting “means—

25 “(1) any facilities”; and

1 (C) by adding at the end the following:

2 “(2) medical facilities;

3 “(3) Coast Guard child development centers (as
4 such term is defined in section 2921); and

5 “(4) training facilities, including small arms fir-
6 ing ranges.”.

7 **SEC. 142. TIMELY REIMBURSEMENT OF DAMAGE CLAIMS**
8 **FOR COAST GUARD PROPERTY.**

9 Section 546 of title 14, United States Code, is
10 amended in the second sentence by inserting “and the
11 amounts collected shall be available until expended” after
12 “special deposit account”.

13 **SEC. 143. ENHANCED USE PROPERTY PILOT PROGRAM.**

14 Section 504 of title 14, United States Code, is
15 amended—

16 (1) in subsection (a)(13) by striking “five
17 years” and inserting “30 years”; and

18 (2) by adding at the end the following:

19 “(g) **ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS.—**

20 “(1) **IN GENERAL.—**Amounts received under
21 subsection (a)(13) shall be—

22 “(A) in addition to amounts otherwise
23 available for the activities described in sub-
24 section (a)(13) for any fiscal year; and

1 “(B) available, without further appropria-
2 tion, until expended.

3 “(2) CONSIDERATION.—

4 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
5 subparagraph (B), a person or entity entering
6 into a contractual agreement under this section
7 shall provide consideration for the contractual
8 agreement at fair market value, as determined
9 by the Commandant.

10 “(B) EXCEPTION.—In the case of a con-
11 tractual agreement under this section between
12 the Coast Guard and any other Federal depart-
13 ment or agency, the Federal department or
14 agency concerned shall provide consideration for
15 the contractual agreement that is equal to the
16 full cost borne by the Coast Guard in connec-
17 tion with completing such contractual agree-
18 ment.

19 “(C) FORMS.—Consideration under this
20 subsection may take any of the following forms:

21 “(i) The payment of cash.

22 “(ii) The maintenance, construction,
23 modification, or improvement of existing or
24 new facilities on real property under the
25 jurisdiction of the Commandant.

1 “(iii) The use by the Coast Guard of
2 facilities on the property concerned.

3 “(iv) The provision of services, includ-
4 ing parking, telecommunications, and envi-
5 ronmental remediation and restoration of
6 real property under the jurisdiction of the
7 Commandant.

8 “(v) Any other consideration the Com-
9 mandant considers appropriate.

10 “(vi) A combination of any forms de-
11 scribed in this subparagraph.

12 “(3) SUNSET.—The authority under paragraph
13 (13) of subsection (a) shall expire on December 31,
14 2030. The expiration under this paragraph of au-
15 thority under paragraph (13) of subsection (a) shall
16 not affect the validity or term of contractual agree-
17 ments under such paragraph or the retention by the
18 Commandant of proceeds from such agreements en-
19 tered into under such subsection before the expira-
20 tion of the authority.”.

21 **SEC. 144. COAST GUARD PROPERTY PROVISION.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 7 of title 14, United
23 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
24 lowing:

1 **“§ 722. Cooperation with eligible entities**

2 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

3 “(1) COAST GUARD INSTALLATION.—The term
4 ‘Coast Guard installation’ means a base, unit, sta-
5 tion, yard, other property under the jurisdiction of
6 the Commandant or, in the case of property in a for-
7 eign country, under the operational control of the
8 Coast Guard, without regard to the duration of
9 operational control.

10 “(2) CULTURAL RESOURCE.—The term ‘cul-
11 tural resource’ means any of the following:

12 “(A) A building, structure, site, district, or
13 object eligible for or included in the National
14 Register of Historic Places maintained under
15 section 302101 of title 54.

16 “(B) Cultural items, as that term is de-
17 fined in section 2(3) of the Native American
18 Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (25
19 U.S.C. 3001(3)).

20 “(C) An archaeological resource, as that
21 term is defined in section 3(1) of the Archae-
22 ological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (16
23 U.S.C. 470bb(1)).

24 “(D) An archaeological artifact collection
25 and associated records covered by part 79 of
26 title 36, Code of Federal Regulations.

1 “(E) A sacred site, as that term is defined
2 in section 1(b) of Executive Order No. 13007
3 (42 U.S.C. 1996 note; relating to Indian sacred
4 sites).

5 “(F) Treaty or trust resources of an In-
6 dian Tribe, including the habitat associated
7 with such resources.

8 “(G) Subsistence resources of an Indian
9 Tribe or a Native Hawaiian organization in-
10 cluding the habitat associated with such re-
11 sources.

12 “(3) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligible en-
13 tity’ means any the following:

14 “(A) A State, or a political subdivision of
15 a State.

16 “(B) A local government.

17 “(C) An Indian Tribe.

18 “(D) A Native Hawaiian organization.

19 “(E) A Tribal organization.

20 “(F) A Federal department or agency.

21 “(4) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term ‘Indian Tribe’
22 has the meaning given that term in section 4 of the
23 Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance
24 Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

1 “(5) NATIVE HAWAIIAN ORGANIZATION.—The
2 term ‘Native Hawaiian organization’ has the mean-
3 ing given such term in section 6207 of the Elemen-
4 tary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20
5 U.S.C. 7517) except the term includes the Depart-
6 ment of Hawaiian Home Lands and the Office of
7 Hawaiian Affairs.

8 “(6) NATURAL RESOURCE.—The term ‘natural
9 resource’ means land, fish, wildlife, biota, air, water,
10 ground water, drinking water supplies, and other
11 such resources belonging to, managed by, held in
12 trust by, appertaining to, or otherwise controlled by
13 the United States (including the resources of the
14 waters of the United States), any State or local gov-
15 ernment, any Indian Tribe, any Native Hawaiian or-
16 ganization, or any member of an Indian Tribe, if
17 such resources are subject to a trust restriction on
18 alienation and have been categorized into one of the
19 following groups:

20 “(A) Surface water resources.

21 “(B) Ground water resources.

22 “(C) Air resources.

23 “(D) Geologic resources.

24 “(E) Biological resources.

1 “(7) STATE.—The term ‘State’ includes each of
2 the several States, the District of Columbia, the
3 Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Commonwealth
4 of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the territories
5 and possessions of the United States.

6 “(8) TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—The term ‘Tribal
7 organization’ has the meaning given the term in sec-
8 tion 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Edu-
9 cation Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

10 “(b) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS FOR MANAGEMENT
11 OF CULTURAL RESOURCES.—

12 “(1) AUTHORITY.—The Commandant may
13 enter into a cooperative agreement with an eligible
14 entity (or in the case that the eligible entity is a
15 Federal department or agency, an interagency agree-
16 ment)—

17 “(A) to provide for the preservation, man-
18 agement, maintenance, and improvement of
19 natural resources and cultural resources located
20 on a site described under paragraph (2); and

21 “(B) for the purpose of conducting re-
22 search regarding the natural resources and cul-
23 tural resources.

24 “(2) AUTHORIZED NATURAL AND CULTURAL
25 RESOURCES SITES.—To be covered by a cooperative

1 agreement under paragraph (1), the relevant natural
2 resources or cultural resources shall be located—

3 “(A) on a Coast Guard installation; or

4 “(B) on a site outside of a Coast Guard in-
5 stallation, but only if the cooperative agreement
6 will directly relieve or eliminate current or an-
7 ticipated restrictions that would or might re-
8 strict, impede, or otherwise interfere, either di-
9 rectly or indirectly, with current or anticipated
10 Coast Guard training, testing, maintenance, or
11 operations on a Coast Guard installation.

12 “(3) APPLICATION OF OTHER LAWS.—Section
13 1535 and chapter 63 of title 31 shall not apply to
14 an agreement entered into under paragraph (1).

15 “(c) AGREEMENTS AND CONSIDERATIONS.—

16 “(1) AGREEMENTS AUTHORIZED.—The Com-
17 mandant may enter into an agreement with an eligi-
18 ble entity, and may enter into an interagency agree-
19 ment with the head of another Federal department
20 or agency, to address the use or development of
21 property in the vicinity of, or ecologically related to,
22 a Coast Guard installation for purposes of—

23 “(A) limiting any development or use of
24 such property that would be incompatible with
25 the mission of the Coast Guard installation;

1 “(B) preserving habitat on such property
2 in a manner that—

3 “(i) is compatible with environmental
4 requirements; and

5 “(ii) may eliminate or relieve current
6 or anticipated environmental restrictions
7 that would or might otherwise restrict, im-
8 pede, or interfere, either directly or indi-
9 rectly, with current or anticipated Coast
10 Guard training or operations on the Coast
11 Guard installation;

12 “(C) maintaining or improving Coast
13 Guard installation resilience;

14 “(D) maintaining and improving natural
15 resources, or benefitting natural and historic re-
16 search, on the Coast Guard installation;

17 “(E) maintaining access to cultural re-
18 sources and natural resources, including—

19 “(i) Tribal treaty fisheries and shell-
20 fish harvest, and usual and accustomed
21 fishing areas; and

22 “(ii) subsistence fisheries, or any
23 other fishery or shellfish harvest, of an In-
24 dian Tribe;

1 “(F) providing a means to replace or re-
2 pair property or cultural resources of an Indian
3 Tribe or a Native Hawaiian organization if such
4 property is damaged by Coast Guard personnel
5 or operations, in consultation with the affected
6 Indian Tribe or Native Hawaiian organization;
7 or

8 “(G) maintaining and improving natural
9 resources located outside a Coast Guard instal-
10 lation, including property of an eligible entity,
11 if the purpose of the agreement is to relieve or
12 eliminate current or anticipated challenges that
13 could restrict, impede, or otherwise interfere
14 with, either directly or indirectly, current or an-
15 ticipated Coast Guard activities.

16 “(2) INAPPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN CONTRACT
17 REQUIREMENTS.—Notwithstanding chapter 63 of
18 title 31, an agreement under subsection (b)(1) that
19 is a cooperative agreement and concerns a cultural
20 resource or a natural resource may be used to ac-
21 quire property or services for the direct benefit or
22 use of the Federal Government.

23 “(d)(1) An agreement under subparagraph (b)(1)
24 shall provide for—

1 “(A) the acquisition by an eligible entity or
2 entities of all right, title, and interest in and to
3 any real property, or any lesser interest in the
4 property, as may be appropriate for purposes of
5 this subsection; and

6 “(B) the sharing by the United States and
7 an eligible entity or entities of the acquisition
8 costs in accordance with paragraph (3).

9 “(2) Property or interests may not be acquired pursu-
10 ant to an agreement under subsection (b)(1) unless the
11 owner of the property or interests consents to the acquisi-
12 tion.

13 “(3)(A) An agreement with an eligible entity under
14 subsection (b)(1) may provide for—

15 “(i) the management of natural resources
16 on, and the monitoring and enforcement of any
17 right, title, or interest in real property in which
18 the Commandant acquires any right, title, or
19 interest in accordance with this subsection; and

20 “(ii) for the payment by the United States
21 of all or a portion of the costs of such manage-
22 ment, monitoring, or enforcement if the Com-
23 mandant determines that there is a dem-
24 onstrated need to preserve or restore habitat for
25 the purposes of subsection (b) or (c).

1 “(B) Any payment provided for under subpara-
2 graph (A) may—

3 “(i) be paid in a lump sum;

4 “(ii) include an amount intended to cover
5 the future costs of natural resource manage-
6 ment and monitoring and enforcement; and

7 “(iii) be placed by the eligible entity in an
8 interest-bearing account, so long as any interest
9 is to be applied for the same purposes as the
10 principal.

11 “(C) Any payments made under this paragraph
12 shall be subject to periodic auditing by the Inspector
13 General of the department in which the Coast Guard
14 is operating.

15 “(4)(A) In entering into an agreement under sub-
16 section (b)(1), the Commandant shall determine the ap-
17 propriate portion of the acquisition costs to be borne by
18 the United States in the sharing of acquisition costs of
19 real property, or an interest in real property, as required
20 under paragraph (1)(B).

21 “(B) In lieu of, or in addition to, making a
22 monetary contribution toward the cost of acquiring
23 a parcel of real property, or an interest therein, pur-
24 suant to an agreement under subsection (b)(1), the

1 Commandant may convey real property in accord-
2 ance with applicable law.

3 “(C) The portion of acquisition costs borne by
4 the United States pursuant to subparagraph (A), ei-
5 ther through the contribution of funds, excess real
6 property, or both, may not exceed an amount equal
7 to—

8 “(i) the fair market value of any property,
9 or interest in property, to be transferred to the
10 United States upon the request of the Com-
11 mandant under paragraph (5); or

12 “(ii) the cumulative fair market value of
13 all properties, or all interests in properties, to
14 be transferred to the United States under para-
15 graph (5) pursuant to an agreement under sub-
16 section (b)(1).

17 “(D) The contribution of an eligible entity to
18 the acquisition costs of real property, or an interest
19 in real property, under paragraph (1)(B) may in-
20 clude, with the approval of the Commandant, the fol-
21 lowing:

22 “(i) The provision of funds, including
23 funds received by the eligible entity from—

1 “(I) a Federal agency outside the de-
2 partment in which the Coast Guard is op-
3 erating; or

4 “(II) a State or local government in
5 connection with a Federal, State, or local
6 program.

7 “(ii) The provision of in-kind services, in-
8 cluding services related to the acquisition or
9 maintenance of such real property or interest in
10 real property.

11 “(iii) The exchange or donation of real
12 property or any interest in real property.

13 “(iv) Any combination of clauses (i)
14 through (iii).

15 “(5)(A) In entering into an agreement under sub-
16 section (b)(1), each eligible entity that is a party to the
17 agreement shall agree, as a term of the agreement, to
18 transfer to the United States, upon request of the Com-
19 mandant, all or a portion of the property or interest ac-
20 quired under the agreement or a lesser interest therein,
21 except no such requirement need be included in the agree-
22 ment if—

23 “(i) the property or interest is being trans-
24 ferred to a State or another Federal agency, or
25 the agreement requires the property or interest

1 to be subsequently transferred to a State or an-
2 other Federal agency; and

3 “(ii) the Commandant determines that the
4 laws and regulations applicable to the future
5 use of such property or interest provide ade-
6 quate assurance that the property concerned
7 will be developed and used in a manner appro-
8 priate for purposes of this subsection.

9 “(B) The Commandant shall limit a transfer
10 request pursuant to subparagraph (A) to the min-
11 imum property or interests necessary to ensure that
12 the property or interest concerned is developed and
13 used in a manner appropriate for purposes of this
14 subsection.

15 “(C)(i) Notwithstanding paragraph (A), If all
16 or a portion of a property or interest acquired under
17 an agreement under subsection (b)(1) is initially or
18 subsequently transferred to a State or another Fed-
19 eral agency, before that State or other Federal agen-
20 cy may declare the property or interest in excess to
21 its needs or propose to exchange the property or in-
22 terest, the State or other Federal agency shall give
23 the Commandant reasonable advance notice of its in-
24 tent to so declare.

1 “(ii) Upon receiving such reasonable ad-
2 vance notice under clause (i), the Commandant
3 may request, within a reasonable time period,
4 that administrative jurisdiction over the prop-
5 erty or interest be transferred to the Com-
6 mandant, if the Commandant determines such
7 transfer necessary for the preservation of the
8 purposes of this subsection.

9 “(iii) Upon a request from the Com-
10 mandant under clause (ii), the administrative
11 jurisdiction over the property or interest be
12 transferred to the Commandant at no cost.

13 “(iv) If the Commandant does not make a
14 request under clause (ii) within a reasonable
15 time period, all such rights of the Commandant
16 to request transfer of administrative jurisdic-
17 tion over the property or interest shall remain
18 available to the Commandant with respect to
19 future transfers or exchanges of the property or
20 interest and shall bind all subsequent trans-
21 ferees.

22 “(D) The Commandant may accept, on behalf
23 of the United States, any property or interest to be
24 transferred to the United States under an agreement
25 under subsection (b)(1).

1 “(E) For purposes of the acceptance of prop-
2 erty or interests under an agreement under sub-
3 section (b)(1), the Commandant may accept an ap-
4 praisal or title documents prepared or adopted by a
5 non-Federal entity as satisfying the applicable re-
6 quirements of section 301 of the Uniform Relocation
7 Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies
8 Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. 4651) or section 3111 of
9 title 40 if the Commandant finds that the appraisal
10 or title documents substantially comply with the re-
11 quirements of such sections and is reasonably accu-
12 rate.

13 “(e) MINIMAL CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL OF AGREE-
14 MENTS.—The Commandant may approve a cooperative
15 agreement under subsection (b)(1) if the Commandant de-
16 termines that—

17 “(1) the eligible entity has authority to carry
18 out the project;

19 “(2) the project would be completed without un-
20 reasonable delay as determined by the Commandant;
21 and

22 “(3) the project cannot be effectively completed
23 without the cooperative agreement authority under
24 subsection (b)(1).

1 “(f) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The
2 Commandant may require such additional terms and con-
3 ditions in an agreement under subsection (b)(1) as the
4 Commandant considers appropriate to protect the inter-
5 ests of the United States, in accordance with applicable
6 Federal law.

7 “(g) NOTIFICATION; AVAILABILITY OF AGREEMENTS
8 TO CONGRESS.—

9 “(1) NOTIFICATION.—The Commandant shall
10 notify the Committee on Commerce, Science, and
11 Transportation or the Committee on Homeland Se-
12 curity and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and
13 the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate when
14 the eligible entity is a Tribe, Tribal Organization or
15 Native Hawaiian organization, and the Committee
16 on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House
17 of Representatives in writing not later than the date
18 that is 3 full business days prior to any day on
19 which the Commandant intends to enter into an
20 agreement under subsection (b)(1), and include in
21 such notification the anticipated costs of carrying
22 out the agreement, to the extent practicable.

23 “(2) AVAILABILITY OF AGREEMENTS.—A copy
24 of an agreement entered into under subsection
25 (b)(1) shall be provided to any member of the Com-

1 mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation or
2 the Committee on Homeland Security and Govern-
3 mental Affairs of the Senate or the Committee on
4 Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of
5 Representatives not later than 5 full business days
6 after the date on which such request is submitted to
7 the Commandant.

8 “(h) CONSULTATION.—Not later than 180 days after
9 the date of enactment of the Coast Guard Authorization
10 Act of 2024, the Commandant shall consult with Indian
11 Tribes to improve opportunities for Indian Tribe partici-
12 pation in the development and execution of Coast Guard
13 oil spill response and prevention activities.

14 “(i) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
15 tion may be construed to undermine the rights of any In-
16 dian Tribe to seek full and meaningful government-to-gov-
17 ernment consultation under this section or under any
18 other law.”.

19 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
20 ter 7 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by insert-
21 ing after the item relating to section 721 the following:

“722. Cooperation with eligible entities.”.

1 **Subtitle D—Personnel**

2 **SEC. 151. DIRECT HIRE AUTHORITY FOR CERTAIN PER-** 3 **SONNEL.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 25 of title
5 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end
6 the following:

7 **“§ 2517. Direct hire authority for certain personnel**

8 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant may appoint,
9 without regard to the provisions of subchapter I of chapter
10 33 (other than sections 3303 and 3328 of such chapter)
11 of title 5, qualified candidates to any of the following posi-
12 tions in the competitive service (as defined in section 2102
13 of title 5) in the Coast Guard:

14 “(1) Any category of medical or health profes-
15 sional positions within the Coast Guard.

16 “(2) Any childcare services position.

17 “(3) Any position in the Coast Guard housing
18 office of a Coast Guard installation, the primary
19 function of which is supervision of Coast Guard
20 housing covered by subchapter III of chapter 29 of
21 this title.

22 “(4) Any nonclinical specialist position the pur-
23 pose of which is the integrated primary prevention
24 of harmful behavior, including suicide, sexual as-
25 sult, harassment, domestic abuse, and child abuse.

1 “(5) Any special agent position of the Coast
2 Guard Investigative Service.

3 “(6) The following positions at the Coast Guard
4 Academy:

5 “(A) Any civilian faculty member ap-
6 pointed under section 1941.

7 “(B) A position involving the improvement
8 of cadet health or well-being.

9 “(b) LIMITATION.—The Commandant shall only ap-
10 point qualified candidates under the authority provided by
11 subsection (a) if the Commandant determines that there
12 is a shortage of qualified candidates for the positions de-
13 scribed in such subsection or a critical hiring need for such
14 positions.

15 “(c) BRIEFING REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 1
16 year after the date of enactment of the Coast Guard Au-
17 thorization Act of 2024, and annually thereafter for the
18 following 5 years, the Commandant shall submit to the
19 Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
20 and the Committee on Homeland Security and Govern-
21 mental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Trans-
22 portation and Infrastructure of the House of Representa-
23 tives a written briefing which describes the use of the au-
24 thority provided under this section on an annual basis, in-
25 cluding the following:

1 “(1) The number of employees hired under the
2 authority provided under this section within the year
3 for which the briefing is provided.

4 “(2) The positions and grades for which em-
5 ployees were hired.

6 “(3) A justification for the Commandant’s de-
7 termination that such positions involved a shortage
8 of qualified candidates or a critical hiring need.

9 “(4) The number of employees who were hired
10 under the authority provided under this section who
11 have separated from the Coast Guard.

12 “(5) Steps the Coast Guard has taken to en-
13 gage with the Office of Personnel Management
14 under subpart B of part 337 of title 5, Code of Fed-
15 eral Regulations, for positions for which the Com-
16 mandant determines a direct hire authority remains
17 necessary.

18 “(d) SUNSET.—The authority provided under sub-
19 section (a) shall expire on September 30, 2030.”.

20 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
21 ter 25 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by in-
22 serting after the item relating to 2516 the following:

“2517. Direct hire authority for certain personnel.”.

1 **SEC. 152. TEMPORARY EXEMPTION FROM AUTHORIZED**
2 **END STRENGTH FOR ENLISTED MEMBERS ON**
3 **ACTIVE DUTY IN COAST GUARD IN PAY**
4 **GRADES E-8 AND E-9.**

5 Section 517(a) of title 10, United States Code, shall
6 not apply with respect to the Coast Guard until October
7 1, 2027.

8 **SEC. 153. ADDITIONAL AVAILABLE GUIDANCE AND CONSID-**
9 **ERATIONS FOR RESERVE SELECTION**
10 **BOARDS.**

11 Section 3740(f) of title 14, United States Code, is
12 amended by striking “section 2117” and inserting “sec-
13 tions 2115 and 2117”.

14 **SEC. 154. FAMILY LEAVE POLICIES FOR THE COAST GUARD.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2512 of title 14, United
16 States Code, is amended—

17 (1) in the section heading by striking “**Leave**”
18 and inserting “**Family leave**”;

19 (2) in subsection (a)—

20 (A) by striking “, United States Code,”
21 and inserting “or, with respect to the reserve
22 component of the Coast Guard, the Secretary of
23 Defense promulgates a new regulation for mem-
24 bers of the reserve component of the Coast
25 Guard pursuant to section 711 of title 10,”;

1 (B) by striking “or adoption of a child”
2 and inserting “or placement of a minor child
3 with the member for adoption or long term fos-
4 ter care”;

5 (C) by striking “and enlisted members”
6 and inserting “, enlisted members, and mem-
7 bers of the reserve component”; and

8 (D) by inserting “or, with respect to mem-
9 bers of the reserve component of the Coast
10 Guard, the Secretary of Defense” after “pro-
11 vided by the Secretary of the Navy”;

12 (3) in subsection (b)—

13 (A) in the subsection heading by striking
14 “ADOPTION OF CHILD” and inserting “PLACE-
15 MENT OF MINOR CHILD WITH MEMBER FOR
16 ADOPTION OR LONG TERM FOSTER CARE”;

17 (B) by striking “and 704” and inserting “,
18 704, and 711”;

19 (C) by striking “and enlisted members”
20 and inserting “, enlisted members, and mem-
21 bers of the reserve component”;

22 (D) by striking “or adoption” inserting “,
23 adoption, or long term foster care”;

24 (E) by striking “immediately”;

1 (F) by striking “or adoption” and insert-
2 ing “, placement of a minor child with the
3 member for long-term foster care or adoption,”;
4 and

5 (G) by striking “enlisted member” and in-
6 serting “, enlisted member, or member of the
7 reserve component”;

8 (4) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(c) PERIOD OF LEAVE.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the de-
11 partment in which the Coast Guard is operating,
12 may authorize leave described under subparagraph
13 (b) to be taken after the one-year period described
14 in subparagraph (b) in the case of a member de-
15 scribed in subsection (b) who, except for this sub-
16 paragraph, would lose unused family leave at the
17 end of the one-year period described in subpara-
18 graph (A) as a result of—

19 “(A) operational requirements;

20 “(B) professional military education obli-
21 gations; or

22 “(C) other circumstances that the Sec-
23 retary determines reasonable and appropriate.

24 “(2) EXTENDED DEADLINE.—The regulation,
25 rule, policy, or memorandum prescribed under para-

1 graph (a) shall require that any leave authorized to
2 be taken after the one-year period described in sub-
3 paragraph (c)(1)(A) shall be taken within a reason-
4 able period of time, as determined by the Secretary
5 of the department in which the Coast Guard is oper-
6 ating, after cessation of the circumstances war-
7 ranting the extended deadline.

8 “(d) MEMBER OF THE RESERVE COMPONENT OF
9 THE COAST GUARD DEFINED.—In this section, the term
10 ‘member of the reserve component of the Coast Guard’
11 means a member of the Coast Guard who is a member
12 of—

13 “(1) the selected reserve who is entitled to com-
14 pensation under section 206 of title 37; or

15 “(2) the individual ready reserve who is entitled
16 to compensation under section 206 of title 37 when
17 attending or participating in a sufficient number of
18 periods of inactive-duty training during a year to
19 count the year as a qualifying year of creditable
20 service toward eligibility for retired pay.”.

21 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
22 ter 25 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by
23 striking the item relating to section 2512 and inserting
24 the following:

“2512. Family leave policies for the Coast Guard.”.

1 (c) COMPENSATION.—Section 206(a)(4) of title 37,
2 United States Code, is amended by inserting before the
3 period at the end “or family leave under section 2512 of
4 title 14”.

5 **SEC. 155. AUTHORIZATION FOR MATERNITY UNIFORM AL-**
6 **LOWANCE FOR OFFICERS.**

7 Section 2708 of title 14, United States Code, is
8 amended by adding at the end the following:

9 “(c) The Coast Guard may provide a cash allowance,
10 in such amount as the Secretary shall determine by policy,
11 to be paid to pregnant officer personnel for the purchase
12 of maternity-related uniform items, if such uniform items
13 are not so furnished to the member by the Coast Guard.”.

14 **SEC. 156. HOUSING.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter III of chapter 29 of
16 title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the
17 end the following:

18 **“§ 2948. Authorization for acquisition of existing fam-**
19 **ily housing in lieu of construction**

20 “(a) IN GENERAL.—In lieu of constructing any fam-
21 ily housing units authorized by law to be constructed, the
22 Commandant may acquire sole interest in existing family
23 housing units that are privately owned or that are held
24 by the Department of Housing and Urban Development,
25 except that in foreign countries the Commandant may ac-

1 quire less than sole interest in existing family housing
2 units.

3 “(b) ACQUISITION OF INTERESTS IN LAND.—When
4 authority provided by law to construct Coast Guard family
5 housing units is used to acquire existing family housing
6 units under subsection (a), the authority includes author-
7 ity to acquire interests in land.

8 “(c) LIMITATION ON NET FLOOR AREA.—The net
9 floor area of a family housing unit acquired under the au-
10 thority of this section may not exceed the applicable limi-
11 tation specified in section 2826 of title 10. The Com-
12 mandant may waive the limitation set forth in the pre-
13 ceding sentence for family housing units acquired under
14 this section during the five-year period beginning on the
15 date of the enactment of this section.

16 **“§ 2949. Acceptance of funds to cover administrative**
17 **expenses relating to certain real property**
18 **transactions**

19 “(a) AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT.—In connection with a
20 real property transaction referred to in subsection (b) with
21 a non-Federal person or entity, the Commandant may ac-
22 cept amounts provided by the person or entity to cover
23 administrative expenses incurred by the Commandant in
24 entering into the transaction.

1 “(b) COVERED TRANSACTIONS.—Subsection (a) ap-
2 plies to the following transactions involving real property
3 under the control of the Commandant:

4 “(1) The exchange of real property.

5 “(2) The grant of an easement over, in, or upon
6 real property of the United States.

7 “(3) The lease or license of real property of the
8 United States.

9 “(4) The disposal of real property of the United
10 States for which the Commandant will be the dis-
11 posal agent.

12 “(5) The conveyance of real property under sec-
13 tion 2945.”.

14 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
15 ter 29 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by add-
16 ing at the end the following:

 “2948. Authorization for acquisition of existing family housing in lieu of con-
 struction.

 “2949. Acceptance of funds to cover administrative expenses relating to certain
 real property transactions.”.

17 (c) REPORT ON GAO RECOMMENDATIONS ON HOUS-
18 ING PROGRAM.—Not later than 1 year after the date of
19 enactment of this Act, the Commandant shall submit to
20 the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of
21 the House of Representatives and the Committee on Com-
22 merce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report
23 on the status of the implementation of the recommenda-

1 tions contained in the report of the Government Account-
2 ability Office titled “Coast Guard: Better Feedback Collec-
3 tion and Information Could Enhance Housing Program”,
4 and issued February 5, 2024 (GAO–24–106388).

5 **SEC. 157. UNIFORM FUNDING AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**
6 **FOR MORALE, WELL-BEING, AND RECRE-**
7 **ATION PROGRAMS AND COAST GUARD EX-**
8 **CHANGE.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter IV of chapter 5 of
10 title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the
11 end the following:

12 **“§ 565. Uniform funding and management of morale,**
13 **well-being, and recreation programs and**
14 **Coast Guard Exchange**

15 “(a) AUTHORITY FOR UNIFORM FUNDING AND MAN-
16 AGEMENT.—Under policies issued by the Commandant,
17 funds appropriated to the Coast Guard and available for
18 morale, well-being, and recreation programs and the Coast
19 Guard Exchange may be treated as nonappropriated funds
20 and expended in accordance with laws applicable to the
21 expenditure of nonappropriated funds. When made avail-
22 able for morale, well-being, and recreation programs and
23 the Coast Guard Exchange under such policies, appro-
24 priated funds shall be considered to be nonappropriated

1 funds for all purposes and shall remain available until ex-
2 pended.

3 “(b) CONDITIONS ON AVAILABILITY.—Funds appro-
4 priated to the Coast Guard and subject to a policy de-
5 scribed in subsection (a) shall only be available in amounts
6 that are determined by the Commandant to be consistent
7 with—

8 “(1) Coast Guard policy; and

9 “(2) Coast Guard readiness and resources.

10 “(c) UPDATED POLICY.—Not later than 90 days
11 after the date of enactment of the Coast Guard Authoriza-
12 tion Act of 2024, the Commandant shall update the poli-
13 cies described in subsection (a) consistent with this sec-
14 tion.

15 “(d) BRIEFING.—Not later than 30 days after the
16 date on which the Commandant issues the updated policies
17 required under subsection (c), the Commandant shall pro-
18 vide to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Trans-
19 portation of the Senate and the Committee on Transpor-
20 tation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives
21 a briefing on such policies.”.

22 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
23 ter 5 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by insert-
24 ing after the item relating to section 564 the following:

“565. Uniform funding and management of morale, well-being, and recreation
programs and Coast Guard Exchange.”.

1 **SEC. 158. COAST GUARD EMBEDDED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**
2 **TECHNICIAN PROGRAM.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 270 days
5 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Com-
6 mandant, in coordination with the Assistant Com-
7 mandant for Health, Safety, and Work Life, shall
8 establish and conduct a pilot program, to be known
9 as the “Coast Guard Embedded Behavioral Health
10 Technician Program” (referred to in this section as
11 the “Pilot Program”), to integrate behavioral health
12 technicians serving at Coast Guard units for the
13 purposes of—

14 (A) facilitating, at the clinic level, the pro-
15 vision of integrated behavioral health care for
16 members of the Coast Guard;

17 (B) providing, as a force extender under
18 the supervision of a licensed behavioral health
19 care provider, at the clinic level—

20 (i) psychological assessment and diag-
21 nostic services, as appropriate;

22 (ii) behavioral health services, as ap-
23 propriate;

24 (iii) education and training related to
25 promoting positive behavioral health and
26 well-being; and

1 (iv) information and resources, includ-
2 ing expedited referrals, to assist members
3 of the Coast Guard in dealing with behav-
4 ioral health concerns;

5 (C) improving resilience and mental health
6 care among members of the Coast Guard who
7 respond to extraordinary calls of duty, with the
8 ultimate goals of preventing crises and address-
9 ing mental health concerns before such concerns
10 evolve into more complex issues that require
11 care at a military treatment facility;

12 (D) increasing—

13 (i) the number of such members
14 served by behavioral health technicians;
15 and

16 (ii) the proportion of such members
17 returning to duty after seeking behavioral
18 health care; and

19 (E) positively impacting the Coast Guard
20 in a cost-effective manner by extending behav-
21 ioral health services to the workforce and im-
22 proving access to care.

23 (2) BRIEFING.—Not later than 120 days after
24 the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant
25 shall provide the Committee on Commerce, Science,

1 and Transportation of the Senate and the Com-
2 mittee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the
3 House of Representatives with a briefing regarding
4 a plan to establish and conduct the Pilot Program.

5 (b) SELECTION OF COAST GUARD CLINICS.—The
6 Commandant shall select, for participation in the Pilot
7 Program, 3 or more Coast Guard clinics that support
8 units that have significantly high operational tempos or
9 other force resiliency risks, as determined by the Com-
10 mandant.

11 (c) PLACEMENT OF STAFF AT COAST GUARD CLIN-
12 ICS.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—Under the Pilot Program, a
14 Coast Guard health services technician with a grade
15 of E-5 or higher, or an assigned civilian behavioral
16 health specialist, shall be—

17 (A) assigned to each selected Coast Guard
18 clinic; and

19 (B) located at a unit with high operational
20 tempo.

21 (2) TRAINING.—

22 (A) HEALTH SERVICES TECHNICIANS.—
23 Before commencing an assignment at a Coast
24 Guard clinic under paragraph (1), a Coast
25 Guard health services technician shall complete

1 behavioral health technician training and inde-
2 pendent duty health services training.

3 (B) CIVILIAN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SPE-
4 CIALISTS.—To qualify for an assignment at a
5 Coast Guard clinic under paragraph (1), a civil-
6 ian behavioral health specialist shall have at
7 least the equivalent behavioral health training
8 as the training required for a Coast Guard be-
9 havioral health technician under subparagraph
10 (A).

11 (d) ADMINISTRATION.—The Commandant, in coordi-
12 nation with the Assistant Commandant for Health, Safety,
13 and Work Life, shall administer the Pilot Program
14 through the Health, Safety, and Work-Life Service Cen-
15 ter.

16 (e) DATA COLLECTION.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant shall col-
18 lect and analyze data concerning the Pilot Program
19 for purposes of—

20 (A) developing and sharing best practices
21 for improving access to behavioral health care;
22 and

23 (B) providing information to the Com-
24 mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transpor-
25 tation of the Senate and the Committee on

1 Transportation and Infrastructure of the House
2 of Representatives regarding the implementa-
3 tion of the Pilot Program and related policy
4 issues.

5 (2) PLAN.—Not later than 270 days after the
6 date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant
7 shall submit to the Committee on Commerce,
8 Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the
9 Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of
10 the House of Representatives a plan for carrying out
11 paragraph (1).

12 (f) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than September 1
13 of each year until the date on which the Pilot Program
14 terminates under subsection (g), the Commandant shall
15 submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and
16 Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on
17 Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Rep-
18 resentatives a report on the Pilot Program that includes
19 the following:

20 (1) An overview of the implementation of the
21 Pilot Program at each applicable Coast Guard clinic,
22 including—

23 (A) the number of members of the Coast
24 Guard who received services on site by a behav-
25 ioral health technician assigned to such clinic;

1 (B) feedback from all members of the
2 Coast Guard empaneled for their medical care
3 under the Pilot Program;

4 (C) an assessment of the deployability and
5 overall readiness of members of the applicable
6 operational unit; and

7 (D) an estimate of potential costs and im-
8 pacts on other Coast Guard health care services
9 of supporting the Pilot Program at such units
10 and clinics.

11 (2) The data and analysis required under sub-
12 section (e)(1).

13 (3) A list and detailed description of lessons
14 learned from the Pilot Program as of the date of on
15 which the report is submitted.

16 (4) The feasibility, estimated cost, and impacts
17 on other Coast Guard health care services of ex-
18 panding the Pilot Program to all Coast Guard clin-
19 ics, and a description of the personnel, fiscal, and
20 administrative resources that would be needed for
21 such an expansion.

22 (g) TERMINATION.—The Pilot Program shall termi-
23 nate on September 30, 2028.

1 **SEC. 159. EXPANSION OF ACCESS TO COUNSELING.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
3 date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant shall hire,
4 train, and deploy not fewer than 5 additional behavioral
5 health specialists, in addition to the personnel required
6 under section 11412(a) of the Don Young Coast Guard
7 Authorization Act of 2022 (14 U.S.C. 504 note).

8 (b) REQUIREMENT.—The Commandant shall ensure
9 that not fewer than 35 percent of behavioral health spe-
10 cialists required to be deployed under subsection (a) have
11 experience in—

12 (1) behavioral health care related to military
13 sexual trauma; and

14 (2) behavioral health care for the purpose of
15 supporting members of the Coast Guard with needs
16 for mental health care and counseling services for
17 post-traumatic stress disorder and co-occurring dis-
18 orders related to military sexual trauma.

19 (c) ACCESSIBILITY.—The support provided by the be-
20 havioral health specialists hired pursuant to subsection
21 (a)—

22 (1) may include care delivered via telemedicine;
23 and

24 (2) shall be made widely available to members
25 of the Coast Guard.

26 (d) NOTIFICATION.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
2 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Com-
3 mandant shall notify the Committee on Commerce,
4 Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the
5 Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of
6 the House of Representatives if the Coast Guard has
7 not completed hiring, training, and deploying—

8 (A) the personnel referred to in sub-
9 sections (a) and (b); and

10 (B) the personnel required under section
11 11412(a) of the Don Young Coast Guard Au-
12 thorization Act of 2022 (14 U.S.C. 504 note).

13 (2) CONTENTS.—The notification required
14 under paragraph (1) shall include—

15 (A) the date of publication of the hiring
16 opportunity for all such personnel;

17 (B) the General Schedule grade level ad-
18 vertised in the publication of the hiring oppor-
19 tunity for all such personnel;

20 (C) the number of personnel to whom the
21 Coast Guard extended an offer of employment
22 in accordance with the requirements of this sec-
23 tion and section 11412(a) of the Don Young
24 Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2022 (14
25 U.S.C. 504 note), and the number of such per-

1 sonnel who accepted or declined such offer of
2 employment;

3 (D) a summary of the efforts by the Coast
4 Guard to publicize, advertise, or otherwise re-
5 cruit qualified candidates in accordance with
6 the requirements of this section and section
7 11412(a) of such Act; and

8 (E) any recommendations and a detailed
9 plan to ensure full compliance with the require-
10 ments of this section and section 11412(a) of
11 such Act, which may include special payments
12 discussed in the report of the Government Ac-
13 countability Office titled “Federal Pay: Oppor-
14 tunities Exist to Enhance Strategic Use of Spe-
15 cial Payments”, published on December 7, 2017
16 (GAO–18–91), which may be made available to
17 help ensure full compliance with all such re-
18 quirements in a timely manner.

19 **SEC. 160. COMMAND SPONSORSHIP FOR DEPENDENTS OF**
20 **MEMBERS OF COAST GUARD ASSIGNED TO**
21 **UNALASKA, ALASKA.**

22 On request by a member of the Coast Guard assigned
23 to Unalaska, Alaska, the Commandant shall grant com-
24 mand sponsorship to the dependents of such member.

1 **SEC. 161. TRAVEL ALLOWANCE FOR MEMBERS OF COAST**
2 **GUARD ASSIGNED TO ALASKA.**

3 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Commandant shall im-
4 plement a policy that provides for reimbursement to eligi-
5 ble members of the Coast Guard for the cost of airfare
6 for such members to travel to the homes of record of such
7 member during the period specified in subsection (e).

8 (b) **ELIGIBLE MEMBERS.**—A member of the Coast
9 Guard is eligible for a reimbursement under subsection (a)
10 if—

11 (1) the member is assigned to a duty location
12 in Alaska; and

13 (2) an officer in a grade above O-5 in the chain
14 of command of the member authorizes the travel of
15 the member.

16 (c) **TREATMENT OF TIME AS LEAVE.**—The time dur-
17 ing which an eligible member is absent from duty for trav-
18 el reimbursable under subsection (a) shall be treated as
19 leave for purposes of section 704 of title 10, United States
20 Code.

21 (d) **BRIEFING REQUIRED.**—Not later than February
22 1, 2027, the Commandant shall provide to the Committee
23 on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate
24 and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
25 of the House of Representatives a briefing on—

1 (1) the use and effectiveness of reimbursements
2 under subsection (a);

3 (2) the calculation and use of the cost of living
4 allowance for a member assigned to a duty location
5 in Alaska; and

6 (3) the use of special pays and other allowances
7 as incentives for cold weather proficiency or duty lo-
8 cations.

9 (e) PERIOD SPECIFIED.—The period specified in this
10 subsection is the period—

11 (1) beginning on the date of enactment of this
12 Act; and

13 (2) ending on the later of—

14 (A) December 31, 2026; or

15 (B) the date on which the authority under
16 section 352 of title 37, United States Code, to
17 grant assignment or special duty pay to mem-
18 bers of the uniform services terminates under
19 subsection (g) of such section.

20 **SEC. 162. CONSOLIDATION OF AUTHORITIES FOR COLLEGE**
21 **STUDENT PRECOMMISSIONING INITIATIVE.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3710 of title 14, United
23 States Code, is amended to read as follows:

1 **“§ 3710. College student precommissioning initiative**

2 “(a) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized within the
3 Coast Guard a college student precommissioning initiative
4 program (in this section referred to as the ‘Program’) for
5 eligible undergraduate students to enlist in the Coast
6 Guard Reserve and receive a commission as a Reserve offi-
7 cer.

8 “(b) CRITERIA FOR SELECTION.—To be eligible for
9 the Program an applicant shall meet the following require-
10 ments upon submitting an application:

11 “(1) AGE.—The applicant shall be not less than
12 19 years old and not more than 31 years old as of
13 September 30 of the fiscal year in which the Pro-
14 gram selection panel selecting such applicant con-
15 venes, or an age otherwise determined by the Com-
16 mandant.

17 “(2) CHARACTER.—

18 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The applicant shall be
19 of outstanding moral character and meet any
20 other character requirement set forth by the
21 Commandant.

22 “(B) COAST GUARD APPLICANTS.—Any
23 applicant serving in the Coast Guard may not
24 be commissioned if in the 36 months prior to
25 the first Officer Candidate School class con-
26 vening date in the selection cycle, such appli-

1 cant was convicted by a court-martial or as-
2 signed nonjudicial punishment, or did not meet
3 performance or character requirements set forth
4 by the Commandant.

5 “(3) CITIZENSHIP.—The applicant shall be a
6 United States citizen.

7 “(4) CLEARANCE.—The applicant shall be eligi-
8 ble for a secret clearance.

9 “(5) EDUCATION.—The applicant shall be en-
10 rolled in a college degree program at—

11 “(A) an institution of higher education de-
12 scribed in section 371(a) of the Higher Edu-
13 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1067q(a));

14 “(B) an institution of higher education (as
15 defined in section 101 of the Higher Education
16 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001)) that, at the
17 time of the application has had for 3 consecu-
18 tive years an enrollment of undergraduate full-
19 time equivalent students (as defined in section
20 312(e) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1058(e))) that is
21 a total of at least 50 percent Black American,
22 Hispanic American, Asian American (as defined
23 in section 371(c) of such Act (20 U.S.C.
24 1067q(c))), Native American Pacific Islander
25 (as defined in such section), or Native Amer-

1 ican (as defined in such section), among other
2 criteria, as determined by the Commandant; or

3 “(C) an institution that meets the eligi-
4 bility requirements for funding as a rural-serv-
5 ing institution of higher education under section
6 861 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
7 U.S.C. 1161q).

8 “(6) LOCATION.—The institution at which the
9 applicant is an undergraduate shall be within 100
10 miles of a Coast Guard unit or Coast Guard Re-
11 cruiting Office unless otherwise approved by the
12 Commandant.

13 “(7) RECORDS.—The applicant shall meet cred-
14 it and grade point average requirements set forth by
15 the Commandant.

16 “(8) MEDICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE.—The ap-
17 plicant shall meet other medical and administrative
18 requirements as set forth by the Commandant.

19 “(c) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant may pro-
21 vide financial assistance to enlisted members of the
22 Coast Guard Reserve on active duty participating in
23 the Program, for expenses of the enlisted member
24 while the enlisted member is enrolled, on a full-time
25 basis, in a college degree program approved by the

1 Commandant at a college, university, or institution
2 of higher education described in subsection (b)(5)
3 that leads to—

4 “(A) a baccalaureate degree in not more
5 than 5 academic years; or

6 “(B) a post-baccalaureate degree.

7 “(2) WRITTEN AGREEMENTS.—To be eligible
8 for financial assistance under this section, an en-
9 listed member of the Coast Guard Reserve shall
10 enter into a written agreement with the Coast Guard
11 that notifies the Reserve enlisted member of the obli-
12 gations of that member under this section, and in
13 which the member agrees to the following:

14 “(A) The member shall complete an ap-
15 proved college degree program at a college, uni-
16 versity, or institution of higher education de-
17 scribed in subsection (b)(5).

18 “(B) The member shall satisfactorily com-
19 plete all required Coast Guard training and
20 participate in monthly military activities of the
21 Program as required by the Commandant.

22 “(C) Upon graduation from the college,
23 university, or institution of higher education de-
24 scribed in subsection (b)(5), the member
25 shall—

1 “(i) accept an appointment, if ten-
2 dered, as a commissioned officer in the
3 Coast Guard Reserve; and

4 “(ii) serve a period of obligated active
5 duty for a minimum of 3 years imme-
6 diately after such appointment as follows:

7 “(I) Members participating in the
8 Program shall be obligated to serve on
9 active duty 3 months for each month
10 of instruction for which they receive
11 financial assistance pursuant to this
12 section for the first 12 months and 1
13 month for each month thereafter, or 3
14 years, whichever is greater.

15 “(II) The period of obligated ac-
16 tive duty service incurred while par-
17 ticipating in the Program shall be in
18 addition to any other obligated service
19 a member may incur due to receiving
20 other bonuses or other benefits as
21 part of any other Coast Guard pro-
22 gram.

23 “(III) If an appointment de-
24 scribed in clause (i) is not tendered,
25 the member will remain in the Re-

1 serve component until completion of
2 the member's enlisted service obliga-
3 tion.

4 “(D) The member shall agree to perform
5 such duties or complete such terms under the
6 conditions of service specified by the Coast
7 Guard.

8 “(3) EXPENSES.—Expenses for which financial
9 assistance may be provided under this section are
10 the following:

11 “(A) Tuition and fees charged by the col-
12 lege, university, or institution of higher edu-
13 cation at which a member is enrolled on a full-
14 time basis.

15 “(B) The cost of books.

16 “(C) In the case of a program of education
17 leading to a baccalaureate degree, laboratory
18 expenses.

19 “(D) Such other expenses as the Com-
20 mandant considers appropriate, which may not
21 exceed \$25,000 for any academic year.

22 “(4) TIME LIMIT.—Financial assistance may be
23 provided to a member under this section for up to
24 5 consecutive academic years.

25 “(5) BREACH OF AGREEMENT.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may re-
2 tain in the Coast Guard Reserve, and may
3 order to active duty for such period of time as
4 the Secretary prescribes (but not to exceed 4
5 years), a member who breaches an agreement
6 under paragraph (2). The period of time for
7 which a member is ordered to active duty under
8 this paragraph may be determined without re-
9 gard to section 651(a) of title 10.

10 “(B) APPROPRIATE ENLISTED GRADE OR
11 RATING.—A member who is retained in the
12 Coast Guard Reserve under subparagraph (A)
13 shall be retained in an appropriate enlisted
14 grade or rating, as determined by the Com-
15 mandant.

16 “(6) REPAYMENT.—A member who does not
17 fulfill the terms of the obligation to serve as speci-
18 fied under paragraph (2), or the alternative obliga-
19 tion imposed under paragraph (5), shall be subject
20 to the repayment provisions of section 303a(e) of
21 title 37.

22 “(d) BRIEFING.—

23 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than August 15
24 of each year following the date of the enactment of
25 the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2024, the

1 Commandant shall provide a briefing to the Com-
2 mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of
3 the Senate and the Committee on Transportation
4 and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives
5 on the Program.

6 “(2) CONTENTS.—The briefing required under
7 paragraph (1) shall describe—

8 “(A) outreach and recruitment efforts over
9 the previous year; and

10 “(B) demographic information of enrollees,
11 including—

12 “(i) race;

13 “(ii) ethnicity;

14 “(iii) gender;

15 “(iv) geographic origin; and

16 “(v) educational institution.”.

17 (b) REPEAL.—Section 2131 of title 14, United States
18 Code, is repealed.

19 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

20 (1) The analysis for chapter 21 of title 14,
21 United States Code, is amended by striking the item
22 relating to section 2131.

23 (2) The analysis for chapter 37 of title 14,
24 United States Code, is amended by striking the item
25 relating to section 3710 and inserting the following:

“3710. College student precommissioning initiative.”.

1 **SEC. 163. TUITION ASSISTANCE AND ADVANCED EDU-**
2 **CATION ASSISTANCE PILOT PROGRAM.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 120 days after
4 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the
5 department in which the Coast Guard is operating, acting
6 through the Commandant, shall establish a tuition assist-
7 ance pilot program for active-duty members of the Coast
8 Guard, to be known as the “Tuition Assistance and Ad-
9 vanced Education Assistance Pilot Program for Sea
10 Duty” (referred to in this section as the “pilot program”).

11 (b) FORMAL AGREEMENT.—A member of the Coast
12 Guard participating in the pilot program shall enter into
13 a formal agreement with the Secretary of the department
14 in which the Coast Guard is operating that provides that,
15 upon the successful completion of a sea duty tour by such
16 member, the Secretary of the department in which the
17 Coast Guard is operating shall, for a period equal to the
18 length of the sea duty tour, beginning on the date on
19 which the sea duty tour concludes—

20 (1) reduce by 1 year the service obligation in-
21 curred by such member as a result of participation
22 in the advanced education assistance program under
23 section 2005 of title 10, United States Code, or the
24 tuition assistance program under section 2007 of
25 such title; and

1 (2) increase the tuition assistance cost cap for
2 such member to not more than double the amount
3 of the standard tuition assistance cost cap set by the
4 Commandant for the applicable fiscal year.

5 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date
6 on which the pilot program is established, and annually
7 thereafter through the date on which the pilot program
8 is terminated under subsection (d), the Commandant shall
9 submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and
10 Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on
11 Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Rep-
12 resentatives a report that—

13 (1) evaluates and compares—

14 (A) the Coast Guard's retention, recruit-
15 ment, and filling of sea duty billets for all mem-
16 bers of the Coast Guard; and

17 (B) the Coast Guard's retention, recruit-
18 ment, and filling of sea duty billets for all mem-
19 bers of the Coast Guard participating in the
20 pilot program;

21 (2) includes the number of participants in the
22 pilot program as of the date of the report,
23 disaggregated by officer and enlisted billet type; and

24 (3) assesses the progress made by such partici-
25 pants in their respective voluntary education pro-

1 “(5) the eligibility of the member for general
2 benefits as provided in part II of title 38; and

3 “(6) in the case of a victim of an alleged sex-
4 related offense (as such term is defined in section
5 1044e(h) of title 10) to the maximum extent prac-
6 ticable, maintaining access to—

7 “(A) Coast Guard behavioral health re-
8 sources;

9 “(B) sexual assault prevention and re-
10 sponse resources and programs of the Coast
11 Guard; and

12 “(C) Coast Guard legal resources, includ-
13 ing, to the extent practicable, special victims’
14 counsel.”.

15 **SEC. 165. RECRUITMENT, RELOCATION, AND RETENTION**
16 **INCENTIVE PROGRAM FOR CIVILIAN FIRE-**
17 **FIGHTERS EMPLOYED BY COAST GUARD IN**
18 **REMOTE LOCATIONS.**

19 (a) IDENTIFICATION OF REMOTE LOCATIONS.—The
20 Commandant shall identify locations to be considered re-
21 mote locations for purposes of this section, which shall in-
22 clude, at a minimum, each Coast Guard fire station lo-
23 cated in an area in which members of the Coast Guard
24 and the dependents of such members are eligible for the
25 TRICARE Prime Remote program.

1 (b) INCENTIVE PROGRAM.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—To ensure uninterrupted op-
3 erations by civilian firefighters employed by the
4 Coast Guard in remote locations, the Commandant
5 shall establish an incentive program for such fire-
6 fighters consisting of—

7 (A) recruitment and relocation bonuses
8 consistent with section 5753 of title 5, United
9 States Code; and

10 (B) retention bonuses consistent with sec-
11 tion 5754 of title 5, United States Code.

12 (2) ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.—The Commandant,
13 in coordination with the Director of the Office of
14 Personnel and Management, shall establish eligibility
15 criteria for the incentive program established under
16 paragraph (1), which shall include a requirement
17 that a firefighter described in paragraph (1) may
18 only be eligible for the incentive program under this
19 section if, with respect to the applicable remote loca-
20 tion, the Commandant has made a determination
21 that incentives are appropriate to address an identi-
22 fied recruitment, retention, or relocation need.

23 (c) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not less frequently than an-
24 nually for the 5-year period beginning on the date of en-
25 actment of this Act, the Commandant shall submit to the

1 Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
2 and the Committee on Homeland Security and Govern-
3 mental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Trans-
4 portation and Infrastructure of the House of Representa-
5 tives a report that—

6 (1) details the use and effectiveness of the in-
7 centive program established under this section; and

8 (2) includes—

9 (A) the number of participants in the in-
10 centive program;

11 (B) a description of the distribution of in-
12 centives under such program; and

13 (C) a description of the impact of such
14 program on civilian firefighter recruitment and
15 retention by the Coast Guard in remote loca-
16 tions.

17 **SEC. 166. REINSTATEMENT OF TRAINING COURSE ON**
18 **WORKINGS OF CONGRESS; COAST GUARD MU-**
19 **SEUM.**

20 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 3 of title 14, United
21 States Code, is amended by—

22 (1) transferring section 316 to appear after sec-
23 tion 323 and redesignating such section as section
24 324; and

25 (2) inserting after section 315 the following:

1 **“§ 316. Training course on workings of Congress**

2 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant, and such
3 other individuals and organizations as the Commandant
4 considers appropriate, shall develop a training course on
5 the workings of Congress and offer such training course
6 at least once each year.

7 “(b) COURSE SUBJECT MATTER.—The training
8 course required by this section shall provide an overview
9 and introduction to Congress and the Federal legislative
10 process, including—

11 “(1) the history and structure of Congress and
12 the committee systems of the House of Representa-
13 tives and the Senate, including the functions and re-
14 sponsibilities of the Committee on Transportation
15 and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives
16 and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and
17 Transportation of the Senate;

18 “(2) the documents produced by Congress, in-
19 cluding bills, resolutions, committee reports, and
20 conference reports, and the purposes and functions
21 of such documents;

22 “(3) the legislative processes and rules of the
23 House of Representatives and the Senate, including
24 similarities and differences between the 2 processes
25 and 2 sets of rules, including—

26 “(A) the congressional budget process;

1 “(B) the congressional authorization and
2 appropriation processes;

3 “(C) the Senate advice and consent process
4 for Presidential nominees; and

5 “(D) the Senate advice and consent proc-
6 ess for treaty ratification;

7 “(4) the roles of Members of Congress and con-
8 gressional staff in the legislative process; and

9 “(5) the concept and underlying purposes of
10 congressional oversight within the governance frame-
11 work of separation of powers.

12 “(c) LECTURERS AND PANELISTS.—

13 “(1) OUTSIDE EXPERTS.—The Commandant
14 shall ensure that not less than 60 percent of the lec-
15 turers, panelists, and other individuals providing
16 education and instruction as part of the training
17 course required under this section are experts on
18 Congress and the Federal legislative process who are
19 not employed by the executive branch of the Federal
20 Government.

21 “(2) AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT PRO BONO SERV-
22 ICES.—In satisfying the requirement under para-
23 graph (1), the Commandant shall seek, and may ac-
24 cept, educational and instructional services of lec-
25 turers, panelists, and other individuals and organiza-

1 tions provided to the Coast Guard on a pro bono
2 basis.

3 “(d) EFFECT OF LAW.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The training required by
5 this section shall replace the substantially similar
6 training that was required by the Commandant on
7 the day before the date of the enactment of this sec-
8 tion.

9 “(2) PREVIOUS TRAINING RECIPIENTS.—A
10 Coast Guard flag officer or a Coast Guard Senior
11 Executive Service employee who, not more than 3
12 years before the date of the enactment of this sec-
13 tion, completed the training that was required by the
14 Commandant on the day before such date of enact-
15 ment, shall not be required to complete the training
16 required by this section.”.

17 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
18 ter 3 of title 14, United States Code, is amended—

19 (1) by striking the item relating to section 316
20 and inserting after the item relating to section 323
21 the following:

“324. Training for congressional affairs personnel.”.

22 (2) by inserting after the item relating to sec-
23 tion 315 the following:

“316. Training course on workings of Congress.”.

1 (c) SERVICES AND USE OF FUNDS FOR, AND LEAS-
2 ING OF, THE NATIONAL COAST GUARD MUSEUM.—Sec-
3 tion 324 of title 14, United States Code, as transferred
4 and redesignated by subsection (a), is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (b)—

6 (A) in paragraph (1) by striking “The Sec-
7 retary” and inserting “Except as provided in
8 paragraph (2), the Secretary”; and

9 (B) in paragraph (2) by striking “on the
10 engineering and design of a Museum.” and in-
11 sserting “on—”

12 “(A) the design of the Museum; and

13 “(B) engineering, construction administra-
14 tion, and quality assurance services for the Mu-
15 seum.”;

16 (2) in subsection (e), by amending paragraph
17 (2)(A) to read as follows:

18 “(2)(A) for the purpose of conducting Coast
19 Guard operations, lease from the Association—

20 “(i) the Museum; and

21 “(ii) any property owned by the Asso-
22 ciation that is adjacent to the railroad
23 tracks that are adjacent to the property on
24 which the Museum is located; and”;

1 (3) by amending subsection (g) to read as fol-
2 lows:

3 “(g) SERVICES.—With respect to the services related
4 to the construction, maintenance, and operation of the
5 Museum, the Commandant may, from nonprofits entities
6 including the Association,—

7 “(1) solicit and accept services; and

8 “(2) enter into contracts or memoranda of
9 agreement to acquire such services.”.

10 **SEC. 167. MODIFICATION OF DESIGNATION OF VICE ADMI-**
11 **RALS.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 305(a)(1) of title 14,
13 United States Code, is amended—

14 (1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A)
15 by striking “may” and inserting “shall”; and

16 (2) in subparagraph (A)(ii) by striking “be the
17 Chief of Staff of the Coast Guard” and inserting
18 “oversee personnel management, workforce and de-
19 pendent support, training, and related matters”.

20 (b) REORGANIZATION.—Chapter 3 of title 14, United
21 States Code, is further amended by redesignating sections
22 312 through 324 as sections 314 through 326, respec-
23 tively.

24 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
25 ter 3 of title 14, United States Code, is further amended

1 by redesignating the items relating to sections 312
2 through 324 as relating to sections 314 through 326, re-
3 spectively.

4 **SEC. 168. COMMANDANT ADVISORY JUDGE ADVOCATE.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 3 of title 14, United
6 States Code, is further amended by inserting after section
7 311 the following:

8 **“§ 312. Commandant Advisory Judge Advocate**

9 “There shall be in the Coast Guard a Commandant
10 Advisory Judge Advocate who is a judge advocate in a
11 grade of O–6. The Commandant Advisory Judge Advocate
12 shall be assigned to the staff of the Commandant in the
13 first regularly scheduled O–6 officer assignment panel to
14 convene following the date of the enactment of the Coast
15 Guard Authorization Act of 2024 and perform such duties
16 relating to legal matters arising in the Coast Guard as
17 such legal matters relate to the Commandant, as may be
18 assigned.”.

19 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
20 ter 3 of title 14, United States Code, is further amended
21 by inserting after the item relating to section 311 the fol-
22 lowing item:

“312. Commandant Advisory Judge Advocate.”.

1 **SEC. 169. SPECIAL ADVISOR TO COMMANDANT FOR TRIBAL**
2 **AND NATIVE HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 3 of title 14, United
4 States Code, is amended by inserting after section 312 the
5 following:

6 **“§ 313. Special Advisor to Commandant for Tribal**
7 **and Native Hawaiian Affairs**

8 “(a) IN GENERAL.—In accordance with Federal trust
9 responsibilities and treaty obligations, laws, and policies
10 relevant to Indian Tribes and in support of the principles
11 of self-determination, self-governance, and co-management
12 with respect to Indian Tribes, and to support engagement
13 with Native Hawaiians, there shall be in the Coast Guard
14 a Special Advisor to the Commandant for Tribal and Na-
15 tive Hawaiian Affairs (in this section referred to as the
16 ‘Special Advisor’), who shall—

17 “(1) be selected by the Secretary and the Com-
18 mandant through a competitive search process;

19 “(2) have expertise in Federal Indian law and
20 policy, including government-to-government con-
21 sultation;

22 “(3) to the maximum extent practicable, have
23 expertise in legal and policy issues affecting Native
24 Hawaiians; and

25 “(4) have an established record of distinguished
26 service and achievement working with Indian Tribes,

1 Tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organiza-
2 tions.

3 “(b) CAREER RESERVED POSITION.—The position of
4 Special Advisor shall be a career reserved position at the
5 GS–15 level or greater.

6 “(c) DUTIES.—The Special Advisor shall—

7 “(1) ensure the Federal government upholds
8 the Federal trust responsibility and conducts con-
9 sistent, meaningful, and timely government-to-gov-
10 ernment consultation and engagement with Indian
11 Tribes, which shall meet or exceed the standards of
12 the Federal Government and the Coast Guard;

13 “(2) ensure meaningful and timely engagement
14 with—

15 “(A) Native Hawaiian organizations; and

16 “(B) Tribal organizations;

17 “(3) advise the Commandant on all policies of
18 the Coast Guard that have Tribal implications in ac-
19 cordance with applicable law and policy, including
20 Executive Orders;

21 “(4) work to ensure that the policies of the
22 Federal Government regarding consultation and en-
23 gagement with Indian Tribes and engagement with
24 Native Hawaiian organizations and Tribal organiza-
25 tions are implemented in a meaningful manner,

1 working through Coast Guard leadership and across
2 the Coast Guard, together with—

3 “(A) liaisons located within Coast Guard
4 districts;

5 “(B) the Director of Coast Guard Govern-
6 mental and Public Affairs; and

7 “(C) other Coast Guard leadership and
8 programs and other Federal partners; and

9 “(5) support Indian Tribes, Native Hawaiian
10 organizations, and Tribal organizations in all mat-
11 ters under the jurisdiction of the Coast Guard.

12 “(d) DIRECT ACCESS TO SECRETARY AND COM-
13 MANDANT.—No officer or employee of the Coast Guard
14 or the Department of Homeland Security may interfere
15 with the ability of the Special Advisor to give direct and
16 independent advice to the Secretary and the Commandant
17 on matters related to this section.

18 “(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

19 “(1) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term ‘Indian Tribe’
20 has the meaning given such term in section 4 of the
21 Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance
22 Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

23 “(2) NATIVE HAWAIIAN ORGANIZATION.—The
24 term ‘Native Hawaiian organization’ has the mean-
25 ing given such term in section 6207 of the Elemen-

1 tary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20
2 U.S.C. 7517) except the term includes the Depart-
3 ment of Hawaiian Home Lands and the Office of
4 Hawaiian Affairs.

5 “(3) TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—The term ‘Tribal
6 organization’ has the meaning given the term in sec-
7 tion 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Edu-
8 cation Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).”.

9 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
10 ter 3 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by insert-
11 ing after the item relating to section 312 the following:

“313. Special Advisor to Commandant for Tribal and Native Hawaiian Af-
fairs.”.

12 (c) BRIEFINGS.—

13 (1) INITIAL BRIEFING.—Not later than 120
14 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the
15 Commandant shall brief the Committee on Com-
16 merce, Science, and Transportation and the Com-
17 mittee on Indian Affairs of the Senate and the Com-
18 mittee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the
19 House of Representatives on the manner in which
20 the Special Advisor for Tribal and Native Hawaiian
21 Affairs will be incorporated into the governance
22 structure of the Coast Guard, including a timeline
23 for the incorporation that is completed not later
24 than 1 year after date of enactment of this Act.

1 (2) ANNUAL BRIEFINGS ON SPECIAL ADVISOR
2 TO THE COMMANDANT FOR TRIBAL AND NATIVE HA-
3 WAIIAN AFFAIRS.—Not later than 1 year after the
4 date of the establishment of the position of the Spe-
5 cial Advisor to the Commandant for Tribal and Na-
6 tive Hawaiian Affairs under section 313 of title 14,
7 United States Code, and annually thereafter for 2
8 years, the Commandant shall provide the Committee
9 on Commerce, Science, and Technology and the
10 Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate and the
11 Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of
12 the House of Representatives with a briefing on the
13 duties, responsibilities, and actions of the Special
14 Advisor to the Commandant for Tribal and Native
15 Hawaiian Affairs, including management of best
16 practices.

17 (3) BRIEFING ON COLLABORATION WITH
18 TRIBES ON RESEARCH CONSISTENT WITH COAST
19 GUARD MISSION REQUIREMENTS.—

20 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year
21 after the date of enactment of this Act, the
22 Commandant shall provide the Committee on
23 Commerce, Science, and Technology and the
24 Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate and
25 the Committee on Transportation and Infra-

1 structure of the House of Representatives with
2 a briefing on potential collaborations on and re-
3 search and use of indigenous place-based knowl-
4 edge and research.

5 (B) ELEMENT.—In providing the briefing
6 under subparagraph (A), the Commandant shall
7 identify current and potential future opportuni-
8 ties to improve coordination with Indian Tribes,
9 Native Hawaiian organizations, and Tribal or-
10 ganizations to support—

11 (i) Coast Guard mission needs, such
12 as the potential for research or knowledge
13 to enhance maritime domain awareness, in-
14 cluding opportunities through the ADAC–
15 ARCTIC Center of Excellence of the De-
16 partment of Homeland Security; and

17 (ii) Coast Guard efforts to protect in-
18 digenous place-based knowledge and re-
19 search.

20 (4) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

21 (A) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term “Indian
22 Tribe” has the meaning given that term in sec-
23 tion 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and
24 Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

1 (B) NATIVE HAWAIIAN ORGANIZATION.—

2 The term “Native Hawaiian organization” has
3 the meaning given such term in section 6207 of
4 the Elementary and Secondary Education Act
5 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7517) except the term in-
6 cludes the Department of Hawaiian Home
7 Lands and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

8 (C) TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—The term

9 “Tribal organization” has the meaning given
10 the term in section 4 of the Indian Self-Deter-
11 mination and Education Assistance Act (25
12 U.S.C. 5304).

13 (d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
14 tion, or an amendment made by this section, shall be con-
15 strued to impact—

16 (1) the right of any Indian Tribe (as defined in
17 section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Edu-
18 cation Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304)); or

19 (2) any government-to-government consultation.

20 (e) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

21 (1) Section 11237 of the Don Young Coast
22 Guard Authorization Act of 2022 (Public Law 117–
23 263) is amended—

1 (A) in subsection (a), by striking “section
2 312 of title 14” and inserting “section 315 of
3 title 14”; and

4 (B) in subsection (b)(2)(A), by striking
5 “section 312 of title 14” and inserting “section
6 315 of title 14”.

7 (2) Section 807(a) of the Frank LoBiondo
8 Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2018 (Public Law
9 115–282) is amended by striking “section 313 of
10 title 14” and inserting “section 316 of title 14”.

11 (3) Section 3533(a) of the National Defense
12 Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law
13 118–31) is amended by striking “section 315 of title
14 14” and inserting “section 318 of title 14”.

15 (4) Section 311(j)(9)(D) of the Federal Water
16 Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1321(j)(9)(D)) is
17 amended by striking “section 323 of title 14” each
18 place it appears and inserting “section 325 of title
19 14” each such place.

20 **SEC. 170. NOTIFICATION.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant shall provide to
22 the appropriate committees of Congress notification as de-
23 scribed in subsection (b)—

24 (1) not later than the date that is 10 days be-
25 fore the final day of each fiscal year; or

1 (2) in the case of a continuing resolution that,
2 for a period of more than 10 days, provides appro-
3 priated funds in lieu of an appropriations Act, not
4 later than the date that is 10 days before the final
5 day of the period that such continuing resolution
6 covers.

7 (b) ELEMENTS.—Notification under subsection (a)
8 shall include—

9 (1) the status of funding for the Coast Guard
10 during the subsequent fiscal year or at the end of
11 the continuing resolution if other appropriations
12 measures are not enacted, as applicable;

13 (2) the status of the Coast Guard as a compo-
14 nent of the Armed Forces;

15 (3) the number of members currently serving
16 overseas and otherwise supporting missions related
17 to title 10, United States Code;

18 (4) the fact that members of the Armed Forces
19 have service requirements unlike those of other Fed-
20 eral employees, which require them to continue to
21 serve even if unpaid;

22 (5) the impacts of historical shutdowns of the
23 Federal Government on members of the Coast
24 Guard; and

1 (6) other relevant matters, as determined by
2 the Commandant.

3 (c) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DE-
4 FINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate commit-
5 tees of Congress” means—

6 (1) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and
7 Transportation of the Senate;

8 (2) the Committee on Armed Services of the
9 Senate;

10 (3) the Committee on Transportation and In-
11 frastructure of the House of Representatives; and

12 (4) the Committee on Armed Services of the
13 House of Representatives.

14 **Subtitle E—Coast Guard Academy**

15 **SEC. 171. MODIFICATION OF BOARD OF VISITORS.**

16 Section 1903 of title 14, United States Code, is
17 amended to read as follows:

18 **“§ 1903. Annual Board of Visitors**

19 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant shall establish
20 a Board of Visitors to the Coast Guard Academy to review
21 and make recommendations on the operation of the Acad-
22 emy.

23 “(b) MEMBERSHIP.—

24 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The membership of the
25 Board shall consist of the following:

1 “(A) The chairperson of the Committee on
2 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the
3 Senate, or a member of such Committee des-
4 ignated by such chairperson.

5 “(B) The chairperson of the Committee on
6 Transportation and Infrastructure of the House
7 of Representatives, or a member of such Com-
8 mittee designated by such chairperson.

9 “(C) 3 Senators appointed by the Vice
10 President.

11 “(D) 4 Members of the House of Rep-
12 resentatives appointed by the Speaker of the
13 House of Representatives.

14 “(E) 2 Senators appointed by the Vice
15 President, each of whom shall be selected from
16 among members of the Committee on Appro-
17 priations of the Senate.

18 “(F) 2 Members of the House of Rep-
19 resentatives appointed by the Speaker of the
20 House of Representatives, each of whom shall
21 be selected from among members of the Com-
22 mittee on Appropriations of the House of Rep-
23 resentatives.

24 “(G) 6 individuals designated by the Presi-
25 dent.

1 “(2) TIMING OF APPOINTMENTS OF MEM-
2 BERS.—

3 “(A) If any member of the Board de-
4 scribed in paragraph (1)(C) is not appointed by
5 the date that is 180 days after the date on
6 which the first session of each Congress con-
7 venes, the chair and ranking member of the
8 subcommittee of the Committee on Commerce,
9 Science, and Transportation of the Senate with
10 jurisdiction over the authorization of appropria-
11 tions of the Coast Guard shall be members of
12 the Board until the date on which the second
13 session of such Congress adjourns sine die.

14 “(B) If any member of the Board de-
15 scribed in paragraph (1)(D) is not appointed by
16 the date that is 180 days after the date on
17 which the first session of each Congress con-
18 venes, the chair and ranking member of the
19 subcommittee of the Committee on Transpor-
20 tation and Infrastructure of the House of Rep-
21 resentatives with jurisdiction over the author-
22 ization of appropriations for the Coast Guard
23 shall be members of the Board until the date on
24 which the second session of such Congress ad-
25 journs sine die.

1 “(C) If any member of the Board de-
2 scribed in paragraph (1)(E) is not appointed by
3 the date that is 180 days after the date on
4 which the first session of each Congress con-
5 venes, the chair and ranking member of the
6 subcommittee of the Committee on Appropria-
7 tions of the Senate with jurisdiction over appro-
8 priations for the Coast Guard shall be members
9 of the Board until the date on which the second
10 session of such Congress adjourns sine die.

11 “(D) If any member of the Board de-
12 scribed in paragraph (1)(F) is not appointed by
13 the date that is 180 days after the date on
14 which the first session of each Congress con-
15 venes, the chair and ranking member of the
16 subcommittee of the Committee on Appropria-
17 tions of the House of Representatives with ju-
18 risdiction over appropriations for the Coast
19 Guard shall be members of the Board until the
20 date on which the second session of such Con-
21 gress adjourns sine die.

22 “(3) CHAIRPERSON.—

23 “(A) IN GENERAL.—On a biennial basis
24 and subject to paragraph (4), the Board shall
25 select from among the members of the Board a

1 Member of Congress to serve as the Chair of
2 the Board.

3 “(B) ROTATION.—A Member of the House
4 of Representatives and a Member of the Senate
5 shall alternately be selected as the Chair of the
6 Board.

7 “(C) TERM.—An individual may not serve
8 as Chairperson of the Board for consecutive
9 terms.

10 “(4) LENGTH OF SERVICE.—

11 “(A) MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.—A Member
12 of Congress designated as a member of the
13 Board under paragraph (1) shall be designated
14 as a member in the first session of the applica-
15 ble Congress and shall serve for the duration of
16 such Congress.

17 “(B) INDIVIDUALS DESIGNATED BY THE
18 PRESIDENT.—Each individual designated by the
19 President under paragraph (1)(G) shall serve as
20 a member of the Board for 3 years, except that
21 any such member whose term of office has ex-
22 pired shall continue to serve until a successor is
23 appointed by the President.

24 “(C) DEATH OR RESIGNATION OF A MEM-
25 BER.—If a member of the Board dies or re-

1 signs, a successor shall be designated for any
2 unexpired portion of the term of the member by
3 the official who designated the member.

4 “(c) DUTIES.—

5 “(1) ACADEMY VISITS.—

6 “(A) ANNUAL VISIT.—The Commandant
7 shall invite each member of the Board, and any
8 designee of a member of the Board, to visit the
9 Coast Guard Academy at least once annually to
10 review the operation of the Academy.

11 “(B) ADDITIONAL VISITS.—With the ap-
12 proval of the Secretary, the Board or any mem-
13 bers of the Board in connection with the duties
14 of the Board may—

15 “(i) make visits to the Academy in ad-
16 dition to the visits described in subpara-
17 graph (A); or

18 “(ii) consult with—

19 “(I) the Superintendent of the
20 Academy; or

21 “(II) the faculty, staff, or cadets
22 of the Academy.

23 “(C) ACCESS.—The Commandant shall en-
24 sure that the Board or any members of the
25 Board who visits the Academy under this para-

1 graph is provided reasonable access to the
2 grounds, facilities, cadets, faculty, staff, and
3 other personnel of the Academy for the purpose
4 of carrying out the duties of the Board.

5 “(2) OVERSIGHT REVIEW.—In conducting over-
6 sight of the Academy under this section, the Board
7 shall review, with respect to the Academy—

8 “(A) the state of morale and discipline, in-
9 cluding with respect to prevention of, response
10 to, and recovery from sexual assault and sexual
11 harassment;

12 “(B) recruitment and retention, including
13 diversity, inclusion, and issues regarding women
14 specifically;

15 “(C) the curriculum;

16 “(D) instruction;

17 “(E) physical equipment, including infra-
18 structure, living quarters, and deferred mainte-
19 nance;

20 “(F) fiscal affairs; and

21 “(G) any other matter relating to the
22 Academy the Board considers appropriate.

23 “(d) ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS.—

24 “(1) MEETINGS.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not less frequently
2 than annually, the Board shall meet at a loca-
3 tion chosen by the Commandant, in consulta-
4 tion with the Board, to conduct the review re-
5 quired by subsection (c)(2).

6 “(B) CHAIRPERSON AND CHARTER.—The
7 Federal officer designated under subsection
8 (f)(1)(B) shall organize a meeting of the Board
9 for the purposes of—

10 “(i) selecting a Chairperson of the
11 Board under subsection (b)(3);

12 “(ii) adopting an official charter for
13 the Board, which shall establish the sched-
14 ule of meetings of the Board; and

15 “(iii) any other matter such des-
16 igned Federal officer or the Board con-
17 siders appropriate.

18 “(C) SCHEDULING.—In scheduling a meet-
19 ing of the Board, such designated Federal offi-
20 cer shall coordinate, to the greatest extent prac-
21 ticable, with the members of the Board to de-
22 termine the date and time of the meeting.

23 “(D) NOTIFICATION.—Not less than 30
24 days before each scheduled meeting of the
25 Board, such designated Federal officer shall no-

1 tify each member of the Board of the time,
2 date, and location of the meeting.

3 “(2) STAFF.—

4 “(A) DESIGNATION.—The chairperson and
5 the ranking member of the Committee on Com-
6 merce, Science, and Transportation of the Sen-
7 ate and the chairperson and the ranking mem-
8 ber of the Committee on Transportation and
9 Infrastructure of the House of Representatives
10 may each designate 1 staff member of each
11 such Committees.

12 “(B) ROLE.—Staff designated under sub-
13 paragraph (A)—

14 “(i) may attend and participate in vis-
15 its and carry out consultations described
16 under subsection (c)(1) and attend and
17 participate in meetings described under
18 paragraph (1); and

19 “(ii) may not otherwise carry out du-
20 ties or take actions reserved to members of
21 the Board under this section.

22 “(3) ADVISORS.—If approved by the Secretary,
23 the Board may consult with advisors in carrying out
24 the duties of the Board under this section.

25 “(4) REPORTS.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60
2 days after the date on which the Board con-
3 ducts a meeting of the Board under paragraph
4 (1), the Deputy Commandant for Mission Sup-
5 port, in consultation with the Board, shall sub-
6 mit a report on the actions of the Board during
7 the meeting and the recommendations of the
8 Board pertaining to the Academy to—

9 “(i) the Secretary;

10 “(ii) the Committee on Commerce,
11 Science, and Transportation and the Com-
12 mittee on Armed Services of the Senate;
13 and

14 “(iii) the Committee on Transpor-
15 tation and Infrastructure and the Com-
16 mittee on Armed Services of the House of
17 Representatives.

18 “(B) PUBLICATION.—Each report sub-
19 mitted under this paragraph shall be published
20 on a publicly accessible website of the Coast
21 Guard.

22 “(e) DISCLOSURE.—The Commandant and the Su-
23 perintendent of the Academy shall ensure candid and com-
24 plete disclosure to the Board, consistent with applicable

1 laws relating to disclosure of information, with respect
2 to—

3 “(1) each issue described in subsection (c)(2);

4 and

5 “(2) any other issue the Board or the Com-
6 mandant considers appropriate.

7 “(f) COAST GUARD SUPPORT.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant shall—

9 “(A) provide support to the Board, as
10 Board considers necessary for the performance
11 of the duties of the Board;

12 “(B) designate a Federal officer to support
13 the performance of the duties of the Board; and

14 “(C) in cooperation with the Super-
15 intendent of the Academy, advise the Board of
16 any institutional issues, consistent with applica-
17 ble laws concerning the disclosure of informa-
18 tion.

19 “(2) REIMBURSEMENT.—Each member of the
20 Board and each advisor consulted by the Board
21 under subsection (d)(3) shall be reimbursed, to the
22 extent permitted by law, by the Coast Guard for ac-
23 tual expenses incurred while engaged in duties as a
24 member or advisor.

1 “(g) NOTIFICATION.—Not later than 30 days after
2 the date on which the first session of each Congress con-
3 venes, the Commandant shall provide to the chairperson
4 and ranking member of the Committee on Commerce,
5 Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the chair-
6 person and ranking member of the Committee on Trans-
7 portation and Infrastructure of the House of Representa-
8 tives, and the President notification of the requirements
9 of this section.”.

10 **SEC. 172. STUDY ON COAST GUARD ACADEMY OVERSIGHT.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the
12 date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant, shall
13 enter into an agreement with a federally funded research
14 and development center with relevant expertise under
15 which such center shall conduct an assessment of the over-
16 sight and governance of the Coast Guard Academy, includ-
17 ing—

18 (1) examining the—

19 (A) authorities regarding Coast Guard and
20 Departmental oversight of the Coast Guard
21 Academy, including considerations of how these
22 may impact accreditation review at the acad-
23 emy;

24 (B) roles and responsibilities of the Board
25 of Trustees of such Academy;

1 (C) Coast Guard roles and responsibilities
2 with respect to management and facilitation of
3 the Board of Trustees of such Academy;

4 (D) advisory functions of the Board of
5 Trustees of such Academy; and

6 (E) membership of the Board of Trustees
7 for the 10-year period preceding the date of the
8 enactment of this Act, to include expertise, ob-
9 jectiveness, and effectiveness in conducting
10 oversight of such Academy; and

11 (2) an analysis of the involvement of the Board
12 of Trustees during the Operation Fouled Anchor in-
13 vestigation, including to what extent the Board
14 members were informed, involved, or made decisions
15 regarding the governance of the academy based on
16 that investigation.

17 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date
18 on which the Commandant enters into an agreement
19 under subsection (a), the federally funded research and
20 development center selected under such subsection shall
21 submit to the Secretary of the department in which the
22 Coast Guard is operating, the Commandant, the Com-
23 mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the
24 Senate, and the Committee on Transportation and Infra-

1 structure of the House of Representatives a report that
2 contains—

3 (1) the results of the assessment required under
4 subsection (a); and

5 (2) recommendations to improve governance of
6 the Coast Guard Academy and the Board of Trust-
7 ees.

8 **SEC. 173. ELECTRONIC LOCKING MECHANISMS TO ENSURE**
9 **COAST GUARD ACADEMY CADET ROOM SECU-**
10 **RITY.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the
12 date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant, in con-
13 sultation with the Superintendent of the Coast Guard
14 Academy (referred to in this section as the “Super-
15 intendent”), shall—

16 (1) install an electronic locking mechanism for
17 each room at the Coast Guard Academy within
18 which 1 or more Coast Guard Academy cadets reside
19 overnight;

20 (2) test each such mechanism not less than
21 once every 6 months for proper function and main-
22 tained in proper working order; and

23 (3) use a system that electronically records the
24 date, time, and identity of each individual who ac-
25 cesses a cadet room using an electronic access token,

1 code, card, or other electronic means, which shall be
2 maintained in accordance with the general schedule
3 for records retention, or a period of five years,
4 whichever is later.

5 (b) ELECTRONIC LOCKING MECHANISMS.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—Each electronic locking
7 mechanism described in subsection (a) shall be coded
8 in a manner that provides access to a room de-
9 scribed in such subsection only to—

10 (A) the 1 or more cadets assigned to the
11 room; and

12 (B) such Coast Guard Academy officers,
13 administrators, staff, or security personnel, in-
14 cluding personnel of the Coast Guard Investiga-
15 tive Service, as are necessary to access the
16 room in the event of an emergency.

17 (2) EXISTING MECHANISMS.—Not later than 30
18 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Su-
19 perintendent shall ensure that electronic locking
20 mechanisms installed in academic buildings of the
21 Coast Guard Academy, Chase Hall common spaces,
22 and in any other location at the Coast Guard Acad-
23 emy are maintained in proper working order.

24 (c) ACCESS POLICY INSTRUCTION.—Not later than
25 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Super-

1 intendent shall promulgate a policy regarding cadet room
2 security policies and procedures, which shall include, at
3 a minimum—

4 (1) a prohibition on sharing with any other
5 cadet, employee, or other individual electronic access
6 tokens, codes, cards, or other electronic means of ac-
7 cessing a cadet room;

8 (2) procedures for resetting electronic locking
9 mechanisms in the event of a lost, stolen, or other-
10 wise compromised electronic access token, code,
11 card, or other electronic means of accessing a cadet
12 room;

13 (3) procedures to maintain the identity of each
14 individual who accesses a cadet room using an elec-
15 tronic access token, code, card, or other electronic
16 means, while ensuring the security of personally
17 identifiable information and protecting the privacy of
18 any such individual, as appropriate;

19 (4) procedures by which cadets may report to
20 the chain of command the malfunction of an elec-
21 tronic locking mechanism; and

22 (5) a schedule of testing to ensure the proper
23 functioning of electronic locking mechanisms.

24 (d) MINIMUM TRAINING REQUIREMENTS.—The Su-
25 perintendent shall ensure that each Coast Guard Academy

1 cadet receives, not later than 1 day after the date of the
2 initial arrival of the cadet at the Coast Guard Academy,
3 an initial training session, and any other training the Su-
4 perintendent considers necessary, on—

5 (1) the use of electronic locking mechanisms in-
6 stalled under this section; and

7 (2) the policy promulgated under subsection (c).

8 **SEC. 174. COAST GUARD ACADEMY STUDENT ADVISORY**
9 **BOARD AND ACCESS TO TIMELY AND INDE-**
10 **PENDENT WELLNESS SUPPORT SERVICES**
11 **FOR CADETS AND CANDIDATES.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of Chapter 19 of
13 title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the
14 end the following:

15 **“§ 1907. Coast Guard Academy Student and Women**
16 **Advisory Board**

17 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Commandant shall es-
18 tablish within the Coast Guard Academy an advisory
19 board to be known as the ‘Coast Guard Academy Student
20 and Women Advisory Board’ (in this section referred to
21 as the ‘Advisory Board’).

22 “(b) MEMBERSHIP.—The Advisory Board shall be
23 composed of not fewer than 12 cadets of the Coast Guard
24 Academy who are enrolled at the Coast Guard Academy

1 at the time of appointment, including not fewer than 3
2 cadets from each class.

3 “(c) APPOINTMENT.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Cadets shall be appointed
5 to the Advisory Board by the Provost, in consulta-
6 tion with the Superintendent of the Coast Guard
7 Academy.

8 “(2) APPLICATION.—Cadets who are eligible for
9 appointment to the Advisory Board shall submit an
10 application for appointment to the Provost of the
11 Coast Guard Academy, or a designee of the Provost,
12 for consideration.

13 “(d) SELECTION.—The Provost shall select eligible
14 applicants who—

15 “(1) are best suited to fulfill the duties de-
16 scribed in subsection (g); and

17 “(2) best represent the student body makeup at
18 the Coast Guard Academy.

19 “(e) TERM.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Appointments shall be
21 made not later than 60 days after the date of the
22 swearing in of a new class of cadets at the Coast
23 Guard Academy.

1 “(2) TERM.—The term of membership of a
2 cadet on the Advisory Board shall be 1 academic
3 year.

4 “(f) MEETINGS.—The Advisory Board shall meet in
5 person with the Superintendent not less frequently than
6 twice each academic year to discuss the activities of the
7 Advisory Board.

8 “(g) DUTIES.—The Advisory Board shall—

9 “(1) identify challenges facing Coast Guard
10 Academy cadets, including cadets who are women,
11 relating to—

12 “(A) health and wellbeing;

13 “(B) cadet perspectives and information
14 with respect to sexual assault, sexual harass-
15 ment and sexual violence prevention, response,
16 and recovery at the Coast Guard Academy;

17 “(C) the culture of, and leadership devel-
18 opment and access to health care for, cadets at
19 the Academy who are women; and

20 “(D) any other matter the Advisory Board
21 considers important;

22 “(2) discuss and propose possible solutions to
23 such challenges, including improvements to leader-
24 ship development at the Coast Guard Academy; and

1 “(3) periodically review the efficacy of Coast
2 Guard Academy academic, wellness, and other rel-
3 evant programs and provide recommendations to the
4 Commandant for improvement of such programs.

5 “(h) WORKING GROUPS.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Advisory Board shall
7 establish 2 working groups of which—

8 “(A) 1 working group shall be composed,
9 at least in part, of Coast Guard Academy ca-
10 dets who are not current members of the Advi-
11 sory Board and members of the Cadets Against
12 Sexual Assault, or any similar successor organi-
13 zation, to assist the Advisory Board in carrying
14 out its duties under subsection (g)(1)(B); and

15 “(B) 1 working group shall be composed,
16 at least in part, of Coast Guard Academy ca-
17 dets who are not current members of the Advi-
18 sory Board to assist the Advisory Board in car-
19 rying out its duties under subsection (g)(1)(C).

20 “(2) OTHER WORKING GROUPS.—The Advisory
21 Board may establish such other working groups
22 (which may be composed, at least in part, of Coast
23 Guard Academy cadets who are not current mem-
24 bers of the Advisory Board) as the Advisory Board
25 finds to be necessary to carry out the Board’s duties

1 other than the duties in subparagraphs (B) and (C)
2 of subsection (g)(1).

3 “(i) REPORTING.—

4 “(1) COMMANDANT AND SUPERINTENDENT.—

5 The Advisory Board shall regularly submit a report
6 or provide a briefing to the Commandant and the
7 Superintendent on the results of the activities car-
8 ried out in furtherance of the duties of the Advisory
9 Board under subsection (g), including recommenda-
10 tions for actions to be taken based on such results,
11 not less than once per academic semester.

12 “(2) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Advisory Board
13 shall transmit to the Commandant, through the Pro-
14 vost and the Superintendent an annual report at the
15 conclusion of the academic year, containing the in-
16 formation and materials that were presented to the
17 Commandant or Superintendent, or both, during the
18 regularly occurring briefings under paragraph (1).

19 “(3) CONGRESS.—The Commandant shall pro-
20 vide to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and
21 Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on
22 Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of
23 Representatives any report or other materials pro-
24 vided to the Commandant and Superintendent under

1 paragraph (1) and any other information related to
2 the Advisory requested by the Committees.”.

3 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
4 ter 19 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by in-
5 serting after the item relating to section 1906 the fol-
6 lowing:

“1907. Coast Guard Academy Student and Women Advisory Board.”.

7 **SEC. 175. REPORT ON EXISTING BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND**
8 **WELLNESS SUPPORT SERVICES FACILITIES**
9 **AT COAST GUARD ACADEMY.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the
11 date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant, shall sub-
12 mit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Trans-
13 portation of the Senate and the Committee on Transpor-
14 tation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives
15 a report on existing behavioral health and wellness support
16 services facilities at the Coast Guard Academy in which
17 Coast Guard Academy cadets and officer candidates, re-
18 spectively, may receive timely and independent behavioral
19 health and wellness support services, including via tele-
20 medicine.

21 (b) ELEMENTS.—The report required under para-
22 graph (1) shall include—

23 (1) an identification of each building at the
24 Coast Guard Academy that contains a dormitory or

1 other overnight accommodations for cadets or officer
2 candidates; and

3 (2)(A) an identification of additional behavioral
4 health or wellness support services that would be
5 beneficial to cadets and officer candidates, such as
6 additional facilities with secure access to telemedi-
7 cine;

8 (B) a description of the benefits that such
9 services would provide to cadets and officer can-
10 didates, particularly to cadets and officer can-
11 didates who have experienced sexual assault or
12 sexual harassment; and

13 (C) a description of the resources nec-
14 essary to provide such services.

15 **SEC. 176. REQUIRED POSTING OF INFORMATION.**

16 The Commandant shall ensure that, in each building
17 at the Coast Guard Academy that contains a dormitory
18 or other overnight accommodations for cadets or officer
19 candidates, written information is posted in a visible loca-
20 tion with respect to—

21 (1) the methods and means by which a cadet or
22 officer candidate may report a crime, including har-
23 assment, sexual assault, sexual harassment, and any
24 other offense;

1 (2) the contact information for the Coast Guard
2 Investigative Service;

3 (3) external resources for—

4 (A) wellness support;

5 (B) work-life;

6 (C) medical services; and

7 (D) support relating to behavioral health,
8 civil rights, sexual assault, and sexual harass-
9 ment; and

10 (4) cadet and officer candidate rights with re-
11 spect to reporting incidents to the Coast Guard In-
12 vestigative Service, civilian authorities, the Office of
13 the Inspector General of the department in which
14 the Coast Guard is operating, and any other applica-
15 ble entity.

16 **SEC. 177. INSTALLATION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND**
17 **WELLNESS ROOMS.**

18 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 2 years after the
19 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the depart-
20 ment in which the Coast Guard is operating shall install
21 or construct at the Coast Guard Academy 2 rooms to be
22 used for the purpose of supporting cadet and officer can-
23 didate behavioral health and wellness.

24 (b) **STANDARDS OF ROOMS.**—Each room installed or
25 constructed under this section—

1 (1) shall be—

2 (A) equipped—

3 (i) in a manner that ensures the pro-
4 tection of the privacy of cadets and officer
5 candidates, consistent with law and policy;

6 (ii) with a telephone and computer to
7 allow for the provision of behavioral health
8 and wellness support or other services; and

9 (iii) with an accessible and private
10 wireless internet connection for the use of
11 personal communications devices at the
12 discretion of the cadet or officer candidate
13 concerned; and

14 (B) to the extent practicable and con-
15 sistent with good order and discipline, acces-
16 sible to cadets and officer candidates at all
17 times; and

18 (2) shall contain the written information de-
19 scribed in section 176, which shall be posted in a
20 visible location.

21 **SEC. 178. COAST GUARD ACADEMY ROOM REASSIGNMENT.**

22 Section 1902 of title 14, United States Code, is
23 amended by adding at the end the following:

24 “(f) ROOM REASSIGNMENT.—Coast Guard Academy
25 cadets may request room reassignment if experiencing dis-

1 comfort due to Coast Guard Academy rooming assign-
2 ments, consistent with policy.”.

3 **SEC. 179. AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF COAST GUARD**
4 **ACADEMY FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT BY**
5 **COVERED FOUNDATIONS.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 19 of title
7 14, United States Code, is further amended by adding at
8 the end the following:

9 **“§ 1908. Authorization for use of Coast Guard Acad-**
10 **emy facilities and equipment by covered**
11 **foundations**

12 “(a) AUTHORITY.—Subject to subsections (b) and
13 (c), the Secretary, with the concurrence of the Super-
14 intendent of the Coast Guard Academy, may authorize a
15 covered foundation to use, on a reimbursable or nonreim-
16 bursable basis as determined by the Secretary, facilities
17 or equipment of the Coast Guard Academy.

18 “(b) PROHIBITION.—The Secretary may not author-
19 ize any use of facilities or equipment under subsection (a)
20 if such use may jeopardize the health, safety, or well-being
21 of any member of the Coast Guard or cadet of the Coast
22 Guard Academy.

23 “(c) LIMITATIONS.—The Secretary may only author-
24 ize the use of facilities or equipment under subsection (a)
25 if such use—

1 “(1) is without any liability of the United
2 States to the covered foundation;

3 “(2) does not—

4 “(A) affect the ability of any official or
5 employee of the Coast Guard, or any member of
6 the armed forces, to carry out any responsibility
7 or duty in a fair and objective manner;

8 “(B) compromise the integrity or appear-
9 ance of integrity of any program of the Coast
10 Guard, or any individual involved in any such
11 program; or

12 “(C) include the participation of any cadet
13 of the Coast Guard Academy at an event of the
14 covered foundation, other than participation of
15 such a cadet in an honor guard;

16 “(3) complies with any applicable ethics regula-
17 tion; and

18 “(4) has been reviewed and approved by an at-
19 torney of the Coast Guard.

20 “(d) ISSUANCE OF POLICIES.—The Secretary shall
21 issue Coast Guard policies to carry out this section.

22 “(e) BRIEFING.—For any fiscal year in which the
23 Secretary exercises the authority under subsection (a), not
24 later than the last day of such fiscal year, the Com-
25 mandant shall provide a briefing to the Committee on

1 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and
2 the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of
3 the House of Representatives on the number of events or
4 activities of a covered foundation supported by such exer-
5 cise of authority during the fiscal year.

6 “(f) COVERED FOUNDATION DEFINED.—In this sec-
7 tion, the term ‘covered foundation’ means an organization
8 that—

9 “(1) is a charitable, educational, or civic non-
10 profit organization under section 501(c)(3) of the
11 Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and

12 “(2) the Secretary determines operates exclu-
13 sively to support—

14 “(A) recruiting activities with respect to
15 the Coast Guard Academy;

16 “(B) parent or alumni development in sup-
17 port of the Coast Guard Academy;

18 “(C) academic, leadership, or character de-
19 velopment of Coast Guard Academy cadets;

20 “(D) institutional development of the
21 Coast Guard Academy; or

22 “(E) athletics in support of the Coast
23 Guard Academy.”

24 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
25 ter 19 of title 14, United States Code, is further amended

1 by inserting after the item relating to item 1907 the fol-
2 lowing:

“1908. Authorization for use of Coast Guard Academy facilities and equipment
by covered foundations.”.

3 **SEC. 180. CONCURRENT JURISDICTION AT COAST GUARD**
4 **ACADEMY.**

5 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Sec-
6 retary of the department in which the Coast Guard is op-
7 erating may establish concurrent jurisdiction between the
8 Federal Government and the State of Connecticut over the
9 lands constituting the Coast Guard Academy in New Lon-
10 don, Connecticut, as necessary to facilitate the ability of
11 the State of Connecticut and City of New London to inves-
12 tigate and prosecute any crimes cognizable under Con-
13 necticut law that are committed on such Coast Guard
14 Academy property.

15 **Subtitle F—Reports**

16 **SEC. 181. MARITIME DOMAIN AWARENESS IN COAST GUARD**
17 **SECTOR FOR PUERTO RICO AND VIRGIN IS-**
18 **LANDS.**

19 Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment
20 of this Act, the Commandant shall submit to the Com-
21 mittee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House
22 of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce,
23 Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report con-
24 taining—

1 (1) an overview of the maritime domain aware-
2 ness in the area of responsibility of the Coast Guard
3 sector responsible for Puerto Rico and the United
4 States Virgin Islands, including—

5 (A) the average volume of known maritime
6 traffic that transited the area during fiscal
7 years 2020 through 2023;

8 (B) current sensor platforms deployed by
9 such sector to monitor illicit activity occurring
10 at sea in such area;

11 (C) the number of illicit activity incidents
12 at sea in such area that the sector responded to
13 during fiscal years 2020 through 2023;

14 (D) an estimate of the volume of traffic
15 engaged in illicit activity at sea in such area
16 and the type and description of any vessels used
17 to carry out illicit activities that such sector re-
18 sponded to during fiscal years 2020 through
19 2023; and

20 (E) the maritime domain awareness re-
21 quirements to effectively meet the mission of
22 such sector;

23 (2) a description of current actions taken by the
24 Coast Guard to partner with Federal, regional,

1 State, and local entities to meet the maritime do-
2 main awareness needs of such area;

3 (3) a description of any gaps in maritime do-
4 main awareness within the area of responsibility of
5 such sector resulting from an inability to meet the
6 enduring maritime domain awareness requirements
7 of the sector or adequately respond to maritime dis-
8 order;

9 (4) an identification of current technology and
10 assets the Coast Guard has to mitigate the gaps
11 identified in paragraph (3);

12 (5) an identification of capabilities needed to
13 mitigate such gaps, including any capabilities the
14 Coast Guard currently possesses that can be de-
15 ployed to the sector;

16 (6) an identification of technology and assets
17 the Coast Guard does not currently possess and are
18 needed to acquire in order to address such gaps; and

19 (7) an identification of any financial obstacles
20 that prevent the Coast Guard from deploying exist-
21 ing commercially available sensor technology to ad-
22 dress such gaps.

1 **SEC. 182. REPORT ON CONDITION OF MISSOURI RIVER**
2 **DAYBOARDS.**

3 (a) PROVISION TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 270
4 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Com-
5 mandant shall submit to the Committee on Transportation
6 and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and
7 the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
8 of the Senate a report on the condition of dayboards and
9 the placement of buoys on the Missouri River.

10 (b) ELEMENTS.—The report under paragraph (1)
11 shall include—

12 (1) a list of the most recent date on which each
13 dayboard and buoy was serviced by the Coast Guard;

14 (2) an overview of the plan of the Coast Guard
15 to systematically service each dayboard and buoy on
16 the Missouri River; and

17 (3) assigned points of contact.

18 (c) LIMITATION.—Beginning on the date of enact-
19 ment of this Act, the Commandant may not remove the
20 aids to navigation covered in subsection (a), unless there
21 is an imminent threat to life or safety, until a period of
22 180 days has elapsed following the date on which the Com-
23 mandant submits the report required under subsection (a).

24 **SEC. 183. STUDY ON COAST GUARD MISSIONS.**

25 (a) STUDY.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after
2 the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant
3 shall seek to enter into an agreement with a feder-
4 ally funded research and development center with
5 relevant expertise under which such center shall con-
6 duct an assessment of the operational capabilities
7 and ability of the Coast Guard to conduct the pri-
8 mary duties of the Coast Guard under section 102
9 of title 14, United States Code, and missions under
10 section 888 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002
11 (6 U.S.C. 468).

12 (2) ELEMENTS.—In carrying out the assess-
13 ment required under paragraph (1), the federally
14 funded research and development center selected
15 under such subsection shall, with respect to the pri-
16 mary duties and missions described in paragraph
17 (1), include the following:

18 (A) An analysis of the extent to which the
19 Coast Guard is able to effectively carry out
20 such duties and missions.

21 (B) An analysis of any budgetary, policy,
22 and manpower factors that may constrain the
23 Coast Guard’s ability to carry out such duties
24 and missions,

1 (C) An analysis of the impacts to safety,
2 national security, and the economy, of any
3 shortfalls in the Coast Guards ability to meet
4 such missions.

5 (D) Recommendations for the Coast Guard
6 to more effectively carry out such duties and
7 missions, in light of manpower and asset con-
8 straints.

9 (E) Identification of any duties and mis-
10 sions that are being conducted by the Coast
11 Guard on behalf of other Department of Home-
12 land Security components, the Department of
13 Defense, and other Federal agencies.

14 (F) An analysis of the benefits and draw-
15 backs of the Coast Guard conducting missions
16 on behalf of other agencies identified in sub-
17 paragraph (E), including—

18 (i) the budgetary impact of the duties
19 and missions identified in such subpara-
20 graph;

21 (ii) data on the degree to which the
22 Coast Guard is reimbursed for the costs of
23 such missions; and

24 (iii) recommendations to minimize the
25 impact of the missions identified in such

1 subparagraph to the Coast Guard budget,
2 including improving reimbursements and
3 budget autonomy of the Coast Guard.

4 (b) ASSESSMENT TO COMMANDANT.—Not later than
5 1 year after the date on which Commandant enters into
6 an agreement under section (a), the federally funded re-
7 search and development center selected under such sub-
8 section shall submit to the Commandant, the Committee
9 on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of
10 Representatives, and the Committee on Commerce,
11 Science, and Transportation of the Senate the assessment
12 required under subsection (a).

13 (c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after
15 receipt of the assessment under subsection (b), the
16 Commandant shall submit to the Committee on
17 Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of
18 Representatives and the Committee on Commerce,
19 Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report
20 that includes recommendations included in the as-
21 sessment to strengthen the ability of the Coast
22 Guard to carry out such duties and missions.

23 (2) ELEMENTS.—The report required under
24 paragraph (1) shall include the following:

1 (A) The assessment received by the Com-
2 mandant under subsection (b).

3 (B) For each recommendation included in
4 the such assessment—

5 (i) an assessment by the Commandant
6 of the feasibility and advisability of imple-
7 menting such recommendation; and

8 (ii) if the Commandant considers the
9 implementation of such recommendation
10 feasible and advisable, a description of the
11 actions taken, or to be taken, to implement
12 such recommendation.

13 **SEC. 184. ANNUAL REPORT ON PROGRESS OF CERTAIN**
14 **HOMEPORTING PROJECTS.**

15 (a) INITIAL REPORT.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after
17 the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant
18 shall issue a report detailing the progress of all ap-
19 proved Coast Guard cutter homeporting projects
20 within Coast Guard District 17 with respect to each
21 of the following:

22 (A) Fast Response Cutters.

23 (B) Offshore Patrol Cutters.

24 (C) The commercially available polar ice-
25 breaker procured pursuant to section 11223 of

1 Don Young Coast Guard Authorization Act of
2 2022 (14 U.S.C. 561 note).

3 (2) ELEMENTS.—The report required under
4 paragraph (1) shall include, with respect to each
5 homeporting project described in such paragraph,
6 the following:

7 (A) A description of—

8 (i) the status of funds appropriated
9 for the project;

10 (ii) activities carried out toward com-
11 pletion of the project; and

12 (iii) activities anticipated to be carried
13 out during the subsequent 1-year period to
14 advance completion of the project.

15 (B) An updated timeline, including key
16 milestones, for the project.

17 (b) SUBSEQUENT REPORTS.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than July 1 of the
19 first calendar year after the year in which the report
20 required under subsection (a) is submitted, and each
21 July 1 thereafter until the date specified in para-
22 graph (2), the Commandant shall issue an updated
23 report containing, with respect to each Coast Guard
24 cutter homeporting project described in subsection
25 (a)(1) (including any such project approved on a

1 date after the date of the enactment of this Act and
2 before the submission of the applicable report), each
3 element described in subsection (a)(2).

4 (2) DATE SPECIFIED.—The date specified in
5 this paragraph is the earlier of—

6 (A) July 2, 2031; or

7 (B) the date on which all projects de-
8 scribed in subsection (a)(1) are completed.

9 (c) REPORT ON CAPACITY OF COAST GUARD BASE
10 KETCHIKAN.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after
12 the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant
13 shall complete a report detailing the cost of and time
14 frame for expanding the industrial capacity of Coast
15 Guard Base Ketchikan to do out of water repairs on
16 Fast Response Cutters.

17 (2) REPORT.—Not later than 120 days after
18 the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant
19 shall submit to the Committee on Transportation
20 and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives
21 and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and
22 Transportation of the Senate the report required
23 under paragraph (1).

1 (d) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The Commandant shall
2 publish each report issued under this section on a publicly
3 accessible website of the Coast Guard.

4 (e) HOMEPORTING PROJECT DEFINED.—In this sec-
5 tion, the term “homeporting project”—

6 (1) means the facility infrastructure modifica-
7 tions, upgrades, new construction, and real property
8 and land acquisition associated with homeporting
9 new or modified cutters; and

10 (2) includes shoreside and waterfront facilities,
11 cutter maintenance facilities, housing, child develop-
12 ment facilities, and any other associated infrastruc-
13 ture directly required as a result of homeporting new
14 or modified cutters.

15 **SEC. 185. REPORT ON BAY CLASS ICEBREAKING TUG FLEET**
16 **REPLACEMENT.**

17 Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment
18 of this Act, the Commandant shall submit to the Com-
19 mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the
20 Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infra-
21 structure of the House of Representatives—

22 (1) a report that describes the strategy of the
23 Coast Guard with respect to the replacement of the
24 Bay class icebreaking tug fleet;

1 (2) in the case of such a strategy that results
2 in the replacement of the last Bay class icebreaking
3 tug on a date that is more than 15 years after such
4 date of enactment, a plan to maintain the oper-
5 ational capabilities of the Bay class icebreaking tug
6 fleet until the date on which such fleet is projected
7 to be replaced; and

8 (3) in the case of such a plan that does not in-
9 clude the replacement of the main propulsion en-
10 gines and marine gear components of the Bay class
11 icebreaking tug fleet, an assessment of the manner
12 in which not replacing such engines and gear compo-
13 nents will effect the future operational availability of
14 such fleet.

15 **SEC. 186. FEASIBILITY STUDY ON SUPPORTING ADDI-**
16 **TIONAL PORT VISITS AND DEPLOYMENTS IN**
17 **SUPPORT OF OPERATION BLUE PACIFIC.**

18 Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment
19 of this Act, the Secretary of the department in which the
20 Coast Guard is operating when not operating as a service
21 in the Navy, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense,
22 shall—

23 (1) complete a study on the feasibility and ad-
24 visability of supporting additional Coast Guard port
25 visits and deployments in support of Operation Blue

1 Pacific, or any successor operation oriented toward
2 Oceania; and

3 (2) submit to the Committee on Armed Services
4 and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and
5 Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on
6 Armed Services and the Committee on Transpor-
7 tation and Infrastructure of the House of Represent-
8 atives a report on the findings of such study.

9 **SEC. 187. STUDY AND GAP ANALYSIS WITH RESPECT TO**
10 **COAST GUARD AIR STATION CORPUS CHRISTI**
11 **AVIATION HANGAR.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
13 date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant shall com-
14 mence a study and gap analysis with respect to the avia-
15 tion hangar at Coast Guard Air Station Corpus Christi
16 and the capacity of such hangar to accommodate the air-
17 craft currently assigned to Coast Guard Air Station Cor-
18 pus Christi and any aircraft anticipated to be so assigned
19 in the future.

20 (b) ELEMENTS.—The study and gap analysis re-
21 quired by subsection (a) shall include the following:

22 (1) An identification of hangar infrastructure
23 requirements needed—

1 (A) to meet mission requirements for all
2 aircraft currently assigned to Coast Guard Air
3 Station Corpus Christi; and

4 (B) to accommodate the assignment of an
5 additional HC-144 Ocean Sentry aircraft to
6 Coast Guard Air Station Corpus Christi.

7 (2) An assessment as to whether the aviation
8 hangar at Coast Guard Air Station Corpus Christi
9 is sufficient to accommodate all rotary-wing assets
10 assigned to Coast Guard Air Station Corpus Christi.

11 (3) In the case of an assessment that such
12 hangar is insufficient to accommodate all such ro-
13 tary-wing assets, a description of the facility modi-
14 fications that would be required to do so.

15 (4) An assessment of the facility modifications
16 of such hangar that would be required to accommo-
17 date all aircraft assigned to Coast Guard Air Station
18 Corpus Christi upon completion of the transition
19 from the MH-65 rotary-wing aircraft to the MH-
20 60T rotary-wing aircraft.

21 (5) An evaluation with respect to which fixed-
22 wing assets assigned to Coast Guard Air Station
23 Corpus Christi should be enclosed in such hangar so
24 as to most effectively mitigate the effects of corro-
25 sion while meeting mission requirements.

1 muting, on permanent change of station travel, or on other
2 official travel to or from locations served by ferry systems.

3 (b) ELEMENTS.—The report required under sub-
4 section (a) shall include an analysis of the impacts on such
5 members of the Coast Guard of the following policies
6 under the Joint Travel Regulations:

7 (1) The one-vehicle shipping policy.

8 (2) The unavailability of reimbursement of
9 costs incurred by such members due to ferry sched-
10 ule unavailability, sailing cancellations, and other
11 sailing delays during commuting, permanent change
12 of station travel, or other official travel.

13 (3) The unavailability of local infrastructure to
14 support vehicles or goods shipped to duty stations in
15 locations outside the contiguous United States that
16 are not connected by the road system, including lo-
17 cations served by the Alaska Marine Highway Sys-
18 tem.

19 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

20 (1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CON-
21 GRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Con-
22 gress” means—

23 (A) the Committee on Armed Services and
24 the Committee on Commerce, Science, and
25 Transportation of the Senate; and

1 (B) the Committee on Armed Services and
2 the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Mari-
3 time Transportation of the Committee on
4 Transportation and Infrastructure of the House
5 of Representatives.

6 (2) JOINT TRAVEL REGULATIONS.—The term
7 “Joint Travel Regulations”, with respect to official
8 travel, means the terms, rates, conditions, and regu-
9 lations maintained under section 464 of title 37,
10 United States Code.

11 **SEC. 189. REPORT ON JUNIOR RESERVE OFFICERS’ TRAIN-**
12 **ING CORPS PROGRAM.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the
14 date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant shall sub-
15 mit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Trans-
16 portation of the Senate and the Committee on Transpor-
17 tation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives
18 a report on the Junior Reserve Officers’ Training Corps
19 program.

20 (b) ELEMENTS.—The report required under sub-
21 section (a) shall include the following:

22 (1) A description of the standards and criteria
23 prescribed by the Coast Guard for educational insti-
24 tution participation in the Coast Guard Junior Re-
25 serve Officers’ Training Corps program.

1 (2) With respect to each educational institution
2 offering a Coast Guard Junior Reserve Officers'
3 Training Corps program—

4 (A) a description of—

5 (i) the training and course of military
6 instruction provided to students;

7 (ii) the facilities and drill areas used
8 for the program;

9 (iii) the type and amount of Coast
10 Guard Junior Reserve Officers' Training
11 Corps program resources provided by the
12 Coast Guard;

13 (iv) the type and amount of Coast
14 Guard Junior Reserve Officers' Training
15 Corps program resources provided by the
16 educational institution; and

17 (v) any other matter relating to pro-
18 gram requirements the Commandant con-
19 siders appropriate;

20 (B) an assessment as to whether the edu-
21 cational institution is located in an education-
22 ally and economically deprived area (as de-
23 scribed in section 2031 of title 10, United
24 States Code);

1 (C) beginning with the year in which the
2 program was established at the educational in-
3 stitution, the number of students who have par-
4 ticipated in the program, disaggregated by gen-
5 der, race, and grade of student participants;
6 and

7 (D) an assessment of the participants in
8 the program, including—

9 (i) the performance of the participants
10 in the program;

11 (ii) the number of participants in the
12 program who express an intent to pursue
13 a commission or enlistment in the Coast
14 Guard; and

15 (iii) a description of any other factor
16 or matter considered by the Commandant
17 to be important in assessing the success of
18 program participants at the educational in-
19 stitution.

20 (3) With respect to any unit of the Coast Guard
21 Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps suspended
22 or placed on probation pursuant to section 2031(h)
23 of title 10, United States Code—

24 (A) a description of the unit;

1 (B) the reason for such suspension or
2 placement on probation;

3 (C) the year the unit was so suspended or
4 placed on probation; and

5 (D) with respect to any unit that was rein-
6 stated after previously being suspended or
7 placed on probation, a justification for the rein-
8 statement of such unit.

9 (4) A description of the resources and personnel
10 required to maintain, implement, and provide over-
11 sight for the Coast Guard Junior Reserve Officers'
12 Training Corps program at each participating edu-
13 cational institution and within the Coast Guard, in-
14 cluding the funding provided to each such edu-
15 cational institution, disaggregated by educational in-
16 stitution and year.

17 (5) A recommendation with respect to—

18 (A) whether the number of educational in-
19 stitutions participating in the Coast Guard Jun-
20 ior Reserve Officers' Training Corps program
21 should be increased; and

22 (B) in the case of a recommendation that
23 such number should be increased, additional
24 recommendations relating to such an increase,
25 including—

1 (i) the number of additional edu-
2 cational institutions that should be in-
3 cluded in the program;

4 (ii) the locations of such institutions;

5 (iii) any additional authorities or re-
6 sources necessary for such an increase; and

7 (iv) any other matter the Com-
8 mandant considers appropriate.

9 (6) Any other matter the Commandant con-
10 siders necessary in order to provide a full assess-
11 ment of the effectiveness of the Coast Guard Junior
12 Reserve Officers' Training Corps program.

13 **SEC. 190. REPORTS ON UNITED STATES COLLABORATION**
14 **WITH SHIPYARDS OF CANADA AND FINLAND.**

15 (a) COMMANDANT REPORT ON ICEBREAKER COL-
16 LABORATION EFFORT.—Not later than 1 year after the
17 date of the enactment of this Act, the Commandant shall
18 submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and
19 Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on
20 Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Rep-
21 resentatives a report that analyzes the shipyards of Can-
22 ada and Finland to assess future opportunities for collabo-
23 ration on the construction of Coast Guard polar ice-
24 breakers, including the expansion of data and information
25 sharing, workforce development, operational testing and

1 evaluation, and other mechanisms that could support the
2 Coast Guard in fulfilling its future mission needs in the
3 Arctic and Antarctic, consistent with United States law.

4 (b) COMPTROLLER GENERAL STUDY AND REPORT
5 ON INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION ON SHIPBUILDING
6 AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT.—

7 (1) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the
8 United States shall conduct a study on the manner
9 in which the Coast Guard could use expertise avail-
10 able at shipyards located in Canada and Finland for
11 the purpose of polar icebreaker design and construc-
12 tion in the United States.

13 (2) ELEMENTS.—The study required by para-
14 graph (1) shall consider the following:

15 (A) Best practices and methods for en-
16 hanced information exchange among the United
17 States, Canada, and Finland regarding manu-
18 facturing processes for polar shipbuilding.

19 (B) Best practices for international col-
20 laboration on workforce development and train-
21 ing.

22 (C) Other best practices applicable to the
23 goals of the Icebreaker Collaboration Effort tri-
24 lateral partnership.

1 (3) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the
2 date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller
3 General shall submit to the Committee on Com-
4 merce, Science, and Transportation and the Com-
5 mittee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the
6 Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
7 and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House
8 of Representatives a report on the results of the
9 study conducted under paragraph (1).

10 (4) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—Nothing in this section
11 shall be construed as waiving the requirements of
12 section 1151 of title 14, United States Code.

13 **TITLE II—SHIPPING AND**
14 **NAVIGATION**
15 **Subtitle A—Merchant Mariner**
16 **Credentials**

17 **SEC. 201. MERCHANT MARINER CREDENTIALING.**

18 (a) REVISING MERCHANT MARINER DECK TRAINING
19 REQUIREMENTS.—

20 (1) GENERAL DEFINITIONS.—Section 2101 of
21 title 46, United States Code, is amended—

22 (A) by redesignating paragraphs (20)
23 through (56) as paragraphs (21), (22), (24),
24 (25), (26), (27), (28), (29), (30), (31), (32),
25 (33), (34), (35), (36), (37), (38), (39), (40),

1 (41), (42), (43), (44), (45), (46), (47), (48),
2 (49), (50), (51), (52), (53), (54), (55), (56),
3 (57), and (58), respectively; and

4 (B) by inserting after paragraph (19) the
5 following:

6 “(20) ‘merchant mariner credential’ means a
7 merchant mariner license, certificate, or document
8 that the Secretary is authorized to issue pursuant to
9 this title.”; and

10 (C) by inserting after paragraph (22), as
11 so redesignated, the following:

12 “(23) ‘nautical school program’ means a pro-
13 gram that—

14 “(A) offers a comprehensive program of
15 training that includes substantial sea service on
16 nautical school vessels or merchant vessels of
17 the United States primarily to train individuals
18 for service in the merchant marine; and

19 “(B) is approved by the Secretary for pur-
20 poses of section 7315, in accordance with regu-
21 lations promulgated by the Secretary.”.

22 (2) EXAMINATIONS.—Section 7116 of title 46,
23 United States Code, is amended by striking sub-
24 section (c).

25 (3) MERCHANT MARINERS DOCUMENTS.—

1 (A) GENERAL REQUIREMENTS.—Section
2 7306 of title 46, United States Code, is amend-
3 ed to read as follows:

4 **“§ 7306. General requirements and classifications for**
5 **members of deck departments**

6 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may issue a mer-
7 chant mariner credential, to members of the deck depart-
8 ment in the following classes:

9 “(1) Able Seaman-Unlimited.

10 “(2) Able Seaman-Limited.

11 “(3) Able Seaman-Special.

12 “(4) Able Seaman-Offshore Supply Vessels.

13 “(5) Able Seaman-Sail.

14 “(6) Able Seaman-Fishing Industry.

15 “(7) Ordinary Seaman.

16 “(b) CLASSIFICATION OF CREDENTIALS.—The Sec-
17 retary may classify the merchant mariner credential issued
18 under subsection (a) based on—

19 “(1) the tonnage and means of propulsion of
20 vessels;

21 “(2) the waters on which vessels are to be oper-
22 ated; or

23 “(3) other appropriate standards.

1 “(c) QUALIFICATIONS.—To qualify for a credential
2 under this section, an applicant shall provide satisfactory
3 proof that the applicant—

4 “(1) is at least 18 years of age;

5 “(2) has the service required by the applicable
6 section of this part;

7 “(3) is qualified professionally as demonstrated
8 by an applicable examination or educational require-
9 ments;

10 “(4) is qualified as to sight, hearing, and phys-
11 ical condition to perform the seafarer’s duties; and

12 “(5) has satisfied any additional requirements
13 established by the Secretary, including career pat-
14 terns and service appropriate to the particular serv-
15 ice, industry, or job functions the individual is en-
16 gaged.”.

17 (B) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary of
18 the department in which the Coast Guard is op-
19 erating shall implement the requirements under
20 subsection (c) of section 7306 of title 46,
21 United States Code (as amended by this sec-
22 tion), without regard to chapters 5 and 6 of
23 title 5, United States Code, and Executive Or-
24 ders 12866 and 13563 (5 U.S.C. 601 note).

1 (C) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis
2 for chapter 73 of title 46, United States Code,
3 is amended by striking the item relating to sec-
4 tion 7306 and inserting the following:

“7306. General requirements and classifications for members of deck depart-
ments.”.

5 (b) GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERS OF
6 ENGINE DEPARTMENTS.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 7313 of title 46,
8 United States Code, is amended—

9 (A) in subsection (b) by striking “and coal
10 passer”; and

11 (B) by striking subsection (c) and insert-
12 ing the following:

13 “(c) CLASSIFICATION OF CREDENTIALS.—The Sec-
14 retary may classify the merchant mariner credential issued
15 under subsection (a) based on—

16 “(1) the tonnage and means of propulsion of
17 vessels;

18 “(2) the waters on which vessels are to be oper-
19 ated; or

20 “(3) other appropriate standards.

21 “(d) QUALIFICATIONS.—To qualify for an credential
22 under this section, an applicant shall provide satisfactory
23 proof that the applicant—

24 “(1) is at least 18 years of age;

1 “(2) has a minimum of 6-months service in the
2 related entry rating;

3 “(3) is qualified professionally as demonstrated
4 by an applicable examination or educational require-
5 ments; and

6 “(4) is qualified as to sight, hearing, and phys-
7 ical condition to perform the member’s duties.”.

8 (2) REPEAL.—Section 7314 of title 46, United
9 States Code, and the item relating to such section
10 in the analysis for chapter 73 of such title, are re-
11 pealed.

12 (c) TRAINING.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 7315 of title 46,
14 United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

15 **“§ 7315. Training**

16 “(a) NAUTICAL SCHOOL PROGRAM.—Graduation
17 from a nautical school program may be substituted for the
18 sea service requirements under sections 7307 through
19 7311a and 7313 of this title.

20 “(b) OTHER APPROVED TRAINING PROGRAMS.—The
21 satisfactory completion of a training program approved by
22 the Secretary may be substituted for not more than one-
23 half of the sea service requirements under sections 7307
24 through 7311a and 7313 of this title in accordance with
25 subsection (c).

1 “(c) TRAINING DAYS.—For purposes of subsection
2 (b), training days undertaken in connection with training
3 programs approved by the Secretary may be substituted
4 for days of required sea service under sections 7307
5 through 7311a and 7313 of this title as follows:

6 “(1) Each shore-based training day in the form
7 of classroom lectures may be substituted for 2 days
8 of sea service requirements.

9 “(2) Each training day of laboratory training,
10 practical demonstrations, and other similar training,
11 may be substituted for 4 days of sea service require-
12 ments.

13 “(3) Each training day of full mission simulator
14 training may be substituted for 6 days of sea service
15 requirements.

16 “(4) Each training day underway on a vessel
17 while enrolled in an approved training program may
18 be substituted for 1½ days of sea service require-
19 ments, as long as—

20 “(A) the structured training provided while
21 underway on a vessel is—

22 “(i) acceptable to the Secretary as
23 part of the approved training program; and

24 “(ii) fully completed by the individual;

25 and

1 “(B) the tonnage of such vessel is appro-
2 priate to the endorsement being sought.

3 “(d) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘training
4 day’ means a day that consists of not less than 7 hours
5 of training.”.

6 (2) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary of the
7 department in which the Coast Guard is operating
8 shall implement the requirements of section 7315 of
9 title 46, United States Code, as amended by this
10 subsection, without regard to chapters 5 and 6 of
11 title 5, United States Code, and Executive Orders
12 12866 and 13563 (5 U.S.C. 601 note) and 14094
13 (88 Fed. Reg. 21879).

14 (3) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMEND-
15 MENTS.—

16 (A) TITLE 46.—Title 46, United States
17 Code, is amended—

18 (i) in section 2113(3) by striking
19 “section 2101(53)(A)” and inserting “sec-
20 tion 2101(55)(A)”;

21 (ii) in section 3202(a)(1)(A) by strik-
22 ing “section 2101(29)(A)” and inserting
23 “section 2101(31)(A)”;

1 (iii) in section 3507(k)(1) by striking
2 “section 2101(31)” and inserting “section
3 2101(33)”;

4 (iv) in section 4105(d) by striking
5 “section 2101(53)(A)” and inserting “sec-
6 tion 2101(55)(A)”;

7 (v) in section 12119(a)(3) by striking
8 “section 2101(26)” and inserting “section
9 2101(28)”;

10 (vi) in section 51706(c)(6)(C)(ii) by
11 striking “section 2101(24)” and inserting
12 “section 2101(26)”.

13 (B) OTHER LAWS.—

14 (i) Section 3(3) of the Magnuson-Ste-
15 vens Fishery Conservation and Manage-
16 ment Act (16 U.S.C. 1802(3)) is amended
17 by striking “2101(30) of title 46” and in-
18 serting “2101 of title 46”.

19 (ii) Section 1992(d)(7) of title 18,
20 United States Code, is amended by strik-
21 ing “section 2101(31) of title 46” and in-
22 serting “section 2101 of title 46”.

23 (iii) Section 311(a)(26)(D) of the
24 Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33
25 U.S.C. 1321(a)(26)(D)) is amended by

1 striking “section 2101(23)” and inserting
2 “section 2101”.

3 (iv) Section 1101 of title 49, United
4 States Code, is amended by striking “Sec-
5 tion 2101(23)” and inserting “Section
6 2101(24)”.

7 (d) AMENDMENTS.—

8 (1) MERCHANT MARINER CREDENTIALS.—The
9 heading for part E of subtitle II of title 46, United
10 States Code, is amended by striking “**MERCHANT**
11 **SEAMEN LICENSES, CERTIFICATES, AND DOCU-**
12 **MENTS**” and inserting “**MERCHANT MARINER**
13 **CREDENTIALS**”.

14 (2) ABLE SEAFARERS—UNLIMITED.—

15 (A) IN GENERAL.—The section heading for
16 section 7307 of title 46, United States Code, is
17 amended by striking “**seamen**” and inserting
18 “**seafarers**”.

19 (B) REDUCTION OF LENGTH OF CERTAIN
20 PERIOD OF SERVICE.—Section 7307 of title 46,
21 United States Code, is amended by striking “3
22 years” and inserting “18 months”.

23 (C) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis
24 for chapter 73 of title 46, United States Code,
25 is further amended in the item relating to sec-

1 tion 7307 by striking “seamen” and inserting
2 “seafarers”.

3 (3) ABLE SEAMEN—LIMITED.—

4 (A) IN GENERAL.—The section heading for
5 section 7308 of title 46, United States Code, is
6 amended by striking “**seamen**” and inserting
7 “**seafarers**”.

8 (B) REDUCTION OF LENGTH OF CERTAIN
9 PERIOD OF SERVICE.—Section 7308 of title 46,
10 United States Code, is amended by striking “18
11 months” and inserting “12 months”.

12 (C) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis
13 for chapter 73 of title 46, United States Code,
14 is further amended in the item relating to sec-
15 tion 7308 by striking “seamen” and inserting
16 “seafarers”.

17 (4) ABLE SEAFARERS—SPECIAL.—

18 (A) IN GENERAL.—The section heading for
19 section 7309 of title 46, United States Code, is
20 amended by striking “**seamen**” and inserting
21 “**seafarers**”.

22 (B) REDUCTION OF LENGTH OF CERTAIN
23 PERIOD OF SERVICE.—Section 7309 of title 46,
24 United States Code, is amended by striking “12
25 months” and inserting “6 months”.

1 (C) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis
2 for chapter 73 of title 46, United States Code,
3 is further amended in the item relating to sec-
4 tion 7309 by striking “seamen” and inserting
5 “seafarers”.

6 (5) ABLE SEAFARERS—OFFSHORE SUPPLY VES-
7 SELS.—

8 (A) IN GENERAL.—The section heading for
9 section 7310 of title 46, United States Code, is
10 amended by striking “**seamen**” and inserting
11 “**seafarers**”.

12 (B) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis
13 for chapter 73 of title 46, United States Code,
14 is further amended in the item relating to sec-
15 tion 7310 by striking “seamen” and inserting
16 “seafarers”.

17 (6) ABLE SEAFARERS—SAIL.—

18 (A) IN GENERAL.—The section heading for
19 section 7311 of title 46, United States Code, is
20 amended by striking “**seamen**” and inserting
21 “**seafarers**”.

22 (B) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis
23 for chapter 73 of title 46, United States Code,
24 is further amended in the item relating to sec-

1 tion 7311 by striking “seamen” and inserting
2 “seafarers”.

3 (7) ABLE SEAMEN—FISHING INDUSTRY.—

4 (A) IN GENERAL.—The section heading for
5 section 7311a of title 46, United States Code,
6 is amended by striking “**seamen**” and insert-
7 ing “**seafarers**”.

8 (B) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis
9 for chapter 73 of title 46, United States Code,
10 is further amended in the item relating to sec-
11 tion 7311a by striking “seamen” and inserting
12 “seafarers”.

13 (8) PARTS E AND F.—Parts E and F of subtitle
14 II of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

15 (A) by striking “seaman” and inserting
16 “seafarer” each place it appears; and

17 (B) by striking “seamen” and inserting
18 “seafarers” each place it appears.

19 (9) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—The analysis for
20 subtitle II of title 46, United States Code, is amend-
21 ed in the item relating to part E by striking “**MER-**
22 **CHANT SEAMEN LICENSES, CERTIFICATES, AND**
23 **DOCUMENTS**” and inserting “**MERCHANT MAR-**
24 **INER CREDENTIALS**”.

1 (ii) by inserting “or noncitizen nation-
2 als (as such term is described in section
3 308 of the Immigration and Nationality
4 Act (8 U.S.C. 1408))” after “citizens”.

5 (B) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis
6 for chapter 71 of title 46, United States Code,
7 is amended by striking the item relating to sec-
8 tion 7102 and inserting the following:

“7102. Citizenship or noncitizen nationality.”.

9 (2) CITIZENSHIP OR NONCITIZEN NATIONALITY
10 NOTATION ON MERCHANT MARINERS’ DOCU-
11 MENTS.—

12 (A) IN GENERAL.—Section 7304 of title
13 46, United States Code, is amended—

14 (i) in the section heading by inserting
15 “**or noncitizen nationality**” after
16 “**Citizenship**”; and

17 (ii) by inserting “or noncitizen na-
18 tional (as such term is described in section
19 308 of the Immigration and Nationality
20 Act (8 U.S.C. 1408))” after “citizen”.

21 (B) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis
22 for chapter 73 of title 46, United States Code,
23 is amended by striking the item relating to sec-
24 tion 7304 and inserting the following:

“7304. Citizenship or noncitizen nationality notation on merchant mariners’ documents.”.

1 (3) CITIZENSHIP OR NONCITIZEN NATION-
2 ALITY.—

3 (A) IN GENERAL.—Section 8103 of title
4 46, United States Code, is amended—

5 (i) in the section heading by inserting
6 **“or noncitizen nationality”** after
7 **“Citizenship”**;

8 (ii) in subsection (a) by inserting “or
9 noncitizen national” after “citizen”;

10 (iii) in subsection (b)—

11 (I) in paragraph (1)(A)(i) by in-
12 serting “or noncitizen national” after
13 “citizen”;

14 (II) in paragraph (3) by inserting
15 “or noncitizen nationality” after “citi-
16 zenship”; and

17 (III) in paragraph (3)(C) by in-
18 serting “or noncitizen nationals” after
19 “citizens”;

20 (iv) in subsection (c) by inserting “or
21 noncitizen nationals” after “citizens”;

22 (v) in subsection (d)—

1 (I) in paragraph (1) by inserting
2 “or noncitizen nationals” after “citi-
3 zens”; and

4 (II) in paragraph (2) by inserting
5 “or noncitizen national” after “cit-
6 izen” each place it appears;

7 (vi) in subsection (e) by inserting “or
8 noncitizen national” after “citizen” each
9 place it appears;

10 (vii) in subsection (i)(1)(A) by insert-
11 ing “or noncitizen national” after “cit-
12 izen”;

13 (viii) in subsection (k)(1)(A) by in-
14 serting “or noncitizen national” after “cit-
15 izen”; and

16 (ix) by adding at the end the fol-
17 lowing:

18 “(l) NONCITIZEN NATIONAL DEFINED.—In this sec-
19 tion, the term ‘noncitizen national’ means an individual
20 described in section 308 of the Immigration and Nation-
21 ality Act (8 U.S.C. 1408).”.

22 (B) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis
23 for chapter 81 of title 46, United States Code,
24 is amended by striking the item relating to sec-
25 tion 8103 and inserting the following:

“8103. Citizenship or noncitizen nationality and Navy Reserve requirements.”.

1 **“§ 7512. Requirements of electronic merchant mar-**
2 **iner credentialing system**

3 “(a) DEFINITION OF MERCHANT MARINER CREDEN-
4 TIAL.—In this section, the term ‘merchant mariner cre-
5 dential’ means a merchant mariner license, certificate, or
6 document that the Secretary is authorized to issue pursu-
7 ant to this title.

8 “(b) NECESSARY CONSIDERATIONS.—In imple-
9 menting any electronic merchant mariner credentialing
10 system for purposes of this chapter, the Secretary shall
11 consider how to allow, to the maximum extent prac-
12 ticable—

13 “(1) the electronic submission of the compo-
14 nents of merchant mariner credential applications
15 (such as sea service documentation, professional
16 qualifications, course completion certificates, safety
17 and suitability documents, and medical records) and
18 course approval requests;

19 “(2) the direct electronic and secure submission
20 of—

21 “(A) sea service verification documentation
22 from employers;

23 “(B) course completion certificates from
24 training providers; and

25 “(C) necessary documentation from other
26 stakeholders; and

1 “(3) the electronic processing and evaluation of
2 information for the issuance of merchant mariner
3 credentials and course approvals, including the capa-
4 bility for the Secretary to complete remote evalua-
5 tion of information submitted through the system.

6 “(c) ACCESS TO DATA.—The Secretary shall ensure
7 that the Maritime Administration and other Federal agen-
8 cies, as authorized by the Secretary, have access to
9 anonymized and aggregated data from the electronic sys-
10 tem described in subsection (b) and that such data in-
11 clude, at a minimum—

12 “(1) the total amount of sea service for individ-
13 uals with a valid merchant mariner credential;

14 “(2) the number of mariners with valid mer-
15 chant mariner credentials for each rating, including
16 the capability to filter data based on credential en-
17 dorsements;

18 “(3) demographic information including age,
19 gender, and region or address;

20 “(4) the estimated times for the Coast Guard
21 to process merchant mariner credential applications,
22 mariner medical certificates, and course approvals;

23 “(5) the number of providers approved to pro-
24 vide training for purposes of this part and, for each
25 such training provider, the number of classes taken

1 by individuals with, or applying for, a merchant
2 mariner credential; and

3 “(6) if applicable, the branch of the uniformed
4 services (as defined in section 101(a) of title 10) and
5 duty status of applicants for a merchant mariner
6 credential.

7 “(d) PRIVACY REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall
8 collect the information required under subsection (b) in
9 a manner that protects the privacy rights of individuals
10 who are the subjects of such information.”.

11 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
12 ter 75 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by add-
13 ing at the end the following:

“7512. Requirements of electronic merchant mariner credentialing system.”.

14 **Subtitle B—Vessel Safety**

15 **SEC. 211. GROSSLY NEGLIGENT OPERATIONS OF A VESSEL.**

16 Section 2302(b) of title 46, United States Code, is
17 amended to read as follows:

18 “(b) GROSSLY NEGLIGENT OPERATION.—

19 “(1) MISDEMEANOR.—A person operating a
20 vessel in a grossly negligent manner that endangers
21 the life, limb, or property of a person commits a
22 class A misdemeanor.

23 “(2) FELONY.—A person operating a vessel in
24 a grossly negligent manner that results in serious

1 bodily injury, as defined in section 1365(h)(3) of
2 title 18—

3 “(A) commits a class E felony; and

4 “(B) may be assessed a civil penalty of not
5 more than \$35,000.”.

6 **SEC. 212. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE FOR SECURITY**
7 **RISKS.**

8 (a) SECURITY RISK.—Section 7702(d)(1) of title 46,
9 United States Code, is amended—

10 (1) in subparagraph (B) by redesignating
11 clauses (i) through (iv) as subclauses (I) through
12 (IV), respectively (and by conforming the margins
13 accordingly);

14 (2) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) and
15 (B) as clauses (i) and (ii), respectively (and by con-
16 forming the margins accordingly);

17 (3) by striking “an individual if—” and insert-
18 ing the following: “an individual—

19 “(A) if—”;

20 (4) in subparagraph (A)(ii)(IV), as so redesignig-
21 nated, by striking the period at the end and insert-
22 ing “; or”; and

23 (5) by adding at the end the following:

24 “(B) if there is probable cause to believe that
25 the individual has violated company policy and is a

1 security risk that poses a threat to other individuals
2 on the vessel.”.

3 (b) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—Section 2101(47)(B)
4 of title 46, United States Code (as so redesignated), is
5 amended by striking “; and” and inserting “; or”.

6 **SEC. 213. STUDY OF AMPHIBIOUS VESSELS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant shall conduct
8 a study to determine the applicability of current safety
9 regulations that apply to commercial amphibious vessels.

10 (b) ELEMENTS.—The study required under sub-
11 section (a) shall include the following:

12 (1) An overview and analysis that identifies
13 safety regulations that apply to commercial amphib-
14 ious vessels;

15 (2) An evaluation of whether safety gaps and
16 risks exist associated with the application of regula-
17 tions identified in subsection (b)(1) to the operation
18 of commercial amphibious vessels;

19 (3) An evaluation of whether aspects of the reg-
20 ulations established in section 11502 of the James
21 M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for
22 Fiscal Year 2023 (46 U.S.C. 3306 note) should
23 apply to amphibious commercial vessels; and

1 (4) Recommendations on whether potential reg-
2 ulations that should apply to commercial amphibious
3 vessels.

4 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date
5 of the enactment of this Act, the Commandant shall sub-
6 mit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastruc-
7 ture of the House of Representatives and the Committee
8 on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate
9 a report containing the findings, conclusions, and rec-
10 ommendations from the study required under subsection
11 (a).

12 (d) DEFINITION OF AMPHIBIOUS VESSEL.—In this
13 section, the term “amphibious vessel” means a vessel
14 which is operating as a small passenger vessel in waters
15 subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, as defined
16 in section 2.38 of title 33, Code of Federal Regulations
17 (or a successor regulation) and is operating as a motor
18 vehicle as defined in section 216 of the Clean Air Act (42
19 U.S.C. 7550) that is not a DUKW amphibious passenger
20 vessel as defined in section 11502 of the James M. Inhofe
21 National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023
22 (46 U.S.C. 3306 note).

1 **SEC. 214. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN EXAMINATION SCHED-**
2 **ULE.**

3 (a) AMENDMENTS.—Section 3714 of title 46, United
4 States Code, is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (a)(1) by striking “The Sec-
6 retary” and inserting “Except as provided in sub-
7 section (c), the Secretary”;

8 (2) by redesignating subsection (c) as sub-
9 section (d); and

10 (3) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-
11 lowing:

12 “(c) PERFORMANCE-DRIVEN EXAMINATION SCHED-
13 ULE.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—With respect to examina-
15 tions of foreign vessels to which this chapter applies,
16 and subject to paragraph (3), the Secretary may
17 adopt a performance-driven examination schedule to
18 which such vessels are to be examined and the fre-
19 quency with which such examinations occur, includ-
20 ing the frequency of examinations for each vessel.
21 Such schedule shall be consistent with the Sec-
22 retary’s assessment of the safety performance of
23 such vessels, including each vessel participating in
24 the performance-driven examination schedule, in ac-
25 cordance with paragraph (2).

1 “(i) data from relevant vessel quality
2 assurance and risk assessment programs
3 including Quality Shipping for the 21st
4 Century (QUALSHIP 21);

5 “(ii) data from industry inspection re-
6 gimes;

7 “(iii) data from vessel self assess-
8 ments submitted to the International Mari-
9 time Organization or other maritime orga-
10 nizations; and

11 “(iv) other safety relevant data or in-
12 formation as determined by the Secretary.

13 “(3) ELIGIBILITY.—In developing an examina-
14 tion schedule under paragraph (1), the Secretary
15 shall not consider a vessel eligible to take part in a
16 performance-driven examination schedule under
17 paragraph (1) if, within the last 36 months, the ves-
18 sel has—

19 “(A) been detained by the Coast Guard;

20 “(B) a record of a violation issued by the
21 Coast Guard against the owners or operators
22 with a finding of proved; or

23 “(C) suffered a marine casualty that, as
24 determined by the Secretary, involves the safe

1 operation of the vessel and overall performance
2 of the vessel.

3 “(4) RESTRICTIONS.—The Secretary may not
4 adopt a performance-driven examination schedule
5 under paragraph (1) until the Secretary has—

6 “(A) conducted the assessment rec-
7 ommended in the Government Accountability
8 Office report submitted under section 8254(a)
9 of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National
10 Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021
11 (Public Law 116–283);

12 “(B) concluded through such assessment
13 that a performance-driven examination schedule
14 provides not less than the level of safety pro-
15 vided by the annual examinations required
16 under subsection (a)(1); and

17 “(C) provided the results of such assess-
18 ment to the Committee on Commerce, Science,
19 and Transportation of the Senate and the Com-
20 mittee on Transportation and Infrastructure of
21 the House of Representatives.”.

22 (b) CAREER INCENTIVE PAY FOR MARINE INSPEC-
23 TORS.—Subsection (a) of section 11237 of the James M.
24 Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year
25 2023 (Public Law 117–263) is amended as follows:

1 “(a) AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE ASSIGNMENT PAY OR
2 SPECIAL DUTY PAY.—For the purposes of addressing an
3 identified shortage of marine inspectors, the Secretary
4 may provide assignment pay or special duty pay under sec-
5 tion 352 of title 37, United States Code, to a member of
6 the Coast Guard serving in a prevention position that—

7 “(1) is assigned in support of or is serving as
8 a marine inspector pursuant to section 312 of title
9 14, United States Code; and

10 “(2) is assigned to a billet that is difficult to fill
11 due to geographic location, requisite experience or
12 certifications, or lack of sufficient candidates, as de-
13 termined by the Commandant, in an effort to ad-
14 dress inspector workforce gaps.”.

15 (c) BRIEFING.—Not later than 6 months after the
16 date of enactment of this Act, and annually for 2 years
17 after the implementation of a performance-driven exam-
18 ination schedule program under section 3714(c) of title
19 46, United States Code, the Commandant shall brief the
20 Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of
21 the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and In-
22 frastructure of the House of Representatives on—

23 (1) the status of utilizing the performance-driv-
24 en examination schedule program, including the
25 quantity of examinations conducted and duration be-

1 tween examinations for each individual vessel exam-
2 ined under the performance-driven examination
3 schedule;

4 (2) an overview of the size of the Coast Guard
5 marine inspector workforce, including any personnel
6 shortages assessed by the Coast Guard, for inspec-
7 tors that conduct inspections under section 3714 of
8 such title; and

9 (3) recommendations for the inspection, govern-
10 ance, or oversight of vessels inspected under section
11 3714 of such title.

12 **SEC. 215. PORTS AND WATERWAYS SAFETY.**

13 (a) WATERFRONT SAFETY.—Section 70011(a) of
14 title 46, United States Code, is amended—

15 (1) in paragraph (1) by inserting “, including
16 damage or destruction resulting from cyber inci-
17 dents, transnational organized crime, or foreign
18 state threats” after “adjacent to such waters”; and

19 (2) in paragraph (2) by inserting “or harm re-
20 sulting from cyber incidents, transnational organized
21 crime, or foreign state threats” after “loss”.

22 (b) REGULATION OF ANCHORAGE AND MOVEMENT
23 OF VESSELS DURING NATIONAL EMERGENCY.—Section
24 70051 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by in-
25 serting “or cyber incidents, or transnational organized

1 crime, or foreign state threats,” after “threatened war, or
2 invasion, or insurrection, or subversive activity,”.

3 (c) FACILITY VISIT BY STATE SPONSOR OF TER-
4 RORISM.—Section 70011(b) of title 46, United States
5 Code, is amended—

6 (1) in paragraph (3) by striking “and” at the
7 end;

8 (2) in paragraph (4) by striking the period at
9 the end and inserting “; and”; and

10 (3) by adding at the end the following:

11 “(5) prohibiting a representative of a govern-
12 ment of country that the Secretary of State has de-
13 termined has repeatedly provided support for acts of
14 international terrorism under section 620A of the
15 Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2371)
16 from visiting a facility for which a facility security
17 plan is required under section 70103(c).”.

18 **SEC. 216. STUDY ON BERING STRAIT VESSEL TRAFFIC PRO-**
19 **JECTIONS AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE POS-**
20 **TURE AT PORTS OF THE UNITED STATES.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the
22 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transpor-
23 tation, acting through the United States Committee on the
24 Marine Transportation System, and in coordination with
25 the Commandant, shall—

1 (1) complete an analysis regarding commercial
2 vessel traffic, at the time of the study, that transits
3 through the Bering Strait and projections for the
4 growth of such traffic over the next decade; and

5 (2) assess the adequacy of emergency response
6 capabilities and infrastructure at the ports of the
7 United States that are in proximity to the vessel
8 traffic that transits the Bering Strait, including the
9 port facilities at Point Spencer, Alaska, Nome, Alas-
10 ka, and Kotzebue, Alaska, to—

11 (A) address future navigation safety risks;

12 and

13 (B) conduct emergency maritime response
14 operations in the Arctic environment.

15 (b) ELEMENTS.—The study under this section shall
16 include the following:

17 (1) An analysis of the volume and types of com-
18 mercial vessel traffic, including—

19 (A) oil and gas tankers, cargo vessels,
20 barges, fishing vessels, and cruise lines, both
21 domestic and international;

22 (B) projected growth of such traffic
23 through the Bering Strait;

24 (C) the seasonality of vessel transits of the
25 Bering Strait; and

1 (D) a summation of the sizes, ages, and
2 the country of registration or documentation of
3 such vessels transiting the Arctic, including oil
4 and product tankers either documented in tran-
5 sit to or from Russia or China or owned or op-
6 erated by a Russian or Chinese entity.

7 (2) An assessment of the state and adequacy of
8 vessel traffic services and oil spill and emergency re-
9 sponse capabilities in the vicinity of the Bering
10 Strait and its southern and northern approaches in
11 the Chukchi Sea and the Bering Sea.

12 (3) A risk assessment of the projected growth
13 in commercial vessel traffic in the Bering Strait and
14 potential of increased frequency in the number of
15 maritime accidents, including spill events, and the
16 potential impacts to the Arctic maritime environ-
17 ment and Native Alaskan village communities in the
18 vicinity of the vessel traffic in Western Alaska, in-
19 cluding the Bering Strait.

20 (4) An evaluation of the extent to which Point
21 Spencer can serve as a port of refuge and as a stag-
22 ing, logistics, and operations center from which to
23 conduct and support maritime emergency and spill
24 response activities.

1 (5) Recommendations for practical actions that
2 can be taken by Congress, Federal agencies, the
3 State of Alaska, vessel carriers and operators, the
4 marine salvage and emergency response industry,
5 and other relevant stakeholders to mitigate risks
6 identified in the study carried out under this section.

7 (c) CONSULTATION.—In the preparation of the study
8 under this section, the United States Committee on the
9 Marine Transportation System shall consult with—

10 (1) the Maritime Administration;

11 (2) the Coast Guard;

12 (3) the Army Corps of Engineers;

13 (4) the Department of State;

14 (5) the National Transportation Safety Board;

15 (6) the Government of Canada, as appropriate;

16 (7) the Port Coordination Council for the Port
17 of Point Spencer;

18 (8) State and local governments;

19 (9) other maritime industry participants, in-
20 cluding carriers, shippers, ports, labor, fishing, or
21 other entities; and

22 (10) nongovernmental entities with relevant ex-
23 pertise monitoring and characterizing vessel traffic
24 or the environment in the Arctic.

1 (d) TRIBAL CONSULTATION.—In addition to the enti-
2 ties described in subsection (c), in preparing the study
3 under this section, the Secretary of Transportation shall
4 consult with Indian Tribes, including Alaska Native Cor-
5 porations, and Alaska Native communities.

6 (e) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after initiating
7 the study under this section, the United States Committee
8 on the Marine Transportation System shall submit to the
9 Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
10 and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate
11 and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
12 and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of
13 Representatives a report on the findings and recommenda-
14 tions of the study.

15 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

16 (1) ARCTIC.—The term “Arctic” has the mean-
17 ing given such term in section 112 of the Arctic Re-
18 search and Policy Act of 1984 (15 U.S.C. 4111).

19 (2) PORT COORDINATION COUNCIL FOR THE
20 PORT OF POINT SPENCER.—The term “Port Coordi-
21 nation Council for the Port of Point Spencer” means
22 the Council established under section 541 of Coast
23 Guard Authorization Act of 2015 (Public Law 114–
24 120).

1 **SEC. 217. UNDERWATER INSPECTIONS BRIEF.**

2 Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment
3 of this Act, the Commandant, or a designated individual,
4 shall brief the Committee on Transportation and Infra-
5 structure of the House of Representatives and the Com-
6 mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the
7 Senate on the underwater inspection in lieu of drydock
8 program established under section 176.615 of title 46,
9 Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on the date of
10 enactment of this Act).

11 **SEC. 218. ST. LUCIE RIVER RAILROAD BRIDGE.**

12 Regarding Docket Number USCG–2022–0222, be-
13 fore adopting a final rule, the Commandant shall conduct
14 an independent boat traffic study at mile 7.4 of the St.
15 Lucie River.

16 **SEC. 219. AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH SAFETY ZONES FOR**
17 **SPECIAL ACTIVITIES IN EXCLUSIVE ECO-**
18 **NOMIC ZONE.**

19 (a) SPECIAL ACTIVITIES IN EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC
20 ZONE.—Subchapter I of chapter 700 of title 46, United
21 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
22 lowing:

23 **“§ 70008. Special activities in exclusive economic**
24 **zone**

25 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the department
26 in which the Coast Guard is operating may establish safe-

1 ty zones to address special activities in the exclusive eco-
2 nomic zone.

3 “(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 “(1) SAFETY ZONE.—The term ‘safety zone’—

5 “(A) means a water area, shore area, or
6 water and shore area to which, for safety or en-
7 vironmental purposes, access is limited to au-
8 thorized persons, vehicles, or vessels; and

9 “(B) may be stationary and described by
10 fixed limits or may be described as a zone
11 around a vessel in motion.

12 “(2) SPECIAL ACTIVITIES.—The term ‘special
13 activities’ includes—

14 “(A) space activities, including launch and
15 reentry (as such terms are defined in section
16 50902 of title 51) carried out by United States
17 citizens; and

18 “(B) offshore energy development activi-
19 ties, as described in section 8(p)(1)(C) of the
20 Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C.
21 1337(p)(1)(C)), on or near fixed platforms.

22 “(3) UNITED STATES CITIZEN.—The term
23 ‘United States citizen’ has the meaning given the
24 term ‘eligible owners’ in section 12103.

1 tional Transportation Safety Board titled “Anchor
2 Strike of Underwater Pipeline and Eventual Crude
3 Oil Release” and issued January 2, 2024.

4 (2) STUDY.—The Secretary of the department
5 in which the Coast Guard is operating shall conduct
6 a study to identify any anchorage grounds other
7 than the San Pedro Bay Federal anchorages in
8 which the distance between the center of an ap-
9 proved anchorage ground and a pipeline is less than
10 1 mile.

11 (3) REPORT.—

12 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years
13 after the date of enactment of this Act, the
14 Commandant shall submit to the Committee on
15 Transportation and Infrastructure of the House
16 of Representatives and the Committee on Com-
17 merce, Science, and Transportation of the Sen-
18 ate a report on the results of the study required
19 under paragraph (2).

20 (B) CONTENTS.—The report under sub-
21 paragraph (A) shall include—

22 (i) a list of the anchorage grounds de-
23 scribed under paragraph (2);

1 (ii) whether it is possible to move each
2 such anchorage ground to provide a min-
3 imum distance of 1 mile; and

4 (iii) a recommendation of whether to
5 move any such anchorage ground and ex-
6 planation for the recommendation.

7 (b) PROXIMITY TO PIPELINE ALERTS.—

8 (1) AUDIBLE AND VISUAL ALARMS.—The Com-
9 mandant shall consult with the providers of vessel
10 monitoring systems to add to the monitoring sys-
11 tems for vessel traffic services audible and visual
12 alarms that alert the watchstander when an an-
13 chored vessel is encroaching on a pipeline.

14 (2) NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES.—Not later
15 than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act,
16 the Commandant shall develop procedures for all
17 vessel traffic services to notify pipeline and utility
18 operators following potential incursions on sub-
19 merged pipelines within the vessel traffic service
20 area of responsibility.

21 (3) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the
22 date of enactment of this Act, and annually for the
23 subsequent 3 years, the Commandant shall submit
24 to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastruc-
25 ture of the House of Representatives and the Com-

1 mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of
2 the Senate a report on the implementation of para-
3 graphs (1) and (2).

4 **SEC. 221. DESIGNATING PILOTAGE WATERS FOR THE**
5 **STRAITS OF MACKINAC.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 9302(a)(1)(A) of title 46,
7 United States Code, is amended by striking “in waters”
8 and inserting “in the Straits of Mackinac and in all other
9 waters”.

10 (b) DEFINITION OF THE STRAITS OF MACKINAC.—
11 Section 9302 of title 46, United States Code, is amended
12 by adding at the end the following:

13 “(g) DEFINITION OF THE STRAITS OF MACKINAC.—
14 In this section, the term ‘Straits of Mackinac’ includes all
15 of the United States navigable waters bounded by lon-
16 gitudes 84 degrees 20 minutes west and 85 degrees 10
17 minutes west and latitudes 45 degrees 39 minutes north
18 and 45 degrees 54 minutes north, including Gray’s Reef
19 Passage, the South Channel, and Round Island Passage,
20 and approaches thereto.”.

21 **SEC. 222. RECEIPTS; INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS FOR**
22 **ICE PATROL SERVICES.**

23 Section 80301(c) of title 46, United States Code, is
24 amended by striking the period at the end and inserting
25 “and shall remain available until expended for the purpose

1 of the Coast Guard international ice patrol program under
2 this chapter.”.

3 **SEC. 223. REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTAIN FISHING VESSELS**
4 **AND FISH TENDER VESSELS.**

5 (a) EXCEPTIONS TO REGULATIONS FOR TOWING
6 VESSELS.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the depart-
8 ment in which the Coast Guard is operating, acting
9 through the relevant Officer in Charge, Marine In-
10 spection, may grant temporary waivers from the
11 towing vessel requirements of chapters 33 and 89 of
12 title 46, United States Code, including the regula-
13 tions issued under such chapters, for fishing vessels
14 and fish tender vessels.

15 (2) APPLICATION.—A temporary waiver issued
16 under paragraph (1) shall be issued at the discretion
17 of the relevant Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection,
18 to a fishing vessel or fish tender vessel that—

19 (A) performs towing operations of net
20 pens, and associated work platforms, to or from
21 aquaculture or hatchery worksites;

22 (B) is less than 200 gross tons;

23 (C) does not tow a net pen, or associated
24 work platform, that is carrying cargo or haz-
25 ardous material, including oil, on board;

1 (D) is operating shoreward of the Bound-
2 ary Line in either—

3 (i) Southeast Alaska; or

4 (ii) Prince William Sound; and

5 (E) complies with all applicable laws for its
6 use in the usual purpose for which it is nor-
7 mally and substantially operated, including any
8 applicable inspection requirements under sec-
9 tion 3301 of title 46, United States Code, and
10 exemptions under section 3302 of such title.

11 (3) IMPLEMENTATION.—

12 (A) REQUEST PROCESS.—The owner or op-
13 erator of a fishing vessel or fish tender vessel
14 seeking a waiver under paragraph (1) shall sub-
15 mit a request to the relevant Officer in Charge,
16 Marine Inspection.

17 (B) CONTENTS.—The request submitted
18 under subparagraph (A) shall include—

19 (i) a description of the intended tow-
20 ing operations;

21 (ii) the time periods and frequency of
22 the intended towing operations;

23 (iii) the location of the intended oper-
24 ations;

1 (iv) a description of the manning of
2 the fishing vessel or fish tender vessel dur-
3 ing the intended operations; and

4 (v) any additional safety, operational,
5 or other relevant information requested by
6 the relevant Officer in Charge, Marine In-
7 spection.

8 (4) POLICY.—The Secretary of the department
9 in which the Coast Guard is operating may issue
10 policy to facilitate the implementation of this sub-
11 section.

12 (5) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

13 (A) BOUNDARY LINE.—The term “Bound-
14 ary Line” has the meaning given such term in
15 section 103 of title 46, United States Code.

16 (B) FISHING VESSEL.—The term “fishing
17 vessel” has the meaning given such term in sec-
18 tion 2101 of title 46, United States Code.

19 (C) FISH TENDER VESSEL.—The term
20 “fish tender vessel” has the meaning given such
21 term in section 2101 of title 46, United States
22 Code.

23 (D) OFFICER IN CHARGE, MARINE INSPEC-
24 TION.—The term “Officer in Charge, Marine

1 Inspection” has the meaning given such term in
2 section 3305 of title 46, United States Code.

3 (E) PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND.—The term
4 “Prince William Sound” means all State and
5 Federal waters within Prince William Sound,
6 Alaska, including the approach to
7 Hinchbrook Entrance out to, and encom-
8 passing, Seal Rocks.

9 (F) SOUTHEAST ALASKA.—The term
10 “Southeast Alaska” means the area along the
11 coast of the State of Alaska from latitude
12 5440’00” N to 6018’24” N.

13 (6) SUNSET.—The authorities under this sec-
14 tion shall expire on January 1, 2027.

15 (b) LOAD LINES.—Section 11325(a) of the James M.
16 Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year
17 2023 (Public Law 117–263; 136 Stat. 4095) is amended
18 by striking “3” and inserting “5”.

1 **Subtitle C—Matters Involving**
2 **Uncrewed Systems**

3 **SEC. 231. ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL ADVISORY COM-**
4 **MITTEE ON AUTONOMOUS MARITIME SYS-**
5 **TEMS.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 151 of title 46, United
7 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
8 lowing:

9 **“§ 15110. Establishment of National Advisory Com-**
10 **mittee on Autonomous Maritime Systems**

11 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a Na-
12 tional Advisory Committee on Autonomous Maritime Sys-
13 tems (in this section referred to as the ‘Committee’).

14 “(b) FUNCTION.—The Committee shall advise the
15 Secretary on matters relating to the regulation and use
16 of Autonomous Systems within the territorial waters of
17 the United States.

18 “(c) MEMBERSHIP.—

19 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Committee shall con-
20 sist of 15 members appointed by the Secretary in ac-
21 cordance with this section and section 15109.

22 “(2) EXPERTISE.—Each member of the Com-
23 mittee shall have particular expertise, knowledge,
24 and experience in matters relating to the function of
25 the Committee.

1 “(3) REPRESENTATION.—Each of the following
2 groups shall be represented by at least 1 member on
3 the Committee:

4 “(A) Marine safety or security entities.

5 “(B) Vessel design and construction enti-
6 ties.

7 “(C) Entities engaged in the production or
8 research of uncrewed vehicles, including drones,
9 autonomous or semi-autonomous vehicles, or
10 any other product or service integral to the pro-
11 vision, maintenance, or management of such
12 products or services.

13 “(D) Port districts, authorities, or terminal
14 operators.

15 “(E) Vessel operators.

16 “(F) National labor unions representing
17 merchant mariners.

18 “(G) Maritime pilots.

19 “(H) Commercial space transportation op-
20 erators.

21 “(I) Academic institutions.”.

22 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—The analysis for
23 chapter 151 of title 46, United States Code, is amended
24 by adding at the end the following:

“15110. Establishment of National Advisory Committee on Autonomous Mari-
time Systems.”.

1 (c) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 90 days after
2 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the
3 department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall
4 establish the Committee under section 15110 of title 46,
5 United States Code (as added by this section).

6 **SEC. 232. PILOT PROGRAM FOR GOVERNANCE AND OVER-**
7 **SIGHT OF SMALL UNCREWED MARITIME SYS-**
8 **TEMS.**

9 (a) LIMITATION.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
10 sion of law, for the period beginning on the date of enact-
11 ment of this Act and ending on the date that is 2 years
12 after such date of enactment, small uncrewed maritime
13 systems owned, operated, or chartered by the National
14 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, or that are per-
15 forming specified oceanographic surveys on behalf of and
16 pursuant to a contract or other written agreement with
17 the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration,
18 shall not be subject to any vessel inspection, design, oper-
19 ations, navigation, credentialing, or training requirement,
20 law, or regulation, that the Assistant Administrator of the
21 Office of Marine and Aviation Operations of the National
22 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration determines will
23 harm real-time operational extreme weather oceanographic
24 and atmospheric data collection and predictions.

1 (b) OTHER AUTHORITY.—Nothing in this section
2 shall limit the authority of the Secretary of the depart-
3 ment in which the Coast Guard is operating, acting
4 through the Commandant, if there is an immediate safety
5 or security concern regarding small uncrewed maritime
6 systems.

7 **SEC. 233. COAST GUARD TRAINING COURSE.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—For the period beginning on the
9 date of enactment of this Act and ending on the date that
10 is 3 years after such date of enactment, the Commandant,
11 or such other individual or organization as the Com-
12 mandant considers appropriate, shall develop a training
13 course on small uncrewed maritime systems and offer such
14 training course at least once each year for Coast Guard
15 personnel working with or regulating small uncrewed mar-
16 itime systems.

17 (b) COURSE SUBJECT MATTER.—The training course
18 developed under subsection (a) shall—

19 (1) provide an overview and introduction to
20 small uncrewed maritime systems, including exam-
21 ples of those used by the Federal Government, in
22 academic settings, and in commercial sectors;

23 (2) address the benefits and disadvantages of
24 use of small uncrewed maritime systems;

1 (3) address safe navigation of small uncrewed
2 maritime systems, including measures to ensure col-
3 lision avoidance;

4 (4) address the ability of small uncrewed mari-
5 time systems to communicate with and alert other
6 vessels in the vicinity;

7 (5) address the ability of small uncrewed mari-
8 time systems to respond to system alarms and fail-
9 ures to ensure control commensurate with the risk
10 posed by the systems;

11 (6) provide present and future capabilities of
12 small uncrewed maritime systems; and

13 (7) provide an overview of the role of the Inter-
14 national Maritime Organization in the governance of
15 small uncrewed maritime systems.

16 **SEC. 234. NOAA MEMBERSHIP ON AUTONOMOUS VESSEL**
17 **POLICY COUNCIL.**

18 Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment
19 of this Act, the Commandant, with the concurrence of the
20 Assistant Administrator of the Office of Marine and Avia-
21 tion Operations of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
22 Administration, shall establish the permanent membership
23 of a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
24 employee to the Automated and Autonomous Vessel Policy
25 Council of the Coast Guard.

1 **SEC. 235. TECHNOLOGY PILOT PROGRAM.**

2 Section 319(b)(1) of title 14, United States Code, is
3 amended by striking “2 or more existing Coast Guard
4 small boats deployed at operational units” and inserting
5 “2 or more Coast Guard small boats deployed at oper-
6 ational units and 2 or more existing Coast Guard small
7 boats”.

8 **SEC. 236. UNCREWED SYSTEMS CAPABILITIES REPORT AND**
9 **BRIEFING.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—

11 (1) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the
12 date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant
13 shall submit to the Committee on Transportation
14 and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives
15 and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and
16 Transportation of the Senate a report that outlines
17 a plan for establishing an uncrewed systems capa-
18 bilities office within the Coast Guard responsible for
19 the acquisition and development of uncrewed system
20 and counter-uncrewed system technologies and to ex-
21 pand the capabilities of the Coast Guard with re-
22 spect to such technologies.

23 (2) CONTENTS.—The report required under
24 paragraph (1) shall include the following:

25 (A) A management strategy for the acqui-
26 sition, development, and deployment of

1 uncrewed system and counter-uncrewed system
2 technologies.

3 (B) A service-wide coordination strategy to
4 synchronize and integrate efforts across the
5 Coast Guard in order to—

6 (i) support the primary duties of the
7 Coast Guard pursuant to section 102 of
8 title 14, United States Code; and

9 (ii) pursue expanded research, devel-
10 opment, testing, and evaluation opportuni-
11 ties and funding to expand and accelerate
12 identification and transition of uncrewed
13 system and counter-uncrewed system tech-
14 nologies.

15 (C) The identification of contracting and
16 acquisition authorities needed to expedite the
17 development and deployment of uncrewed sys-
18 tem and counter-uncrewed system technologies.

19 (D) A detailed list of commercially avail-
20 able uncrewed system and counter-uncrewed
21 system technologies with capabilities determined
22 to be useful for the Coast Guard.

23 (E) A cross-agency collaboration plan to
24 engage with the Department of Defense and
25 other relevant agencies to identify common re-

1 requirements and opportunities to partner in ac-
2 quiring, contracting, and sustaining uncrewed
3 system and counter-uncrewed system capabili-
4 ties.

5 (F) Opportunities to obtain and share
6 uncrewed system data from government and
7 commercial sources to improve maritime do-
8 main awareness.

9 (G) The development of a concept of oper-
10 operations for a data system that supports and inte-
11 grates uncrewed system and counter-uncrewed
12 system technologies with key enablers, including
13 enterprise communications networks, data stor-
14 age and management, artificial intelligence and
15 machine learning tools, and information sharing
16 and dissemination capabilities.

17 (b) BRIEFINGS.—Not later than 1 year after the date
18 of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for a
19 period of 3 years, the Commandant, in coordination with
20 the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmos-
21 pheric Administration, the Executive Director of the Of-
22 fice of Naval Research, the Director of the National
23 Science Foundation, and the Director of the White House
24 Office of Science and Technology Policy, shall brief the
25 Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of

1 the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and In-
2 frastructure of the House of Representatives, on the fu-
3 ture operation and governance of small uncrewed maritime
4 systems.

5 **SEC. 237. DEFINITIONS.**

6 In this subtitle:

7 (1) COUNTER-UNCREWED SYSTEM.—The term
8 “counter-uncrewed system” means a system or de-
9 vice capable of lawfully and safely disabling, dis-
10 rupting, or seizing control of an uncrewed system,
11 including a counter-UAS system (as such term is de-
12 fined in section 44801 of title 49, United States
13 Code).

14 (2) SMALL UNCREWED MARITIME SYSTEMS.—
15 The term “small uncrewed maritime systems”
16 means unmanned maritime systems (as defined in
17 section 2 of the CENOTE Act of 2018 (33 U.S.C.
18 4101)), that—

19 (A) are not greater than 35 feet overall in
20 length;

21 (B) are operated remotely or autono-
22 mously; and

23 (C) exclusively perform oceanographic sur-
24 veys or scientific research.

1 (3) UNCREWED SYSTEM.—The term “uncrewed
2 system” means an uncrewed surface, undersea, or
3 aircraft and associated elements (including commu-
4 nication links and the components that control the
5 uncrewed system) that are required for the operator
6 to operate the system safely and efficiently, includ-
7 ing an unmanned aircraft system (as such term is
8 defined in section 44801 of title 49, United States
9 Code).

10 **Subtitle D—Other Matters**

11 **SEC. 241. CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE ONBOARD VESSELS.**

12 Section 70503(a) of title 46, United States Code, is
13 amended—

14 (1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1) by
15 striking “While on board a covered vessel, an” and
16 inserting “An”;

17 (2) by amending paragraph (1) to read as fol-
18 lows:

19 “(1) manufacture or distribute, possess with in-
20 tent to manufacture or distribute, or place or cause
21 to be placed with intent to manufacture or distribute
22 a controlled substance on board a covered vessel;”;

23 (3) in paragraph (2) by inserting “on board a
24 covered vessel” before the semicolon; and

1 (4) in paragraph (3) by inserting “while on
2 board a covered vessel” after “such individual”.

3 **SEC. 242. INFORMATION ON TYPE APPROVAL CERTIFI-**
4 **CATES.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title IX of the Frank LoBiondo
6 Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–
7 282) is amended by adding at the end the following:

8 **“SEC. 904. INFORMATION ON TYPE APPROVAL CERTIFI-**
9 **CATES.**

10 “Unless otherwise prohibited by law, the Com-
11 mandant of the Coast Guard shall, upon request by any
12 State, the District of Columbia, any Indian Tribe, or any
13 territory of the United States, provide all data possessed
14 by the Coast Guard for a ballast water management sys-
15 tem with a type approval certificate approved by the Coast
16 Guard pursuant to subpart 162.060 of title 46, Code of
17 Federal Regulations, as in effect on the date of enactment
18 of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2024 pertaining
19 to—

20 “(1) challenge water (as defined in section
21 162.060–3 of title 46, Code of Federal Regulations,
22 as in effect on the date of enactment of the Coast
23 Guard Authorization Act of 2024) quality character-
24 isties;

1 “(2) post-treatment water quality characteris-
2 tics;

3 “(3) challenge water (as defined in section
4 162.060–3 of title 46, Code of Federal Regulations,
5 as in effect on the date of enactment of the Coast
6 Guard Authorization Act of 2024) biologic organism
7 concentrations data; and

8 “(4) post-treatment water biologic organism
9 concentrations data.”.

10 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
11 for the Frank LoBiondo Coast Guard Authorization Act
12 of 2018 (Public Law 115–282) is amended by inserting
13 after the item relating to section 903 the following:

 “Sec. 904. Information on type approval certificates.”.

14 **SEC. 243. CLARIFICATION OF AUTHORITIES.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5(a) of the Deepwater
16 Port Act of 1974 (33 U.S.C. 1504(a)) is amended by
17 striking the first sentence and inserting “Notwithstanding
18 section 888(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6
19 U.S.C. 468(b)), the Secretary shall have the authority to
20 issue regulations to carry out the purposes and provisions
21 of this Act, in accordance with the provisions of section
22 553 of title 5, United States Code, without regard to sub-
23 section (a) thereof.”.

1 (b) NEPA COMPLIANCE.—Section 5 of the Deep-
2 water Port Act of 1974 (33 U.S.C. 1504) is amended by
3 striking subsection (f) and inserting the following:

4 “(f) NEPA COMPLIANCE.—

5 “(1) DEFINITION OF LEAD AGENCY.—In this
6 subsection, the term ‘lead agency’ has the meaning
7 given the term in section 111 of the National Envi-
8 ronmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4336e).

9 “(2) LEAD AGENCY.—

10 “(A) IN GENERAL.—For all applications,
11 the Maritime Administration shall be the Fed-
12 eral lead agency for purposes of the National
13 Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C.
14 4321 et seq.).

15 “(B) EFFECT OF COMPLIANCE.—Compli-
16 ance with the National Environmental Policy
17 Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) in accord-
18 ance with subparagraph (A) shall fulfill the re-
19 quirement of the Federal lead agency in car-
20 rying out the responsibilities under the National
21 Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C.
22 4321 et seq.) pursuant to this Act.”.

23 (c) REGULATIONS.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months
25 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Com-

1 mandant shall transfer the authorities provided to
2 the Coast Guard in part 148 of title 33, Code of
3 Federal Regulations (as in effect on the date of the
4 enactment of this Act), except as provided in para-
5 graph (2), to the Secretary of Transportation.

6 (2) RETENTION OF AUTHORITY.—The Com-
7 mandant shall retain responsibility for authorities
8 pertaining to design, construction, equipment, and
9 operation of deepwater ports and navigational safe-
10 ty.

11 (3) UPDATES TO AUTHORITY.—As soon as
12 practicable after the date of enactment of this Act,
13 the Secretary of Transportation shall issue such reg-
14 ulations as are necessary to reflect the updates to
15 authorities prescribed by this subsection.

16 (d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
17 tion, or the amendments made by this section, may be con-
18 strued to limit the authorities of other governmental agen-
19 cies previously delegated authorities of the Deepwater
20 Port Act of 1974 (33 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) or any other
21 law.

22 (e) APPLICATIONS.—Nothing in this section, or the
23 amendments made by this section, shall apply to any ap-
24 plication submitted before the date of enactment of this
25 Act.

1 **SEC. 244. ANCHORAGES.**

2 Section 8437 of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry
3 National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021
4 (Public Law 116–283) is amended—

5 (1) by striking subsections (d) and (e);

6 (2) by redesignating subsection (c) as sub-
7 section (d); and

8 (3) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-
9 lowing:

10 “(c) PROHIBITION.—The Commandant shall prohibit
11 any vessel anchoring on the reach of the Hudson River
12 described in subsection (a) unless such anchoring is within
13 any anchorage established before January 1, 2021.”.

14 **SEC. 245. AMENDMENTS TO PASSENGER VESSEL SECURITY**
15 **AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS.**

16 (a) MAINTENANCE OF SUPPLIES THAT PREVENT
17 SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES.—Section
18 3507(d)(1) of title 46, United States Code, is amended
19 by inserting “(taking into consideration the length of the
20 voyage and the number of passengers and crewmembers
21 that the vessel can accommodate)” after “a sexual as-
22 sault”.

23 (b) CREW ACCESS TO PASSENGER STATEROOMS;
24 PROCEDURES AND RESTRICTIONS.—Section 3507 of title
25 46, United States Code, is amended—

26 (1) in subsection (f)—

1 (A) in paragraph (1)—
2 (i) in subparagraph (A) by striking
3 “and” at the end; and
4 (ii) by inserting after subparagraph
5 (B) the following:
6 “(C) a system that electronically records
7 the date, time, and identity of each crew mem-
8 ber accessing each passenger stateroom; and”;
9 and
10 (B) by striking paragraph (2) and insert-
11 ing the following:
12 “(2) ensure that the procedures and restrictions
13 are—
14 “(A) fully and properly implemented;
15 “(B) reviewed annually; and
16 “(C) updated as necessary.”.

17 **SEC. 246. CYBER-INCIDENT TRAINING.**

18 Section 70103(e) of title 46, United States Code, is
19 amended by adding at the end the following:
20 “(9) The Secretary may conduct no-notice exercises
21 in Captain of the Port Zones (as described in part 3 of
22 title 33, Code of Federal Regulations as in effect on the
23 date of enactment of the Coast Guard Authorization Act
24 of 2024) involving a facility or vessel required to maintain
25 a security plan under this subsection.”.

1 **SEC. 247. EXTENSION OF PILOT PROGRAM TO ESTABLISH A**
2 **CETACEAN DESK FOR PUGET SOUND REGION.**

3 Section 11304(a)(2)(A)(i) of the Don Young Coast
4 Guard Reauthorization Act of 2022 (division K of Public
5 Law 117–263; 16 U.S.C. 1390 note) is amended by strik-
6 ing “4 years” and inserting “6 years”.

7 **SEC. 248. SUSPENSION OF ENFORCEMENT OF USE OF DE-**
8 **VICES BROADCASTING ON AIS FOR PUR-**
9 **POSES OF MARKING FISHING GEAR.**

10 Section 11320 of the Don Young Coast Guard Au-
11 thorization Act of 2022 (Public Law 117–263; 136 Stat.
12 4092) is amended by striking “during the period” and all
13 that follows through the period at the end and inserting
14 “until December 31, 2029.”.

15 **SEC. 249. CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES.**

16 Section 3316(d) of title 46, United States Code, is
17 amended—

18 (1) by amending paragraph (2)(B)(i) to read as
19 follows:

20 “(i) the government of the foreign country in
21 which the foreign society is headquartered—

22 “(I) delegates that authority to the Amer-
23 ican Bureau of Shipping; or

24 “(II) does not delegate that authority to
25 any classification society; or”; and

26 (2) by adding at the end the following:

1 “(5) CLARIFICATION ON AUTHORITY.—Nothing
2 in this subsection authorizes the Secretary to make
3 a delegation under paragraph (2) to a classification
4 society from the People’s Republic of China.”.

5 **SEC. 250. ABANDONED AND DERELICT VESSEL REMOVALS.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 47 of title 46, United
7 States Code, is amended—

8 (1) in the chapter heading by striking
9 “**BARGES**” and inserting “**VESSELS**”;

10 (2) by inserting before section 4701 the fol-
11 lowing:

12 “SUBCHAPTER I—BARGES”; AND

13 (3) by adding at the end the following:

14 “SUBCHAPTER II—NON-BARGE VESSELS

15 **“§ 4710. Definitions**

16 “In this subchapter:

17 “(1) ABANDON.—The term ‘abandon’ means to
18 moor, strand, wreck, sink, or leave a covered vessel
19 unattended for longer than 45 days.

20 “(2) COVERED VESSEL.—The term ‘covered
21 vessel’ means a vessel that is not a barge to which
22 subchapter I applies.

23 “(3) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term ‘Indian Tribe’
24 has the meaning given such term in section 4 of the

1 Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance
2 Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

3 “(4) NATIVE HAWAIIAN ORGANIZATION.—The
4 term ‘Native Hawaiian organization’ has the mean-
5 ing given such term in section 6207 of the Elemen-
6 tary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20
7 U.S.C. 7517) except the term includes the Depart-
8 ment of Hawaiian Home Lands and the Office of
9 Hawaiian Affairs.

10 **“§ 4711. Abandonment of vessels prohibited**

11 “(a) IN GENERAL.—An owner or operator of a cov-
12 ered vessel may not abandon such vessel on the navigable
13 waters of the United States.

14 “(b) DETERMINATION OF ABANDONMENT.—

15 “(1) NOTIFICATION.—

16 “(A) IN GENERAL.—With respect to a cov-
17 ered vessel that appears to be abandoned, the
18 Commandant of the Coast Guard shall—

19 “(i) attempt to identify the owner
20 using the vessel registration number, hull
21 identification number, or any other infor-
22 mation that can be reasonably inferred or
23 gathered; and

24 “(ii) notify such owner—

1 “(I) of the penalty described in
2 subsection (c); and

3 “(II) that the vessel will be re-
4 moved at the expense of the owner if
5 the Commandant determines that the
6 vessel is abandoned and the owner
7 does not remove or account for the
8 vessel.

9 “(B) FORM.—The Commandant shall pro-
10 vide the notice required under subparagraph
11 (A)—

12 “(i) if the owner can be identified, via
13 certified mail or other appropriate forms
14 determined by the Commandant; or

15 “(ii) if the owner cannot be identified,
16 via an announcement in a local publication
17 and on a website maintained by the Coast
18 Guard.

19 “(2) DETERMINATION.—The Commandant
20 shall make a determination not earlier than 45 days
21 after the date on which the Commandant provides
22 the notification required under paragraph (1) of
23 whether a covered vessel described in such para-
24 graph is abandoned.

25 “(c) PENALTY.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant may as-
2 sess a civil penalty of not more than \$500 against
3 an owner or operator of a covered vessel determined
4 to be abandoned under subsection (b) for a violation
5 of subsection (a).

6 “(2) LIABILITY IN REM.—The owner or oper-
7 ator of a covered vessel shall also be liable in rem
8 for a penalty imposed under paragraph (1).

9 “(3) LIMITATION.—The Commandant shall not
10 assess a penalty if the Commandant determines the
11 vessel was abandoned due to major extenuating cir-
12 cumstances of the owner or operator of the vessel,
13 including long term medical incapacitation of the
14 owner or operator.

15 “(d) VESSELS NOT ABANDONED.—The Commandant
16 may not determine that a covered vessel is abandoned
17 under this section if—

18 “(1) such vessel is located at a federally ap-
19 proved or State approved mooring area;

20 “(2) such vessel is located on private property
21 with the permission of the owner of such property;

22 “(3) the owner or operator of such vessel pro-
23 vides a notification to the Commandant that—

24 “(A) indicates the location of the vessel;

1 “(B) indicates that the vessel is not aban-
2 doned; and

3 “(C) contains documentation proving that
4 the vessel is allowed to be in such location; or

5 “(4) the Commandant determines that such an
6 abandonment determination would not be in the
7 public interest.

8 **“§ 4712. Inventory of abandoned vessels**

9 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the
10 date of enactment of the Coast Guard Authorization Act
11 of 2024, the Commandant, in consultation with the Ad-
12 ministrators of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Ad-
13 ministration and relevant State agencies, shall establish
14 and maintain a national inventory of covered vessels that
15 are abandoned.

16 “(b) CONTENTS.—The inventory established and
17 maintained under subsection (a) shall include data on each
18 vessel, including geographic information system data re-
19 lated to the location of each such vessel.

20 “(c) PUBLICATION.—The Commandant shall make
21 the inventory established under subsection (a) publicly
22 available on a website of the Coast Guard.

23 “(d) REPORTING OF POTENTIALLY ABANDONED
24 VESSELS.—In carrying out this section, the Commandant
25 shall develop a process by which—

1 “(1) a State, Indian Tribe, Native Hawaiian or-
2 ganization, or person may report a covered vessel
3 that may be abandoned to the Commandant for po-
4 tential inclusion in the inventory established under
5 subsection (a);

6 “(2) the Commandant shall review any such re-
7 port and add such vessel to the inventory if the
8 Commandant determines that the reported vessel is
9 abandoned pursuant to section 4711.

10 “(e) CLARIFICATION.—Except in a response action
11 carried out under section 311(j) of the Federal Water Pol-
12 lution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1321) or in the case of im-
13 minent threat to life and safety, the Commandant shall
14 not be responsible for removing any covered vessels listed
15 on the inventory established and maintained under sub-
16 section (a).”.

17 (b) RULEMAKING.—The Secretary of the department
18 in which the Coast Guard is operating, in consultation
19 with the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief
20 of Engineers, and the Secretary of Commerce, acting
21 through the Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere,
22 shall issue regulations with respect to the procedures for
23 determining that a vessel is abandoned for the purposes
24 of subchapter II of chapter 47 of title 46, United States
25 Code (as added by this section).

1 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Chapter 47 of title
2 46, United States Code, is amended—

3 (1) in section 4701—

4 (A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1)
5 by striking “chapter” and inserting “sub-
6 chapter”; and

7 (B) in paragraph (2) by striking “chapter”
8 and inserting “subchapter”;

9 (2) in section 4703 by striking “chapter” and
10 inserting “subchapter”;

11 (3) in section 4704 by striking “chapter” each
12 place it appears and inserting “subchapter”; and

13 (4) in section 4705 by striking “chapter” and
14 inserting “subchapter”.

15 (d) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—The analysis for
16 chapter 47 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

17 (1) by inserting before the item relating to sec-
18 tion 4701 the following:

“SUBCHAPTER I—BARGES”; AND

19 (2) by adding at the end the following:

“SUBCHAPTER II—NON-BARGE VESSELS

“4710. Definitions.

“4711. Abandonment of vessels prohibited.

“4712. Inventory of abandoned vessels.”.

1 **TITLE III—OIL POLLUTION**
2 **RESPONSE**

3 **SEC. 301. SALVAGE AND MARINE FIREFIGHTING RESPONSE**
4 **CAPABILITY.**

5 (a) SALVAGE AND MARINE FIREFIGHTING RESPONSE
6 CAPABILITY.—Section 311(j) of the Federal Water Pollu-
7 tion Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1321(j)) is amended by add-
8 ing at the end the following:

9 “(10) SALVAGE AND MARINE FIREFIGHTING
10 RESPONSE CAPABILITY.—

11 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The President, acting
12 through the Secretary of the department in
13 which the Coast Guard is operating unless oth-
14 erwise delegated by the President, may re-
15 quire—

16 “(i) periodic inspection of vessels and
17 salvage equipment, firefighting equipment,
18 and other major marine casualty response
19 equipment on or associated with vessels;

20 “(ii) periodic verification of capabili-
21 ties to appropriately, and in a timely man-
22 ner, respond to a marine casualty, includ-
23 ing—

24 “(I) drills, with or without prior
25 notice;

1 “(II) review of contracts and rel-
2 evant third-party agreements;

3 “(III) testing of equipment;

4 “(IV) review of training; and

5 “(V) other evaluations of marine
6 casualty response capabilities, as de-
7 termined appropriate by the Presi-
8 dent; and

9 “(iii) carrying of appropriate response
10 equipment for responding to a marine cas-
11 ualty that employs the best technology eco-
12 nomically feasible and that is compatible
13 with the safe operation of the vessel.

14 “(B) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph:

15 “(i) MARINE CASUALTY.—The term
16 ‘marine casualty’ means a marine casualty
17 that is required to be reported pursuant to
18 paragraph (3), (4), or (5) of section 6101
19 of title 46, United States Code.

20 “(ii) SALVAGE EQUIPMENT.—The
21 term ‘salvage equipment’ means any equip-
22 ment that is capable of being used to assist
23 a vessel in potential or actual danger in
24 order to prevent loss of life, damage or de-
25 struction of the vessel or its cargo, or re-

1 lease of its contents into the marine envi-
2 ronment.”.

3 (b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 270 days
5 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comp-
6 troller General of the United States shall submit to
7 the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
8 of the House of Representatives and the Committee
9 on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the
10 Senate a report on—

11 (A) the state of marine firefighting au-
12 thorities, jurisdiction, and plan review; and

13 (B) other considerations with respect to
14 fires at waterfront facilities (including vessel
15 fires) and vessel fires on the navigable waters
16 (as such term is defined in section 502 of the
17 Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C.
18 1362)).

19 (2) CONTENTS.—In carrying out paragraph (1),
20 the Comptroller General shall—

21 (A) examine—

22 (i) collaboration among Federal and
23 non-Federal entities for purposes of reduc-
24 ing the risks to local communities of fires
25 described in paragraph (1);

1 (ii) the prevalence and frequency of
2 such fires; and

3 (iii) the extent to which firefighters
4 and marine firefighters are aware of the
5 dangers of lithium-ion battery fires, includ-
6 ing lithium-ion batteries used for vehicles,
7 and how to respond to such fires;

8 (B) review methods of documenting and
9 sharing best practices throughout the maritime
10 community for responding to vessel fires; and

11 (C) make recommendations for—

12 (i) preparing for, responding to, and
13 training for such fires;

14 (ii) clarifying roles and responsibilities
15 of Federal and non-Federal entities in pre-
16 paring for, responding to, and training for
17 such fires; and

18 (iii) other topics for consideration.

19 **SEC. 302. USE OF MARINE CASUALTY INVESTIGATIONS.**

20 Section 6308 of title 46, United States Code, is
21 amended—

22 (1) in subsection (a) by striking “initiated” and
23 inserting “conducted”; and

24 (2) by adding at the end the following:

1 “(e) For purposes of this section, an administrative
2 proceeding conducted by the United States includes pro-
3 ceedings under section 7701 and claims adjudicated under
4 section 1013 of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C.
5 2713).”.

6 **SEC. 303. TIMING OF REVIEW.**

7 Section 1017 of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33
8 U.S.C. 2717) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
9 lowing:

10 “(g) **TIMING OF REVIEW.**—Before the date of com-
11 pletion of a removal action, no person may bring an action
12 under this Act, section 311 of the Federal Water Pollution
13 Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1321), or chapter 7 of title 5,
14 United States Code, challenging any decision relating to
15 such removal action that is made by an on-scene coordi-
16 nator appointed under the National Contingency Plan.”.

17 **SEC. 304. ONLINE INCIDENT REPORTING SYSTEM.**

18 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 1 year after the
19 date of the enactment of this Act, the National Response
20 Center shall submit to Congress a plan to design, fund,
21 and staff the National Response Center to develop and
22 maintain a web-based application by which the National
23 Response Center may receive notifications of oil dis-
24 charges or releases of hazardous substances.

1 (b) DEVELOPMENT OF APPLICATION.—Not later
2 than 2 years after the date on which the plan is submitted
3 under subsection (a), the National Response Center
4 shall—

5 (1) complete development of the application de-
6 scribed in such subsection; and

7 (2) allow notifications described in such sub-
8 section that are required under Federal law or regu-
9 lation to be made online using such application.

10 (c) USE OF APPLICATION.—In carrying out sub-
11 section (b), the National Response Center may not require
12 the notification of an oil discharge or release of a haz-
13 ardous substance to be made using the application devel-
14 oped under such subsection.

15 **SEC. 305. INVESTMENT OF EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL**
16 **COURT RECOVERY IN HIGH YIELD INVEST-**
17 **MENTS AND MARINE RESEARCH.**

18 Section 350 of Public Law 106–113 (43 U.S.C.
19 1474b note) is amended—

20 (1) by striking paragraph (5);

21 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (2), (3), (4),
22 (6), and (7) as subsections (c), (d), (e), (f), and (g),
23 respectively, and indenting the subsections appro-
24 priately;

25 (3) in paragraph (1)—

1 (A) by striking “(1) Notwithstanding any
2 other provision of law and subject to the provi-
3 sions of paragraphs (5) and (7)” and inserting
4 the following:

5 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

6 “(1) CONSENT DECREE.—The term ‘Consent
7 Decree’ means the consent decree issued in United
8 States v. Exxon Corporation, et al. (No. A91–082
9 CIV) and State of Alaska v. Exxon Corporation, et
10 al. (No. A91–083 CIV).

11 “(2) FUND.—The term ‘Fund’ means the Nat-
12 ural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration
13 Fund established pursuant to title I of the Depart-
14 ment of the Interior and Related Agencies Appro-
15 priations Act, 1992 (43 U.S.C. 1474b).

16 “(3) OUTSIDE ACCOUNT.—The term ‘outside
17 account’ means any account outside the United
18 States Treasury.

19 “(4) TRUSTEE.—The term ‘Trustee’ means a
20 Federal or State natural resource trustee for the
21 Exxon Valdez oil spill.

22 “(b) DEPOSITS.—

23 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other
24 provision of law and subject to subsection (g)”;

25 (4) in subsection (b)(1) (as so designated)—

1 (A) in the matter preceding subparagraph
2 (A) by striking “issued in United States v.
3 Exxon Corporation, et al. (No. A91-082 CIV)
4 and State of Alaska v. Exxon Corporation, et
5 al. (No. A91-083 CIV) (hereafter referred to as
6 the ‘Consent Decree’),”;

7 (B) by striking subparagraphs (A) and (B)
8 and inserting the following:

9 “(A) the Fund;

10 “(B) an outside account; or”; and

11 (C) in the undesignated matter following
12 subparagraph (C)—

13 (i) by striking “the Federal and State
14 natural resource trustees for the Exxon
15 Valdez oil spill (‘trustees’)” and inserting
16 “the Trustees”; and

17 (ii) by striking “Any funds” and in-
18 serting the following:

19 “(2) REQUIREMENT FOR DEPOSITS IN OUTSIDE
20 ACCOUNTS.—Any funds”;

21 (5) in subsection (c) (as redesignated by para-
22 graph (2)) by striking “(c) Joint” and inserting the
23 following:

24 “(c) TRANSFERS.—Any joint”;

1 (6) in subsection (d) (as redesignated by para-
2 graph (2)) by striking “(D) The transfer” and in-
3 serting the following:

4 “(d) NO EFFECT ON JURISDICTION.—The transfer”;

5 (7) in subsection (e) (as redesignated by para-
6 graph (2))—

7 (A) by striking “(E) Nothing herein shall
8 affect” and inserting the following:

9 “(e) EFFECT ON OTHER LAW.—Nothing in this sec-
10 tion affects”; and

11 (B) by striking “trustees” and inserting
12 “Trustees”;

13 (8) in subsection (f) (as redesignated by para-
14 graph (2))—

15 (A) by striking “(F) The Federal trustees
16 and the State trustees” and inserting the fol-
17 lowing:

18 “(f) GRANTS.—The Trustees”; and

19 (B) by striking “this program” and insert-
20 ing “this section, prioritizing the issuance of
21 grants to facilitate habitat protection and habi-
22 tat restoration programs”; and

23 (9) in subsection (g) (as redesignated by para-
24 graph (2))—

1 (A) in the second sentence, by striking
2 “Upon the expiration of the authorities granted
3 in this section all” and inserting the following:

4 “(2) RETURN OF FUNDS.—On expiration of the
5 authority provided in this section, all”; and

6 (B) by striking “(G) The authority” and
7 inserting the following:

8 “(g) EXPIRATION.—

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The authority”.

10 **TITLE IV—SEXUAL ASSAULT AND**
11 **SEXUAL HARASSMENT RE-**
12 **SPONSE**

13 **SEC. 401. INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF COAST GUARD RE-**
14 **FORMS.**

15 (a) GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE RE-
16 PORT.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
18 the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller
19 General of the United States shall report to the
20 Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of
21 the House of Representatives and the Committee on
22 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Sen-
23 ate on the efforts of the Coast Guard to mitigate
24 cases of sexual assault and sexual harassment within
25 the service.

1 (2) ELEMENTS.—The report required under
2 paragraph (1) shall—

3 (A) evaluate—

4 (i) the efforts of the Commandant to
5 implement the directed actions from enclo-
6 sure 1 of the memorandum titled “Com-
7 mandant’s Directed Actions—Account-
8 ability and Transparency” dated November
9 27, 2023;

10 (ii) whether the Commandant met the
11 reporting requirements under section 5112
12 of title 14, United States Code; and

13 (iii) the effectiveness of the actions of
14 the Coast Guard, including efforts outside
15 of the actions described in the memo-
16 randum titled “Commandant’s Directed
17 Actions—Accountability and Trans-
18 parency” dated November 27, 2023, to
19 mitigate instances of sexual assault and
20 sexual harassment and improve the en-
21 forcement relating to such instances within
22 the Coast Guard, and how the Coast
23 Guard is overcoming challenges in imple-
24 menting such actions;

1 (B) make recommendations to the Com-
2 mandant for improvements to the efforts of the
3 service to mitigate instances of sexual assault
4 and sexual harassment and improve the en-
5 forcement relating to such instances within the
6 Coast Guard; and

7 (C) make recommendations to the Com-
8 mittee on Transportation and Infrastructure of
9 the House of Representatives and the Com-
10 mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transpor-
11 tation of the Senate to mitigate instances of
12 sexual assault and sexual harassment in the
13 Coast Guard and improve the enforcement re-
14 lating to such instances within the Coast
15 Guard, including proposed changes to any legis-
16 lative authorities.

17 (b) REPORT BY COMMANDANT.—Not later than 90
18 days after the date on which the Comptroller General com-
19 pletes all actions under subsection (a), the Commandant
20 shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and In-
21 frastructure of the House of Representatives and the Com-
22 mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the
23 Senate a report that includes the following:

24 (1) A plan for Coast Guard implementation, in-
25 cluding interim milestones and timeframes, of any

1 recommendation made by the Comptroller General
2 under subsection (a)(2)(B) with which the Com-
3 mandant concurs.

4 (2) With respect to any recommendation made
5 under subsection (a)(2)(B) with which the Com-
6 mandant does not concur, an explanation of the rea-
7 sons why the Commandant does not concur.

8 **SEC. 402. COMPREHENSIVE POLICY AND PROCEDURES ON**
9 **RETENTION AND ACCESS TO EVIDENCE AND**
10 **RECORDS RELATING TO SEXUAL MIS-**
11 **CONDUCT AND OTHER MISCONDUCT.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 9 of title
13 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end
14 the following:

15 **“§ 955. Comprehensive policy and procedures on re-**
16 **tention and access to evidence and**
17 **records relating to sexual misconduct**
18 **and other misconduct**

19 “(a) ISSUANCE OF POLICY.—Not later than 1 year
20 after the date of the enactment of the Coast Guard Au-
21 thorization Act of 2024, the Secretary, in consultation
22 with the Office of the Inspector General of the department
23 in which the Coast Guard is operating and the Office of
24 the Inspector General of the Department of Defense, shall
25 issue a comprehensive policy for the Coast Guard on the

1 retention of and access to evidence and records relating
2 to covered misconduct involving members of the Coast
3 Guard.

4 “(b) OBJECTIVES.—The comprehensive policy re-
5 quired by subsection (a) shall revise existing policies and
6 procedures, including systems of records, as necessary to
7 ensure preservation of such evidence and records for peri-
8 ods sufficient—

9 “(1) to ensure that members of the Coast
10 Guard who were victims of covered misconduct are
11 able to pursue claims for veterans benefits;

12 “(2) to support administrative processes, crimi-
13 nal proceedings, and civil litigation conducted by
14 military or civil authorities; and

15 “(3) for such other purposes relating to the
16 documentation of an incident of covered misconduct
17 in the Coast Guard as the Secretary considers ap-
18 propriate.

19 “(c) ELEMENTS.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In developing the com-
21 prehensive policy required by subsection (a), the Sec-
22 retary shall, at a minimum—

23 “(A) identify records relating to an inci-
24 dent of covered misconduct that shall be re-
25 tained;

1 “(B) with respect to records relating to
2 covered misconduct involving members of the
3 Coast Guard that are not records of the Coast
4 Guard, identify such records known to or in the
5 possession of the Coast Guard, and set forth
6 procedures for Coast Guard coordination with
7 the custodian of such records for proper reten-
8 tion of the records;

9 “(C) set forth criteria for the collection
10 and retention of records relating to covered
11 misconduct involving members of the Coast
12 Guard;

13 “(D) identify physical evidence and non-
14 documentary forms of evidence relating to cov-
15 ered misconduct that shall be retained;

16 “(E) set forth the period for which evi-
17 dence and records relating to covered mis-
18 conduct involving members of the Coast Guard,
19 including Coast Guard Form 6095, shall be re-
20 tained, except that—

21 “(i) any physical or forensic evidence
22 relating to rape or sexual assault, as de-
23 scribed in sections 920(a) and 920(b) of
24 title 10 (articles 120(a) and 120(b) of the
25 Uniform Code of Military Justice), shall be

1 retained not less than 50 years, and for
2 other covered misconduct not less than the
3 statute of limitations of the alleged offense
4 under the Uniform Code of Military Jus-
5 tice; and

6 “(ii) documentary evidence relating to
7 rape or sexual assault, as described in sec-
8 tions 920(a) and 920(b) of title 10 (arti-
9 cles 120(a) and 120(b) of the Uniform
10 Code of Military Justice), shall be retained
11 not less than 50 years;

12 “(F) consider locations in which such
13 records shall be stored;

14 “(G) identify media and methods that may
15 be used to preserve and ensure access to such
16 records, including electronic systems of records;

17 “(H) ensure the protection of privacy of—

18 “(i) individuals named in records and
19 status of records under section 552 of title
20 5 (commonly referred to as the ‘Freedom
21 of Information Act’) and section 552a of
22 title 5 (commonly referred to as the ‘Pri-
23 vacy Act’); and

24 “(ii) individuals named in restricted
25 reporting cases;

1 “(I) designate the 1 or more positions
2 within the Coast Guard that shall have the re-
3 sponsibility for such record retention by the
4 Coast Guard;

5 “(J) require education and training for
6 members and civilian employees of the Coast
7 Guard on record retention requirements under
8 this section;

9 “(K) set forth criteria for access to such
10 records relating to covered misconduct involving
11 members of the Coast Guard, including whether
12 the consent of the victim should be required,
13 by—

14 “(i) victims of covered misconduct;

15 “(ii) law enforcement authorities;

16 “(iii) the Department of Veterans Af-
17 fairs; and

18 “(iv) other individuals and entities, in-
19 cluding alleged assailants;

20 “(L) require uniform collection of data
21 on—

22 “(i) the incidence of covered mis-
23 conduct in the Coast Guard; and

1 “(ii) disciplinary actions taken in sub-
2 stantiated cases of covered misconduct in
3 the Coast Guard; and

4 “(M) set forth standards for communica-
5 tions with, and notifications to, victims, con-
6 sistent with—

7 “(i) the requirements of any applica-
8 ble Department of Defense policy; and

9 “(ii) to the extent practicable, any ap-
10 plicable policy of the department in which
11 the Coast Guard is operating.

12 “(2) RETENTION OF CERTAIN FORMS AND EVI-
13 DENCE IN CONNECTION WITH RESTRICTED REPORTS
14 AND UNRESTRICTED REPORTS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT
15 INVOLVING MEMBERS OF THE COAST GUARD.—

16 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The comprehensive
17 policy required by subsection (a) shall require
18 all unique or original copies of Coast Guard
19 Form 6095 filed in connection with a restricted
20 or unrestricted report on an alleged incident of
21 rape or sexual assault, as described in sections
22 920(a) and 920(b) of title 10 (articles 120(a)
23 and 120(b) of the Uniform Code of Military
24 Justice), involving a member of the Coast
25 Guard to be retained for the longer of—

1 “(i) 50 years commencing on the date
2 of signature of the covered person on
3 Coast Guard Form 6095; or

4 “(ii) the time provided for the reten-
5 tion of such form in connection with unre-
6 stricted and restricted reports on incidents
7 of sexual assault involving members of the
8 Coast Guard under Coast Guard policy.

9 “(B) PROTECTION OF CONFIDEN-
10 TIALITY.—Any Coast Guard form retained
11 under subparagraph (A) shall be retained in a
12 manner that protects the confidentiality of the
13 member of the Coast Guard concerned in ac-
14 cordance with Coast Guard policy.

15 “(3) RETENTION OF CASE NOTES IN INVES-
16 TIGATIONS OF COVERED MISCONDUCT INVOLVING
17 MEMBERS OF THE COAST GUARD.—

18 “(A) REQUIRED RETENTION OF ALL IN-
19 VESTIGATIVE RECORDS.—The comprehensive
20 policy required by subsection (a) shall require,
21 for all criminal investigations relating to an al-
22 leged incident of covered misconduct involving a
23 member of the Coast Guard, the retention of all
24 elements of the case file.

1 “(B) ELEMENTS.—The elements of the
2 case file to be retained under subparagraph (A)
3 shall include, at a minimum—

4 “(i) the case activity record;

5 “(ii) the case review record;

6 “(iii) investigative plans; and

7 “(iv) all case notes made by any in-
8 vestigating agent.

9 “(C) RETENTION PERIOD.—All elements of
10 the case file shall be retained for not less than
11 50 years for cases involving rape or sexual as-
12 sult, as described in sections 920(a) and
13 920(b) of title 10 (articles 120(a) and 120(b)
14 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice), and
15 not less than the statute of limitations of the
16 alleged offense under the Uniform Code of Mili-
17 tary Justice for other covered misconduct, and
18 no element of any such case file may be de-
19 stroyed until the expiration of such period.

20 “(4) RETURN OF PERSONAL PROPERTY UPON
21 COMPLETION OF RELATED PROCEEDINGS IN UNRE-
22 STRICTED REPORTING CASES.—Notwithstanding the
23 records and evidence retention requirements de-
24 scribed in paragraphs (1)(E) and (2), personal prop-
25 erty retained as evidence in connection with an inci-

1 dent of rape or sexual assault, as described in sec-
2 tions 920(a) and 920(b) of title 10 (articles 120(a)
3 and 120(b) of the Uniform Code of Military Jus-
4 tice), involving a member of the Coast Guard may
5 be returned to the rightful owner of such property
6 after the conclusion of all legal, adverse action, and
7 administrative proceedings related to such incident,
8 as determined by the Commandant.

9 “(5) RETURN OF PERSONAL PROPERTY IN RE-
10 STRICTED REPORTING CASES.—

11 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
12 prescribe procedures under which a victim who
13 files a restricted report of an incident of sexual
14 assault may request, at any time, the return of
15 any personal property of the victim obtained as
16 part of the sexual assault forensic examination.

17 “(B) REQUIREMENTS.—The procedures re-
18 quired by subparagraph (A) shall ensure that—

19 “(i) a request by a victim for the re-
20 turn of personal property described under
21 subparagraph (A) may be made on a con-
22 fidential basis and without affecting the re-
23 stricted nature of the restricted report; and

24 “(ii) at the time of the filing of the re-
25 stricted report, a Special Victims’ Counsel,

1 Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, or
2 Sexual Assault Prevention and Response
3 Victim Advocate—

4 “(I) informs the victim that the
5 victim may request the return of per-
6 sonal property as described in such
7 subparagraph; and

8 “(II) advises the victim that such
9 a request for the return of personal
10 property may negatively impact a sub-
11 sequent case adjudication if the victim
12 later decides to convert the restricted
13 report to an unrestricted report.

14 “(C) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Except
15 with respect to personal property returned to a
16 victim under this paragraph, nothing in this
17 paragraph may be construed to affect the re-
18 quirement to retain a sexual assault forensic ex-
19 amination kit for the period specified in para-
20 graph (2).

21 “(6) VICTIM ACCESS TO RECORDS.—With re-
22 spect to victim access to records after all final dis-
23 position actions and any appeals have been com-
24 pleted, as applicable, the comprehensive policy re-
25 quired by subsection (a) shall provide that, to the

1 maximum extent practicable, and in such a manner
2 that will not jeopardize an active investigation or an
3 active case—

4 “(A) a victim of covered misconduct in a
5 case in which either the victim or alleged pepe-
6 trator is a covered person shall have access to
7 all records that are directly related to the vic-
8 tim’s case, or related to the victim themselves,
9 in accordance with the policy issued under sub-
10 section (a) and subject to required protections
11 under sections 552 and 552a of title 5;

12 “(B) a victim of covered misconduct who
13 requests access to records under section 552 or
14 552a of title 5 concerning the victim’s case
15 shall be determined to have a compelling need,
16 and the records request shall be processed
17 under expedited processing procedures, if in the
18 request for such records the victim indicates
19 that the records concerned are related to the
20 covered misconduct case;

21 “(C) in applying sections 552 and 552a of
22 title 5 to the redaction of information related to
23 a records request by a victim of covered mis-
24 conduct made under such sections after all final

1 disposition actions and any appeals have been
2 completed—

3 “(i) any such redaction shall be ap-
4 plied to the minimum extent possible so as
5 to ensure the provision of the maximum
6 amount of unredacted information to the
7 victim that is permissible by law; and

8 “(ii) any such redaction shall not be
9 applied to—

10 “(I) receipt by the victim of the
11 victim’s own statement; or

12 “(II) the victim’s information
13 from an investigation; and

14 “(D) in the case of such a records request
15 for which the timelines for expedited processing
16 are not met, the Commandant shall provide to
17 the Secretary, the Committee on Commerce,
18 Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and
19 the Committee on Transportation and Infra-
20 structure of the House of Representatives a
21 briefing that explains the reasons for the denial
22 or the delay in processing, as applicable.

23 “(d) DEFINITION OF COVERED PERSON.—In this
24 section, the term ‘covered person’ includes—

1 “(1) a member of the Coast Guard on active
2 duty;

3 “(2) a member of the Coast Guard Reserve
4 with respect to crimes investigated by or reported to
5 the Secretary on any date on which such member is
6 in a military status under section 802 of title 10 (ar-
7 ticle 2 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice);

8 “(3) a former member of the Coast Guard with
9 respect to crimes investigated by or reported to the
10 Secretary; and

11 “(4) in the case of an investigation of covered
12 misconduct conducted by, or an incident of covered
13 misconduct reported to, the Coast Guard involving a
14 civilian employee of the Coast Guard, any such civil-
15 ian employee of the Coast Guard.

16 “(e) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—Nothing in this section au-
17 thorizes or requires, or shall be construed to authorize or
18 require, the discovery, inspection, or production of reports,
19 memoranda, or other internal documents or work product
20 generated by counsel, an attorney for the Government, or
21 their assistants or representatives.”.

22 (b) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 9 of title
23 14, United States Code, is further amended by adding at
24 the end the following:

1 **“§ 956. Requirement to maintain certain records**

2 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant shall maintain
3 all work product related to documenting a disposition deci-
4 sion on an investigation by the Coast Guard Investigative
5 Service or other law enforcement entity investigating a
6 Coast Guard member accused of an offense against chap-
7 ter 47 of title 10.

8 “(b) RECORD RETENTION PERIOD.—Work product
9 documents and the case action summary described in sub-
10 section (c) shall be maintained for a period of not less
11 than 7 years from the date of the disposition decision.

12 “(c) CASE ACTION SUMMARY.—Upon a final disposi-
13 tion action for cases described in subsection (a), except
14 for offenses of wrongful use or possession of a controlled
15 substance under section 912a of title 10 (article 112a of
16 the Uniform Code of Military Justice), where the member
17 accused is an officer of pay grade O–4 and below or an
18 enlisted member of pay grade E–7 and below, a convening
19 authority shall sign a case action summary that includes
20 the following:

21 “(1) The disposition actions.

22 “(2) The name and command of the referral
23 authority.

24 “(3) Records documenting when a referral au-
25 thority consulted with a staff judge advocate or spe-
26 cial trial counsel, as applicable, before a disposition

1 action was taken, to include the recommendation of
2 the staff judge advocate or special trial counsel.

3 “(4) A reference section listing the materials re-
4 viewed in making a disposition decision.

5 “(5) The Coast Guard Investigative Service re-
6 port of investigation.

7 “(6) The completed Coast Guard Investigative
8 Service report of adjudication included as an enclo-
9 sure.

10 “(d) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘work
11 product’ includes—

12 “(1) a prosecution memorandum;

13 “(2) emails, notes, and other correspondence re-
14 lated to a disposition decision; and

15 “(3) the contents described in paragraphs (1)
16 through (6) of subsection (c).

17 “(e) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—Nothing in this section au-
18 thorizes or requires, or shall be construed to authorize or
19 require, the discovery, inspection, or production of reports,
20 memoranda, or other internal documents or work product
21 generated by counsel, an attorney for the Government, or
22 their assistants or representatives.”.

23 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
24 ter 9 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by add-
25 ing at the end the following:

“Sec. 955. Comprehensive policy and procedures on retention and access to evidence and records relating to sexual misconduct and other misconduct.

“Sec. 956. Requirement to maintain certain records.”.

1 **SEC. 403. CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FOR TRANSFER OF**
2 **A CADET AT THE COAST GUARD ACADEMY**
3 **WHO IS THE VICTIM OF A SEXUAL ASSAULT**
4 **OR RELATED OFFENSE.**

5 Section 1902 of title 14, United States Code, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

7 “(g) CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FOR TRANSFER
8 OF CADET WHO IS THE VICTIM OF SEXUAL ASSAULT OR
9 RELATED OFFENSE.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant shall
11 provide for timely consideration of and action on a
12 request submitted by a cadet appointed to the Coast
13 Guard Academy who is the victim of an alleged sexual
14 assault or other offense covered by section 920,
15 920c, or 930 of title 10 (article 120, 120c, or 130
16 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice) for transfer
17 to another military service academy or to enroll in
18 a Senior Reserve Officers’ Training Corps program
19 affiliated with another institution of higher education.
20

21 “(2) REGULATIONS.—The Commandant, in
22 consultation with the Secretary of Defense, shall establish
23 policies to carry out this subsection that—

1 “(A) provide that the Superintendent shall
2 ensure that any cadet who has been appointed
3 to the Coast Guard Academy is informed of the
4 right to request a transfer pursuant to this sub-
5 section, and that any formal request submitted
6 by a cadet who alleges an offense referred to in
7 paragraph (1) is processed as expeditiously as
8 practicable through the chain of command for
9 review and action by the Superintendent;

10 “(B) direct the Superintendent, in coordi-
11 nation with the Superintendent of the military
12 service academy to which the cadet requests to
13 transfer—

14 “(i) to take action on a request for
15 transfer under this subsection not later
16 than 72 hours after receiving the formal
17 request from the cadet;

18 “(ii) to approve such request for
19 transfer unless there are exceptional cir-
20 cumstances that require denial of the re-
21 quest;

22 “(iii) upon approval of such request
23 for transfer, to take all necessary and ap-
24 propriate action to effectuate the transfer
25 of the cadet to the military service acad-

1 emy concerned as expeditiously as possible,
2 subject to the considerations described in
3 clause (iv); and

4 “(iv) in determining the transfer date
5 of the cadet to the military service acad-
6 emy concerned, to take into account—

7 “(I) the preferences of the cadet,
8 including any preference to delay
9 transfer until the completion of any
10 academic course in which the cadet is
11 enrolled at the time of the request for
12 transfer; and

13 “(II) the well-being of the cadet;
14 and

15 “(C) direct the Superintendent of the
16 Coast Guard Academy, in coordination with the
17 Secretary of the military department that spon-
18 sors the Senior Reserve Officers’ Training
19 Corps program at the institution of higher edu-
20 cation to which the cadet requests to transfer—

21 “(i) to take action on a request for
22 transfer under this subsection not later
23 than 72 hours after receiving the formal
24 request from the cadet;

1 enrolled at the time of the request for
2 transfer; and

3 “(II) the well-being of the cadet.

4 “(3) REVIEW.—If the Superintendent denies a
5 request for transfer under this subsection, the cadet
6 may request review of the denial by the Secretary,
7 who shall take action on such request for review not
8 later than 72 hours after receipt of such request.

9 “(4) CONFIDENTIALITY.—The Secretary shall
10 ensure that all records of any request, determina-
11 tion, transfer, or other action under this subsection
12 remain confidential, consistent with applicable law
13 and regulation.

14 “(5) EFFECT OF OTHER LAW.—A cadet who
15 transfers under this subsection may retain the ca-
16 det’s appointment to the Coast Guard Academy or
17 may be appointed to the military service academy to
18 which the cadet transfers without regard to the limi-
19 tations and requirements set forth in sections 7442,
20 8454, and 9442 of title 10.

21 “(6) COMMISSION AS OFFICER IN THE COAST
22 GUARD.—

23 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Upon graduation, a
24 graduate of the United States Military Acad-
25 emy, the United States Air Force Academy, or

1 the United States Naval Academy who trans-
2 ferred to that academy under this subsection is
3 entitled to be accepted for appointment as a
4 permanent commissioned officer in the Regular
5 Coast Guard in the same manner as graduates
6 of the Coast Guard Academy, as set forth in
7 section 2101 of this title.

8 “(B) COMMISSION AS OFFICER IN OTHER
9 ARMED FORCE.—

10 “(i) IN GENERAL.—A cadet who
11 transfers under this subsection to the
12 United States Military Academy, the
13 United States Air Force Academy, or the
14 United States Naval Academy and indi-
15 cates a preference pursuant to clause (ii)
16 may be appointed as a commissioned offi-
17 cer in an armed force associated with the
18 academy from which the cadet graduated.

19 “(ii) STATEMENT OF PREFERENCE.—
20 A cadet seeking appointment as a commis-
21 sioned officer in an armed force associated
22 with the academy from which the cadet
23 graduated under clause (i) shall, before
24 graduating from that academy, indicate to
25 the Commandant that the cadet has a

1 preference for appointment to that armed
2 force.

3 “(iii) CONSIDERATION BY COAST
4 GUARD.—The Commandant shall consider
5 a preference of a cadet indicated pursuant
6 to clause (ii), but may require the cadet to
7 serve as a permanent commissioned officer
8 in the Regular Coast Guard instead of
9 being appointed as a commissioned officer
10 in an armed force associated with the
11 academy from which the cadet graduated.

12 “(iv) TREATMENT OF SERVICE
13 AGREEMENT.—With respect to a service
14 agreement entered into under section 1925
15 of this title by a cadet who transfers under
16 this subsection to the United States Mili-
17 tary Academy, the United States Air Force
18 Academy, or the United States Naval
19 Academy and is appointed as a commis-
20 sioned officer in an armed force associated
21 with that academy, the service obligation
22 undertaken under such agreement shall be
23 considered to be satisfied upon the comple-
24 tion of 5 years of active duty service in the
25 service of such armed force.

1 “(C) SENIOR RESERVE OFFICERS’ TRAIN-
2 ING CORPS PROGRAM.—A cadet who transfers
3 under this subsection to a Senior Reserve Offi-
4 cers’ Training Corps program affiliated with
5 another institution of higher education is enti-
6 tled upon graduation from the Senior Reserve
7 Officers’ Training program to commission into
8 the Coast Guard, as set forth in section 3738a
9 of this title.”.

10 **SEC. 404. DESIGNATION OF OFFICERS WITH PARTICULAR**
11 **EXPERTISE IN MILITARY JUSTICE OR**
12 **HEALTHCARE.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 21 of title
14 14, United States Code is amended by adding at the end
15 the following:

16 **“§ 2132. Designation of officers with particular exper-**
17 **tise in military justice or healthcare**

18 “(a) SECRETARY DESIGNATION.—The Secretary may
19 designate a limited number of officers of the Coast Guard
20 as having particular expertise in—

21 “(1) military justice; or

22 “(2) healthcare.

23 “(b) PROMOTION AND GRADE.—An individual des-
24 ignated under this section—

1 “(1) shall not be included on the active duty
2 promotion list;

3 “(2) shall be promoted under section 2126; and

4 “(3) may not be promoted to a grade higher
5 than captain.”.

6 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
7 ter 21 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by in-
8 serting after the item relating to section 2131 the fol-
9 lowing:

 “2132. Designation of officers with particular expertise in military justice or
 healthcare.”.

10 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

11 (1) Section 2102(a) of title 14, United States
12 Code, is amended, in the second sentence by striking
13 “and officers of the permanent commissioned teach-
14 ing staff of the Coast Guard Academy” and insert-
15 ing “officers of the permanent commissioned teach-
16 ing staff of the Coast Guard Academy, and officers
17 designated by the Secretary pursuant this section”.

18 (2) Subsection (e) of section 2103 of title 14,
19 United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

20 “(e) SECRETARY TO PRESCRIBE NUMBERS FOR CER-
21 TAIN OFFICERS.—The Secretary shall prescribe the num-
22 ber of officers authorized to be serving on active duty in
23 each grade of—

1 “(1) the permanent commissioned teaching
2 staff of the Coast Guard Academy;

3 “(2) the officers designated by the Secretary
4 pursuant to this section; and

5 “(3) the officers of the Reserve serving in con-
6 nection with organizing, administering, recruiting,
7 instructing, or training the reserve components.”.

8 (3) Section 2126 of title 14, United States
9 Code, is amended, in the second sentence, by insert-
10 ing “and as to officers designated by the Secretary
11 pursuant to this section” after “reserve compo-
12 nents”.

13 (4) Section 3736(a) of title 14, United States
14 Code, is amended—

15 (A) in the first sentence by striking “pro-
16 motion list and the” and inserting “promotion
17 list, officers designated by the Secretary pursu-
18 ant to this section, and the officers on the”;
19 and

20 (B) in the second sentence by striking
21 “promotion list or the” and inserting “pro-
22 motion list, officers designated by the Secretary
23 pursuant to this section, or the officers on the”.

1 **SEC. 405. SAFE-TO-REPORT POLICY FOR COAST GUARD.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 19 of title
3 14, United States Code, is further amended by adding at
4 the end the following:

5 **“§ 1909. Safe-to-Report policy for Coast Guard**

6 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the
7 date of enactment of the Coast Guard Authorization Act
8 of 2024, the Commandant shall, in consultation with the
9 Secretaries of the military departments, establish and
10 maintain a safe-to-report policy described in subsection (b)
11 that applies with respect to all members of the Coast
12 Guard (including members of the reserve and auxiliary
13 components of the Coast Guard), cadets at the Coast
14 Guard Academy, and any other individual undergoing
15 training at an accession point of the Coast Guard.

16 “(b) SAFE-TO-REPORT POLICY.—The safe-to-report
17 policy described in this subsection is a policy that—

18 “(1) prescribes the handling of minor collateral
19 misconduct, involving a member of the Coast Guard
20 who is the alleged victim or reporting witness of a
21 sexual assault; and

22 “(2) applies to all such individuals, regardless
23 of—

24 “(A) to whom the victim makes the allega-
25 tion or who receives the victim’s report of sex-
26 ual assault; or

1 “(B) whether the report, investigation, or
2 prosecution is handled by military or civilian
3 authorities.

4 “(c) MITIGATING AND AGGRAVATING CIR-
5 CUMSTANCES.—In issuing the policy under subsection (a),
6 the Commandant shall specify mitigating circumstances
7 that decrease the gravity of minor collateral misconduct
8 or the impact of such misconduct on good order and dis-
9 cipline and aggravating circumstances that increase the
10 gravity of minor collateral misconduct or the impact of
11 such misconduct on good order and discipline for purposes
12 of the safe-to-report policy.

13 “(d) TRACKING OF COLLATERAL MISCONDUCT INCI-
14 DENTS.—In conjunction with the issuance of the policy
15 under subsection (a), the Commandant shall develop and
16 implement a process to anonymously track incidents of
17 minor collateral misconduct that are subject to the safe-
18 to-report policy.

19 “(e) MINOR COLLATERAL MISCONDUCT DEFINED.—
20 In this section, the term ‘minor collateral misconduct’
21 means any minor misconduct that is potentially punish-
22 able under chapter 47 of title 10 that—

23 “(1) is committed close in time to or during a
24 sexual assault and directly related to the incident

1 that formed the basis of the allegation of sexual as-
2 sault allegation;

3 “(2) is discovered as a direct result of the re-
4 port of sexual assault or the ensuing investigation
5 into such sexual assault; and

6 “(3) does not involve aggravating circumstances
7 (as specified in the policy issued under subsection
8 (a)) that increase the gravity of the minor mis-
9 conduct or the impact of such misconduct on good
10 order and discipline.”.

11 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
12 ter 19 of title 14, United States Code, is further amended
13 by inserting after the item relating to section 1908 (as
14 added by this Act) the following:

“1909. Safe-to-Report policy for Coast Guard.”.

15 **SEC. 406. MODIFICATION OF REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**
16 **ON COVERED MISCONDUCT IN COAST GUARD.**

17 (a) ASSESSMENT OF POLICY ON COVERED MIS-
18 CONDUCT.—Section 1902 of title 14, United States Code,
19 is further amended—

20 (1) in the section heading by striking “**Policy**
21 **on sexual harassment and sexual vio-**
22 **lence**” and inserting “**Academy policy and**
23 **report on covered misconduct**”; and

24 (2) by striking subsections (c) through (e) and
25 inserting the following:

1 “(c) ASSESSMENT.—

2 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant shall di-
3 rect the Superintendent of the Coast Guard Acad-
4 emy to conduct at the Coast Guard Academy during
5 each Academy program year an assessment to deter-
6 mine the effectiveness of the policies of the Academy
7 with respect to covered misconduct involving cadets
8 or other military or civilian personnel of the Acad-
9 emy.

10 “(2) BIENNIAL SURVEY.—For the assessment
11 at the Academy under paragraph (1) with respect to
12 an Academy program year that begins in an odd-
13 numbered calendar year, the Superintendent shall
14 conduct a survey of cadets and other military and ci-
15 vilian personnel of the Academy—

16 “(A) to measure the incidence, during such
17 program year—

18 “(i) of covered misconduct events, on
19 or off the Academy campus, that have been
20 reported to an official of the Academy;

21 “(ii) of covered misconduct events, on
22 or off the Academy campus, that have not
23 been reported to an official of the Acad-
24 emy; and

1 “(iii) of retaliation related to a report
2 of a covered misconduct event, on or off
3 the Academy campus; and

4 “(B) to assess the perceptions of the ca-
5 dets and other military and civilian personnel of
6 the Academy with respect to—

7 “(i) the Academy’s policies, training,
8 and procedures on covered misconduct in-
9 volving cadets and other military and civil-
10 ian personnel of the Academy;

11 “(ii) the enforcement of such policies;

12 “(iii) the incidence of covered mis-
13 conduct involving cadets and other military
14 and civilian personnel of the Academy; and

15 “(iv) any other issues relating to cov-
16 ered misconduct involving cadets and other
17 military and civilian personnel of the Acad-
18 emy.

19 “(d) REPORT.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not earlier than 1 year
21 after the date of the enactment of the Coast Guard
22 Authorization Act of 2024, and each March 1 there-
23 after through March 1, 2031, the Commandant shall
24 direct the Superintendent to submit to the Com-
25 mandant a report on incidents of covered misconduct

1 and retaliation for reporting of covered misconduct
2 involving cadets or other military and civilian per-
3 sonnel of the Academy.

4 “(2) ELEMENTS.—

5 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Each report required
6 under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

7 “(i) Information and data on all inci-
8 dents of covered misconduct and retaliation
9 described in paragraph (1) reported to the
10 Superintendent or any other official of the
11 Academy during the preceding Academy
12 program year (referred to in this sub-
13 section as a ‘reported incident’),

14 “(ii) The number of reported incidents
15 committed against a cadet or any other
16 military or civilian personnel of the Acad-
17 emy.

18 “(iii) The number of reported inci-
19 dents committed by a cadet or any other
20 military or civilian personnel of the Acad-
21 emy.

22 “(iv) Information on reported inci-
23 dents, in accordance with the policy pre-
24 scribed under section 549G(b) of the Na-
25 tional Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal

1 Year 2022 (10 U.S.C. 1561 note), to the
2 maximum extent practicable.

3 “(v) The number of reported incidents
4 that were entered into the Catch a Serial
5 Offender system, including the number of
6 such incidents that resulted in the identi-
7 fication of a potential or confirmed match.

8 “(vi) The number of reported inci-
9 dents that were substantiated (referred to
10 in this subsection as a ‘substantiated re-
11 ported incident’).

12 “(vii) A synopsis of each substan-
13 tiated reported incident that includes—

14 “(I) a brief description of the na-
15 ture of the incident;

16 “(II) whether the accused cadet
17 or other military or civilian personnel
18 of the Academy had previously been
19 convicted of sexual assault; and

20 “(III) whether alcohol or other
21 controlled or prohibited substances
22 were involved in the incident, and a
23 description of the involvement.

1 allowed to resign in lieu of court mar-
2 tial, and the characterization (honor-
3 able, general, or other than honorable)
4 of the service of the military member
5 upon separation or resignation.

6 “(ix) With respect to any incident of
7 covered misconduct involving cadets or
8 other military and civilian personnel of the
9 Academy reported to the Superintendent
10 or any other official of the Academy during
11 the preceding Academy program year that
12 involves a report of retaliation relating to
13 the incident—

14 “(I) a narrative description of
15 the retaliation claim;

16 “(II) the nature of the relation-
17 ship between the complainant and the
18 individual accused of committing the
19 retaliation; and

20 “(III) the nature of the relation-
21 ship between the individual accused of
22 committing the covered misconduct
23 and the individual accused of commit-
24 ting the retaliation.

1 “(x) With respect to any investigation
2 of a reported incident—

3 “(I) whether the investigation is
4 in open or completed status;

5 “(II) an identification of the in-
6 vestigating entity;

7 “(III) whether a referral has
8 been made to outside law enforcement
9 entities;

10 “(IV) in the case of an investiga-
11 tion that is complete, a description of
12 the results of such an investigation
13 and information with respect to
14 whether the results of the investiga-
15 tion were provided to the complainant;
16 and

17 “(V) whether the investigation
18 substantiated an offense under chap-
19 ter 47 of title 10 (the Uniform Code
20 of Military Justice).

21 “(B) FORMAT.—With respect to the infor-
22 mation and data required under subparagraph
23 (A), the Commandant shall report such infor-
24 mation and data separately for each type of
25 covered misconduct offense, and shall not ag-

1 gregate the information and data for multiple
2 types of covered misconduct offenses.

3 “(3) TRENDS.—Subject to subsection (f), begin-
4 ning on the date of enactment of the Coast Guard
5 Authorization Act of 2024, each report required
6 under paragraph (1) shall include an analysis of
7 trends in incidents described in paragraph (1), as
8 applicable, since the date of the enactment of the
9 Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of
10 2012 (Public Law 112–213).

11 “(4) RESPONSE.—Each report required under
12 paragraph (1) shall include, for the preceding Acad-
13 emy program year, a description of the policies, pro-
14 cedures, processes, initiatives, investigations (includ-
15 ing overarching investigations), research, or studies
16 implemented by the Commandant in response to any
17 incident described in paragraph (1) involving a cadet
18 or any other military or civilian personnel of the
19 Academy.

20 “(5) PLAN.—Each report required under para-
21 graph (1) shall include a plan for actions to be taken
22 during the year following the Academy program year
23 covered by the report to enhance the prevention of
24 and response to incidents of covered misconduct and
25 retaliation for reporting of covered misconduct in-

1 volving cadets or other military or civilian personnel
2 of the Academy.

3 “(6) COVERED MISCONDUCT PREVENTION AND
4 RESPONSE ACTIVITIES.—Each report required under
5 paragraph (1) shall include an assessment of the
6 adequacy of covered misconduct prevention and re-
7 sponse carried out by the Academy during the pre-
8 ceding Academy program year.

9 “(7) CONTRIBUTING FACTORS.—Each report
10 required under paragraph (1) shall include, for inci-
11 dents of covered misconduct and retaliation for re-
12 porting of covered misconduct involving cadets or
13 other military or civilian personnel of the Acad-
14 emy—

15 “(A) an analysis of the factors that may
16 have contributed to such incidents;

17 “(B) an assessment of the role of such fac-
18 tors in contributing to such incidents during
19 such Academy program year; and

20 “(C) recommendations for mechanisms to
21 eliminate or reduce such contributing factors.

22 “(8) BIENNIAL SURVEY.—Each report under
23 paragraph (1) for an Academy program year that
24 begins in an odd-numbered calendar year shall in-

1 clude the results of the survey conducted under sub-
2 section (c)(2) in such Academy program year.

3 “(9) FOCUS GROUPS.—For each Academy pro-
4 gram year with respect to which the Superintendent
5 is not required to conduct a survey at the Academy
6 under subsection (c)(2), the Commandant shall re-
7 quire focus groups to be conducted at the Academy
8 for the purpose of ascertaining information relating
9 to covered misconduct issues at the Academy.

10 “(10) SUBMISSION OF REPORT; BRIEFING.—

11 “(A) SUBMISSION.—Not later than 270
12 days after the date on which the Commandant
13 receives a report from the Superintendent
14 under paragraph (1), the Commandant shall
15 submit to the Committee on Commerce,
16 Science, and Transportation of the Senate and
17 the Committee on Transportation and Infra-
18 structure of the House of Representatives, as
19 an enclosure or appendix to the report required
20 by section 5112—

21 “(i) the report of the Superintendent;

22 “(ii) the comments of the Com-
23 mandant with respect to the report; and

24 “(iii) relevant information gathered
25 during a focus group under subparagraph

1 (A) during the Academy program year cov-
2 ered by the report, as applicable.

3 “(B) BRIEFING.—Not later than 180 days
4 after the date on which the Commandant sub-
5 mits a report under subparagraph (A), the
6 Commandant shall provide a briefing on the re-
7 port submitted under subparagraph (A) to—

8 “(i) the Committee on Commerce,
9 Science, and Transportation of the Senate
10 and the Committee on Transportation and
11 Infrastructure of the House of Representa-
12 tives; and

13 “(ii) the Secretary of Homeland Secu-
14 rity.

15 “(e) VICTIM CONFIDENTIALITY.—To the extent that
16 information collected or reported under the authority of
17 this section, such information shall be provided in a form
18 that is consistent with applicable privacy protections under
19 Federal law and does not jeopardize the confidentiality of
20 victims.

21 “(f) CONTINUITY OF DATA AND REPORTING.—In
22 carrying out this section, the Commandant shall ensure
23 the continuity of data collection and reporting such that
24 the ability to analyze trends is not compromised.”.

1 (b) COVERED MISCONDUCT IN COAST GUARD.—Sec-
2 tion 5112 of title 14, United States Code, is amended to
3 read as follows:

4 **“§ 5112. Covered misconduct in Coast Guard**

5 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than March 1 each
6 year, the Commandant shall submit to the Committee on
7 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and
8 the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of
9 the House of Representatives a report on incidents of cov-
10 ered misconduct involving members of the Coast Guard,
11 including recruits and officer candidates, and claims of re-
12 taliation related to the reporting of any such incident.

13 “(b) CONTINUITY OF DATA AND REPORTING.—In
14 carrying out this section, the Commandant shall ensure
15 the continuity of data collection and reporting such that
16 the ability to analyze trends is not compromised.

17 “(c) CONTENTS.—

18 “(1) INCIDENTS INVOLVING MEMBERS.—

19 “(A) INFORMATION AND DATA.—

20 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Each report re-
21 quired under subsection (a) shall include,
22 for the preceding calendar year, informa-
23 tion and data on—

24 “(I) incidents of covered mis-
25 conduct; and

1 “(II) incidents of retaliation
2 against a member of the Coast Guard
3 related to the reporting of covered
4 misconduct, disaggregated by type of
5 retaliation claim.

6 “(ii) INCLUSIONS.—The information
7 and data on the incidents described in
8 clause (i) shall include the following:

9 “(I) All incidents of covered mis-
10 conduct and retaliation described in
11 clause (i) reported to the Com-
12 mandant or any other official of the
13 Coast Guard during the preceding cal-
14 endar year (referred to in this sub-
15 section as a ‘reported incident’).

16 “(II) The number of reported in-
17 cidents committed against members of
18 the Coast Guard.

19 “(III) The number of reported
20 incidents committed by members of
21 the Coast Guard.

22 “(IV) Information on reported
23 incidents, in accordance with the pol-
24 icy prescribed under section 549G(b)
25 of the National Defense Authorization

1 Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (10 U.S.C.
2 1561 note), to the maximum extent
3 practicable.

4 “(V) The number of reported in-
5 cidents that were entered into the
6 Catch a Serial Offender system, in-
7 cluding the number of such incidents
8 that resulted in the identification of a
9 potential or confirmed match.

10 “(VI) The number of reported in-
11 cidents that were substantiated (re-
12 ferred to in this subsection as a ‘sub-
13 stantiated reported incident’).

14 “(VII) A synopsis of each sub-
15 stantiated reported incident that in-
16 cludes—

17 “(aa) a brief description of
18 the nature of the incident;

19 “(bb) whether the accused
20 member has previously been con-
21 victed of sexual assault; and

22 “(cc) whether alcohol or
23 other controlled or prohibited
24 substances were involved in the

1 incident, and a description of the
2 involvement.

3 “(VIII) The type of case disposi-
4 tion associated with each substan-
5 tiated reported incident, such as—

6 “(aa) conviction and sen-
7 tence by court-martial, including
8 charges and specifications for
9 which convicted;

10 “(bb) acquittal of all charges
11 at court-martial;

12 “(cc) as appropriate, imposi-
13 tion of a nonjudicial punishment
14 under section 815 of title 10 (ar-
15 ticle 15 of the Uniform Code of
16 Military Justice);

17 “(dd) as appropriate, admin-
18 istrative action taken, including a
19 description of each type of such
20 action imposed;

21 “(ee) dismissal of all
22 charges, including a description
23 of each reason for dismissal and
24 the stage at which dismissal oc-
25 curred; and

1 “(ff) whether the accused
2 member was administratively sep-
3 arated or, in the case of an offi-
4 cer, allowed to resign in lieu of
5 court-martial, and the character-
6 ization (honorable, general, or
7 other than honorable) of the
8 service of the member upon sepa-
9 ration or resignation.

10 “(IX) With respect to any inci-
11 dent of covered misconduct reported
12 to the Commandant or any other offi-
13 cial of the Coast Guard during the
14 preceding calendar year that involves
15 a report of retaliation relating to the
16 incident—

17 “(aa) a narrative description
18 of the retaliation claim;

19 “(bb) the nature of the rela-
20 tionship between the complainant
21 and the individual accused of
22 committing the retaliation; and

23 “(cc) the nature of the rela-
24 tionship between the individual
25 accused of committing the cov-

1 ered misconduct and the indi-
2 vidual accused of committing the
3 retaliation.

4 “(X) The disposition of or action
5 taken by the Coast Guard or any
6 other Federal, State, local, or Tribal
7 entity with respect to a substantiated
8 reported incident.

9 “(XI) With respect to any inves-
10 tigation of a reported incident—

11 “(aa) the status of the in-
12 vestigation or information relat-
13 ing to any referral to outside law
14 enforcement entities;

15 “(bb) the official or office of
16 the Coast Guard that received
17 the complaint;

18 “(cc) a description of the re-
19 sults of such an investigation or
20 information with respect to
21 whether the results of the inves-
22 tigation were provided to the
23 complainant; or

24 “(dd) whether the investiga-
25 tion substantiated an offense

1 under chapter 47 of title 10 (the
2 Uniform Code of Military Jus-
3 tice).

4 “(iii) FORMAT.—With respect to the
5 information and data required under
6 clause (i), the Commandant shall report
7 such information and data separately for
8 each type of covered misconduct offense,
9 and shall not aggregate the information
10 and data for multiple types of covered mis-
11 conduct offenses.

12 “(B) TRENDS.—Subject to subsection (b),
13 beginning on the date of enactment of the
14 Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2024, each
15 report required by subsection (a) shall include,
16 for the preceding calendar year, an analysis or
17 assessment of trends in the occurrence, as ap-
18 plicable, of incidents described in subparagraph
19 (A)(i), since the date of enactment of the Coast
20 Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of
21 2012 (Public Law 112–213).

22 “(C) RESPONSE.—Each report required
23 under subsection (a) shall include, for the pre-
24 ceding calendar year, a description of the poli-
25 cies, procedures, processes, initiatives, investiga-

1 tions (including overarching investigations), re-
2 search, or studies implemented by the Com-
3 mandant in response to any incident described
4 in subparagraph (A)(i) involving a member of
5 the Coast Guard.

6 “(D) PLAN.—Each report required under
7 subsection (a) shall include a plan for actions to
8 be taken during the year following the year cov-
9 ered by the report to enhance the prevention of
10 and response to incidents described in subpara-
11 graph (A)(i) involving members of the Coast
12 Guard.

13 “(E) COVERED MISCONDUCT PREVENTION
14 AND RESPONSE ACTIVITIES.—Each report re-
15 quired under subsection (a) shall include an as-
16 sessment of the adequacy of covered misconduct
17 prevention and response activities related to in-
18 cidents described in subparagraph (A)(i) carried
19 out by the Coast Guard during the preceding
20 calendar year.

21 “(F) CONTRIBUTING FACTORS.—Each re-
22 port required under subsection (a) shall include,
23 for incidents described in subparagraph
24 (A)(i)—

1 ered misconduct, disaggregated by
2 type of retaliation claim.

3 “(ii) INCLUSIONS.—

4 “(I) IN GENERAL.—The informa-
5 tion and data on the incidents de-
6 scribed in clause (i) shall include the
7 following:

8 “(aa) All incidents of cov-
9 ered misconduct and retaliation
10 described in clause (i) reported to
11 the Commandant or any other of-
12 ficial of the Coast Guard during
13 the preceding calendar year (re-
14 ferred to in this subsection as a
15 ‘reported incident’).

16 “(bb) The number of re-
17 ported incidents committed
18 against recruits and officer can-
19 didates described in clause (i)(I).

20 “(cc) The number of re-
21 ported incidents committed by
22 such recruits and officer can-
23 didates.

24 “(dd) Information on re-
25 ported incidents, in accordance

1 with the policy prescribed under
2 section 549G(b) of the National
3 Defense Authorization Act for
4 Fiscal Year 2022 (10 U.S.C.
5 1561 note), to the maximum ex-
6 tent practicable.

7 “(ee)(AA) The number of
8 reported incidents that were en-
9 tered into the Catch a Serial Of-
10 fender system.

11 “(BB) Of such reported
12 incidents entered into such
13 system, the number that re-
14 sulted in the identification of
15 a potential or confirmed
16 match.

17 “(ff) The number of re-
18 ported incidents that were sub-
19 stantiated (referred to in this
20 subsection as a ‘substantiated re-
21 ported incident’).

22 “(gg) A synopsis of each
23 substantiated reported incident
24 that includes—

1 “(AA) a brief descrip-
2 tion of the nature of the in-
3 cident; and

4 “(BB) whether alcohol
5 or other controlled or pro-
6 hibited substances were in-
7 volved in the incident, and a
8 description of the involve-
9 ment.

10 “(hh) The type of case dis-
11 position associated with each sub-
12 stantiated reported incident, such
13 as—

14 “(AA) conviction and
15 sentence by court-martial,
16 including charges and speci-
17 fications for which convicted;

18 “(BB) acquittal of all
19 charges at court-martial;

20 “(CC) as appropriate,
21 imposition of a nonjudicial
22 punishment under section
23 815 of title 10 (article 15 of
24 the Uniform Code of Mili-
25 tary Justice);

1 “(DD) as appropriate,
2 administrative action taken,
3 including a description of
4 each type of such action im-
5 posed;

6 “(EE) dismissal of all
7 charges, including a descrip-
8 tion of each reason for dis-
9 missal and the stage at
10 which dismissal occurred;
11 and

12 “(FF) whether the ac-
13 cused member was adminis-
14 tratively separated or, in the
15 case of an officer, allowed to
16 resign in lieu of court-mar-
17 tial, and the characterization
18 (honorable, general, or other
19 than honorable) of the serv-
20 ice of the member upon sep-
21 aration or resignation.

22 “(ii) With respect to any in-
23 cident of covered misconduct in-
24 volving recruits or officer can-
25 didates reported to the Com-

1 mandant or any other official of
2 the Coast Guard during the pre-
3 ceding calendar year that in-
4 volves a report of retaliation re-
5 lating to the incident—

6 “(AA) a narrative de-
7 scription of the retaliation
8 claim;

9 “(BB) the nature of the
10 relationship between the
11 complainant and the indi-
12 vidual accused of commit-
13 ting the retaliation; and

14 “(CC) the nature of the
15 relationship between the in-
16 dividual accused of commit-
17 ting the covered misconduct
18 and the individual accused
19 of committing the retalia-
20 tion.

21 “(jj) The disposition of or
22 action taken by the Coast Guard
23 or any other Federal, State,
24 local, or Tribal entity with re-

1 spect to a substantiated reported
2 incident.

3 “(kk) With respect to any
4 investigation of a reported inci-
5 dent—

6 “(AA) the status of the
7 investigation or information
8 relating to any referral to
9 outside law enforcement en-
10 tities;

11 “(BB) the official or of-
12 fice of the Coast Guard that
13 received the complaint;

14 “(CC) a description of
15 the results of such an inves-
16 tigation or information with
17 respect to whether the re-
18 sults of the investigation
19 were provided to the com-
20 plainant; or

21 “(DD) whether the in-
22 vestigation substantiated an
23 offense under chapter 47 of
24 title 10 (the Uniform Code
25 of Military Justice).

1 “(II) FORMAT.—With respect to
2 the information and data required
3 under clause (i), the Commandant
4 shall report such information and
5 data separately for each type of cov-
6 ered misconduct offense, and shall not
7 aggregate the information and data
8 for multiple types of covered mis-
9 conduct offenses.

10 “(B) TRENDS.—Subject to subsection (b),
11 beginning on the date of enactment of Coast
12 Guard Authorization Act of 2024, each report
13 required by subsection (a) shall include, for the
14 preceding calendar year, an analysis or assess-
15 ment of trends in the occurrence, as applicable,
16 of incidents described in subparagraph (A)(i),
17 since the date of enactment of the Coast Guard
18 and Maritime Transportation Act of 2012
19 (Public Law 112–213).

20 “(C) RESPONSE.—Each report required
21 under subsection (a) shall include, for the pre-
22 ceding calendar year, a description of the poli-
23 cies, procedures, processes, initiatives, investiga-
24 tions (including overarching investigations), re-
25 search, or studies implemented by the Com-

1 mandant in response to any incident described
2 in subparagraph (A)(i) involving—

3 “(i) a recruit of the Coast Guard at
4 Training Center Cape May; or

5 “(ii) an officer candidate at the Coast
6 Guard Officer Candidate School.

7 “(D) PLAN.—Each report required under
8 subsection (a) shall include a plan for actions to
9 be taken during the year following the year cov-
10 ered by the report to enhance the prevention of
11 and response to incidents described in subpara-
12 graph (A)(i) involving a recruit of the Coast
13 Guard at Training Center Cape May or an offi-
14 cer candidate at the Coast Guard Officer Can-
15 didate School.

16 “(E) COVERED MISCONDUCT PREVENTION
17 AND RESPONSE ACTIVITIES.—Each report re-
18 quired under subsection (a) shall include an as-
19 sessment of the adequacy of covered misconduct
20 prevention and response activities related to in-
21 cidents described in subparagraph (A)(i) of this
22 paragraph carried out by the Coast Guard dur-
23 ing the preceding calendar year.

24 “(F) CONTRIBUTING FACTORS.—Each re-
25 port required under subsection (a) shall include,

1 for incidents described in subparagraph
2 (A)(i)—

3 “(i) an analysis of the factors that
4 may have contributed to such incidents;

5 “(ii) an assessment of the role of such
6 factors in contributing to such incidents
7 during such year; and

8 “(iii) recommendations for mecha-
9 nisms to eliminate or reduce such contrib-
10 uting factors.

11 “(3) IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF ACCOUNT-
12 ABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY REVIEW DIRECTED AC-
13 TIONS.—Each report required under subsection (a)
14 submitted during the 5-year period beginning on
15 March 1, 2025, shall include information on the im-
16 plementation by the Commandant of the directed ac-
17 tions described in the memorandum of the Coast
18 Guard titled ‘Commandant’s Directed Actions—Ac-
19 countability and Transparency’, issued on November
20 27, 2023, including—

21 “(A) a description of actions taken to ad-
22 dress each directed action during the year cov-
23 ered by the report;

24 “(B) the implementation status of each di-
25 rected action;

1 “(C) in the case of any directed action that
2 has not been implemented—

3 “(i) a detailed action plan for imple-
4 mentation of the recommendation;

5 “(ii) an estimated timeline for imple-
6 mentation of the recommendation;

7 “(iii) description of changes the Com-
8 mandant intends to make to associated
9 Coast Guard policies so as to enable the
10 implementation of the recommendation;
11 and

12 “(iv) any other information the Com-
13 mandant considers appropriate;

14 “(D) a description of the metrics and mile-
15 stones used to measure completion, account-
16 ability, and effectiveness of each directed ac-
17 tion;

18 “(E) a description of any additional ac-
19 tions the Commandant is taking to mitigate in-
20 stances of covered misconduct within the Coast
21 Guard;

22 “(F) any legislative change proposal nec-
23 essary to implement the directed actions; and

24 “(G) a detailed list of funding necessary to
25 implement the directed actions in a timely and

1 effective manner, including a list of personnel
2 needed for such implementation.

3 “(d) VICTIM CONFIDENTIALITY.—To the extent that
4 information collected under the authority of this section
5 is reported or otherwise made available to the public, such
6 information shall be provided in a form that is consistent
7 with applicable privacy protections under Federal law and
8 does not jeopardize the confidentiality of victims.

9 “(e) SUBSTANTIATED DEFINED.—In this section, the
10 term ‘substantiated’ has the meaning given the term
11 under section 1631(c) of the Ike Skelton National Defense
12 Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011 (10 U.S.C. 1561
13 note).”.

14 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

15 (1) CHAPTER 19.—The table of sections for
16 chapter 19 of title 14, United States Code, is
17 amended by striking the item relating to section
18 1902 and inserting the following new item:

“1902. Academy policy and report on covered misconduct.”.

19 (2) CHAPTER 51.—The table of sections for
20 chapter 51 of title 14, United States Code, is
21 amended by striking the item relating to section
22 5112 and inserting the following new item:

“5112. Covered misconduct in the Coast Guard.”.

1 **SEC. 407. MODIFICATIONS TO THE OFFICER INVOLUNTARY**
2 **SEPARATION PROCESS.**

3 (a) REVIEW OF RECORDS.—Section 2158 of title 14,
4 United States Code, is amended in the matter preceding
5 paragraph (1) by striking “may at any time convene a
6 board of officers” and inserting “shall prescribe, by regu-
7 lation, procedures”.

8 (b) BOARDS OF INQUIRY.—Section 2159(c) of such
9 title is amended by striking “send the record of its pro-
10 ceedings to a board of review” and inserting “recommend
11 to the Secretary that the officer not be retained on active
12 duty”.

13 (c) REPEAL OF BOARDS OF REVIEW.—Section 2160
14 of title 14, United States Code, is repealed.

15 (d) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

16 (1) Title 14, United States Code, is amended—

17 (A) in section 2161 by striking “section
18 2158, 2159, or 2160” each place it appears and
19 inserting “section 2158 or 2159”;

20 (B) in section 2163, in the first sentence
21 by striking “board of review under section 2160
22 of this title” and inserting “board of inquiry
23 under section 2159 of this title”; and

24 (C) in section 2164(a), in the matter pre-
25 ceding paragraph (1) by striking “or 2160”.

1 (2) The analysis at the beginning of chapter 21
2 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by strik-
3 ing the item relating to section 2160.

4 **SEC. 408. REVIEW OF DISCHARGE CHARACTERIZATION.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 25 of title
6 14, United States Code, is further amended by adding at
7 the end the following:

8 **“§ 2518. Review of discharge characterization**

9 “(a) DOWNGRADE.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The decision to conduct a
11 case review under this section shall be at the discre-
12 tion of the Secretary of the department in which the
13 Coast Guard is operating.

14 “(2) BOARD OF REVIEW.—In addition to the
15 requirements of section 1553 of title 10, a board of
16 review for a former member of the Coast Guard es-
17 tablished pursuant to such section and under part
18 51 of title 33, Code of Federal Regulations (as in ef-
19 fect on the date of enactment of the Coast Guard
20 Authorization Act of 2024), may upon a motion of
21 the board and subject to review by the Secretary of
22 the department in which the Coast Guard is oper-
23 ating, downgrade an honorable discharge to a gen-
24 eral (under honorable conditions) discharge upon a
25 finding that a former member of the Coast Guard,

1 while serving on active duty as a member of the
2 armed forces, committed sexual assault or sexual
3 harassment in violation of section 920, 920b, or 934
4 of title 10 (article 120, 120b, or 134 of the Uniform
5 Code of Military Justice).

6 “(3) EVIDENCE.—Any downgrade under para-
7 graph (2) shall be supported by clear and convincing
8 evidence.

9 “(4) LIMITATION.—The review board under
10 paragraph (2) may not downgrade a discharge of a
11 former member of the Coast Guard if the same ac-
12 tion described in paragraph (2) was considered prior
13 to separation from active duty by an administrative
14 board in determining the characterization of dis-
15 charge as otherwise provided by law and in accord-
16 ance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary of
17 the department in which the Coast Guard is oper-
18 ating.

19 “(b) PROCEDURAL RIGHTS.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A review by a board estab-
21 lished under section 1553 of title 10 and under part
22 51 of title 33, Code of Federal Regulations (as in ef-
23 fect on the date of enactment of the Coast Guard
24 Authorization Act of 2024), shall be based on the
25 records of the Coast Guard, and with respect to a

1 member who also served in another one of the armed
2 forces, the records of the armed forces concerned
3 and such other evidence as may be presented to the
4 board.

5 “(2) EVIDENCE BY WITNESS.—A witness may
6 present evidence to the board in person or by affi-
7 davit.

8 “(3) APPEARANCE BEFORE BOARD.—A person
9 who requests a review under this section may appear
10 before the board in person or by counsel or an ac-
11 credited representative of an organization recognized
12 by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs under chapter
13 59 of title 38.

14 “(4) NOTIFICATION.—A former member of the
15 Coast Guard who is subject to a downgrade in dis-
16 charge characterization review under subsection
17 (b)(3) shall be notified in writing of such pro-
18 ceedings, afforded the right to obtain copies of
19 records and documents relevant to the proceedings,
20 and the right to appear before the board in person
21 or by counsel or an accredited representative of an
22 organization recognized by the Secretary of Veterans
23 Affairs under chapter 59 of title 38.”.

24 (b) RULEMAKING.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after
2 the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant
3 shall initiate a rulemaking to implement this section.

4 (2) DEADLINE FOR REGULATIONS.—The regu-
5 lations issued under paragraph (1) shall take effect
6 not later than 180 days after the date on which the
7 Commandant promulgates a final rule pursuant to
8 such paragraph.

9 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
10 ter 25 of title 14, United States Code, is further amended
11 by inserting after the item relating to section 2517 (as
12 added by this Act) the following:

“2518. Review of discharge characterization.”.

13 **SEC. 409. CONVICTED SEX OFFENDER AS GROUNDS FOR**
14 **DENIAL.**

15 Section 7511(a) of title 46, United States Code, is
16 amended—

17 (1) in paragraph (1) by striking “or”;

18 (2) in paragraph (2) by striking “State, local,
19 or Tribal law” and inserting “Federal, State, local,
20 or Tribal law”;

21 (3) by redesignating paragraph (2) as para-
22 graph (3); and

23 (4) by inserting after paragraph (1) the fol-
24 lowing:

1 “(2) section 920 or 920b of title 10 (article 120
2 and 120b of the Uniform Code of Military Justice);
3 or”.

4 **SEC. 410. DEFINITION OF COVERED MISCONDUCT.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 25 of title
6 14, United States Code, is further amended by adding at
7 the end the following:

8 **“§ 2519. Covered misconduct defined**

9 “In this title, the term ‘covered misconduct’ means—

10 “(1) rape and sexual assault, as described in
11 sections 920(a) and 920(b) of title 10 (articles
12 120(a) and 120(b) of the Uniform Code of Military
13 Justice);

14 “(2) sexual harassment, as described in Execu-
15 tive Order 14062 dated January 26, 2022, and enu-
16 merated under section 934 of title 10 (article 134 of
17 the Uniform Code of Military Justice);

18 “(3) abusive sexual contact and aggravated sex-
19 ual contact, as described in sections 920(c) and
20 920(d) of title 10 (articles 120(c) and 120(d) of the
21 Uniform Code of Military Justice);

22 “(4) wrongful broadcast, dissemination, or cre-
23 ation of content as described in sections 917 and
24 920e of title 10 (articles 117a and 120e of the Uni-
25 form Code of Military Justice);

1 “(5) the child pornography offenses as de-
2 scribed in section 934 of title 10 (article 134 of the
3 Uniform Code of Military Justice);

4 “(6) rape and sexual assault of a child, other
5 sexual misconduct, and stalking, as described in sec-
6 tions 920b, 920c(a), and 930 of title 10 (articles
7 120b, 120c, and 130 of the Uniform Code of Mili-
8 tary Justice); and

9 “(7) domestic violence, as described in section
10 928b of title 10 (article 128b of the Uniform Code
11 of Military Justice).”.

12 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
13 ter 25 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by in-
14 serting after the item relating to section 2518 the fol-
15 lowing:

 “2519. Covered misconduct defined.”.

16 **SEC. 411. NOTIFICATION OF CHANGES TO UNIFORM CODE**
17 **OF MILITARY JUSTICE OR MANUAL FOR**
18 **COURTS MARTIAL RELATING TO COVERED**
19 **MISCONDUCT.**

20 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 51 of title 14, United
21 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
22 lowing:

1 **“§ 5116. Notification of changes to Uniform Code of**
2 **Military Justice or Manual for Courts**
3 **Martial relating to covered misconduct**

4 “Beginning on March 30, 2026, and annually there-
5 after, the Commandant shall notify the Committee on
6 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and
7 the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of
8 the House of Representatives with respect to each of the
9 following:

10 “(1) Whether the Uniform Code of Military
11 Justice (chapter 47 of title 10) has been amended—

12 “(A) to add any sex-related offense as a
13 new article; or

14 “(B) to remove an article relating to cov-
15 ered misconduct described in any of paragraphs
16 (1) through (7) of section 301.

17 “(2) Whether the Manual for Courts Martial
18 has been modified—

19 “(A) to add any sex-related offense as an
20 offense described under an article of the Uni-
21 form Code of Military Justice; or

22 “(B) to remove as an offense described
23 under an article of the Uniform Code of Mili-
24 tary Justice covered misconduct described in
25 any of paragraphs (1) through (7) of section
26 301.”.

1 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
2 ter 51 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by add-
3 ing at the end the following:

“5116. Notification of changes to Uniform Code of Military Justice Or Manual
for Courts Martial relating to covered misconduct.”.

4 **SEC. 412. COMPLAINTS OF RETALIATION BY VICTIMS OF**
5 **SEXUAL ASSAULT OR SEXUAL HARASSMENT**
6 **AND RELATED PERSONS.**

7 Section 1562a of title 10, United States Code, is
8 amended—

9 (1) in subsection (a)—

10 (A) by striking “The Secretary of Defense
11 shall” and inserting the following:

12 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense
13 shall”; and

14 (B) by adding at the end the following:

15 “(2) COAST GUARD.—The Secretary of the de-
16 partment in which the Coast Guard is operating
17 shall designate the Commandant of the Coast Guard
18 to be responsible for carrying out the requirements
19 of this section with respect to members of the Coast
20 Guard when the Coast Guard is not operating as a
21 service in the Navy.”;

22 (2) in subsection (b)—

1 (A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1)
2 by inserting “and the Commandant of the
3 Coast Guard” after “Secretary”;

4 (B) in paragraph (8) by inserting before
5 the period at the end “or with respect to the
6 Coast Guard, the component designated by the
7 Commandant of the Coast Guard”; and

8 (C) in paragraph (4) by striking “Depart-
9 ment of Defense”; and
10 (3) in subsection (c)(2)—

11 (A) in subparagraph (A) by inserting “,
12 the Inspector General of the Department of
13 Homeland Security,” before “or any other in-
14 spector general”;

15 (B) in subparagraph (D) by striking “mili-
16 tary” and inserting “armed force”; and

17 (C) in subparagraph (E) by inserting “or
18 department in which the Coast Guard is oper-
19 ating when not operating as a service in the
20 Navy for members of the Coast Guard” after
21 “Department of Defense”.

22 **SEC. 413. DEVELOPMENT OF POLICIES ON MILITARY PRO-**
23 **TECTIVE ORDERS.**

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
25 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the

1 Commandant shall issue updated policies of the
2 Coast Guard relating to military protective orders
3 that are consistent with the law and policies of the
4 Department of Defense.

5 (2) ELEMENTS.—The policies developed under
6 paragraph (1) shall require—

7 (A) that any denial of a request for a mili-
8 tary protective order shall include a written ex-
9 planation for the denial, which shall be—

10 (i) forwarded to the next flag officer
11 in the chain of command of the com-
12 manding officer or other approving author-
13 ity who denied the request; and

14 (ii) provided to the member who sub-
15 mitted the request; and

16 (B) the recusal of an approving authority
17 from participating in the granting or denying of
18 a military protective order, if such authority
19 was, at any time—

20 (i) the subject of a complaint of any
21 form of assault, harassment, or retaliation
22 filed by the member requesting the mili-
23 tary protective order or the member who is
24 the subject of the military protective order;

25 or

1 (ii) associated with the member re-
2 questing the military protective order or
3 the member who is the subject of the mili-
4 tary protective order in a manner that pre-
5 sents as an actual or apparent conflict of
6 interest.

7 (3) NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—The Com-
8 mandant shall develop a policy to ensure that sexual
9 assault response coordinators, victim advocates, and
10 other appropriate personnel shall inform victims of
11 the process by which the victim may request an ex-
12 pedited transfer, a no-contact order, or a military or
13 civilian protective order.

14 **SEC. 414. COAST GUARD IMPLEMENTATION OF INDE-**
15 **PENDENT REVIEW COMMISSION REC-**
16 **COMMENDATIONS ON ADDRESSING SEXUAL**
17 **ASSAULT AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN THE**
18 **MILITARY.**

19 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
20 date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant shall re-
21 view the report of the Independent Review Commission ti-
22 tled “Hard Truths and the Duty to Change: Recommenda-
23 tions from the Independent Review Commission on Sexual
24 Assault in the Military” referred to in the memorandum
25 of the Department of Defense titled “Memorandum for

1 Senior Pentagon Leadership Commanders of the Combat-
2 ant Commands Defense Agency and DoD Field Activity
3 Directors”, dated September 22, 2021, (relating to com-
4 mencing Department of Defense actions and implementa-
5 tion of the recommendations of the Independent Review
6 Commission to address sexual assault and sexual harass-
7 ment in the military).

8 (b) STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN.—On completion
9 of the review required under subsection (a), and not later
10 than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the
11 Commandant shall submit to the Committee on Com-
12 merce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the
13 Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the
14 House of Representatives a strategy and action plan
15 that—

16 (1)(A) identifies any recommendation set forth
17 in the report by the Independent Review Commis-
18 sion described in subsection (a) that addresses a
19 matter that is not within the jurisdiction of the
20 Coast Guard, does not apply to the Coast Guard, or
21 otherwise would not be beneficial to members of the
22 Coast Guard, as determined by the Commandant;
23 and

24 (B) includes a brief rationale for such de-
25 termination; and

1 (2) with respect to each recommendation set
2 forth in such report that is not identified under
3 paragraph (1), includes—

4 (A)(i) a detailed action plan for implemen-
5 tation of the recommendation;

6 (ii) a description of changes the Com-
7 mandant will make to associated Coast
8 Guard policies so as to enable the imple-
9 mentation of the recommendation;

10 (iii) an estimated timeline for imple-
11 mentation of the recommendation;

12 (iv) the estimated cost of the imple-
13 mentation;

14 (v) legislative proposals for such im-
15 plementation, as appropriate; and

16 (vi) any other information the Com-
17 mandant considers appropriate; or

18 (B) in the case of such a recommendation
19 that the Commandant is unable to implement,
20 an explanation of the reason the recommenda-
21 tion cannot be implemented.

22 (c) BRIEFING.—Not later than 90 days after the date
23 of enactment of this Act, and every 180 days thereafter
24 through 2028, the Commandant shall provide the Com-
25 mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the

1 Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infra-
2 structure of the House of Representatives with a briefing
3 on the status of the implementation of this section and
4 any modification to the strategy and plan submitted under
5 subsection (b).

6 **SEC. 415. POLICY RELATING TO CARE AND SUPPORT OF**
7 **VICTIMS OF COVERED MISCONDUCT.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
9 date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant shall issue
10 Coast Guard policy relating to the care and support of
11 members of the Coast Guard who are alleged victims cov-
12 ered misconduct.

13 (b) ELEMENTS.—The policy required by subsection
14 (a) shall require, to the maximum extent practicable,
15 that—

16 (1) a member of the Coast Guard who is an al-
17 leged victim of covered misconduct and discloses
18 such covered misconduct to the appropriate indi-
19 vidual of the Coast Guard responsible for providing
20 victim care and support—

21 (A) shall receive care and support from
22 such individual; and

23 (B) such individual shall not deny or un-
24 reasonably delay providing care and support;
25 and

1 (2) in the case of such an alleged victim to
2 whom care and support cannot be provided by the
3 appropriate individual contacted by the alleged vic-
4 tim based on programmatic eligibility criteria or any
5 other reason that affects the ability of such appro-
6 priate individual to provide care and support (such
7 as being stationed at a remote unit or serving on a
8 vessel currently underway) the alleged victim shall
9 receive, with the permission of the alleged victim—

10 (A) an in-person introduction to appro-
11 priate service providers, for which the alleged
12 victim is physically present, which shall occur at
13 the discretion of the alleged victim; and

14 (B) access to follow-up services from the
15 appropriate 1 or more service providers.

16 (c) **APPLICABILITY.**—The policy issued under sub-
17 section (a) shall apply to—

18 (1) all Coast Guard personnel responsible for
19 the care and support of victims of covered mis-
20 conduct; and

21 (2) any other Coast Guard personnel the Com-
22 mandant considers appropriate.

23 (d) **REVISION OF POLICY RELATING TO DOMESTIC**
24 **ABUSE.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of enact-
25 ment of this Act, the Commandant shall issue or revise

1 any Coast Guard policy or process relating to domestic
2 abuse so as to define the term “intimate partner” to have
3 the meaning given such term in section 930 of title 10,
4 United States Code.

5 (e) TRAINING.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—All Coast Guard personnel
7 responsible for the care and support of members of
8 the Coast Guard who are alleged victims of covered
9 misconduct shall receive training in accordance with
10 professional standards of practice to ensure that
11 such alleged victims receive adequate care that is
12 consistent with the policy issued under subsection
13 (a).

14 (2) ELEMENTS.—The training required by
15 paragraph (1)—

16 (A) shall include—

17 (i) instructions on specific procedures
18 for implementing the policy issued under
19 subsection (a); and

20 (ii) information on resources and per-
21 sonnel critical for the implementation of
22 such policy; and

23 (B) to the maximum extent practicable,
24 shall be provided in person.

1 (f) COVERED MISCONDUCT.—In this section, the
2 term “covered misconduct” shall have the meaning given
3 such term in section 2519 of title 14, United States Code
4 (as added by this Act).

5 **SEC. 416. ESTABLISHMENT OF SPECIAL VICTIM CAPABILI-**
6 **TIES TO RESPOND TO ALLEGATIONS OF CER-**
7 **TAIN SPECIAL VICTIM OFFENSES.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 573 of the National De-
9 fense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (10 U.S.C.
10 1561 note) is amended—

11 (1) in subsection (a)—

12 (A) by inserting “or the Secretary of the
13 department in which the Coast Guard is oper-
14 ating when not operating as a service in the
15 Navy” after “Secretary of Defense”; and

16 (B) by striking “Secretary of each military
17 department” and inserting “Secretary con-
18 cerned”;

19 (2) in subsection (b) by striking “or Air Force
20 Office of Special Investigations” and inserting “, Air
21 Force Office of Special Investigations, or Coast
22 Guard Investigative Services”;

23 (3) in subsection (c) by inserting “or the Sec-
24 retary of the department in which the Coast Guard

1 is operating when not operating as a service in the
2 Navy” after “Secretary of Defense”;

3 (4) in subsection (d)—

4 (A) in paragraph (1)—

5 (i) by inserting “or the Commandant
6 of the Coast Guard” after “Secretary of a
7 military department”; and

8 (ii) by inserting “or the Coast Guard”
9 after “within the military department”;

10 (B) in paragraph (2) by inserting “or the
11 Coast Guard” after “within a military depart-
12 ment”; and

13 (5) by adding at the end the following:

14 “(h) TIME FOR ESTABLISHMENT FOR COAST
15 GUARD.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enact-
16 ment of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2024, the
17 Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is
18 operating, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on
19 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and
20 the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of
21 the House of Representatives a report containing all the
22 items described in subsections (e) and (f) as applied to
23 the Coast Guard.”.

24 (b) BRIEFING.—Not later than 270 days after the
25 date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant shall pro-

1 vide the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transpor-
2 tation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation
3 and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives with
4 a briefing on the Commandant’s assessment and imple-
5 mentation, as appropriate, of the recommendations in-
6 cluded in the Center for Naval Analyses report titled “As-
7 sessing the USCG’s Special Victims’ Counsel Program”,
8 issued in June 2024, including—

9 (1) the implementation status of each adopted
10 recommendation, as appropriate;

11 (2) for each adopted recommendation, a de-
12 scription of actions taken to implement such rec-
13 ommendation;

14 (3) in the case of an adopted recommendation
15 that has not been fully implemented—

16 (A) a description of actions taken or
17 planned to address such recommendation;

18 (B) an estimated completion date; and

19 (C) a description of the milestones nec-
20 essary to complete the recommendation;

21 (4) a description of any recommendation that
22 will not be adopted and an explanation of the reason
23 the recommendation will not be adopted;

1 (5) a description of the metrics and milestones
2 used to ensure completion and effectiveness of each
3 adopted recommendation;

4 (6) a description of any additional actions the
5 Commandant is taking to improve the efficiency and
6 effectiveness of the Special Victims' Counsel pro-
7 gram of the Coast Guard;

8 (7) any legislative change proposal necessary to
9 implement the adopted recommendations; and

10 (8) an overview of any funding or resource nec-
11 essary to implement each adopted recommendation
12 in a timely and effective manner, including a list of
13 personnel needed for such implementation.

14 **SEC. 417. MEMBERS ASSERTING POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS**

15 **DISORDER, SEXUAL ASSAULT, OR TRAUMATIC**
16 **BRAIN INJURY.**

17 Section 2516 of title 14, United States Code, is
18 amended—

19 (1) in subsection (a)—

20 (A) in paragraph (1)—

21 (i) by striking “or has been sexually
22 assaulted during the preceding 2-year pe-
23 riod”; and

1 (ii) by striking “or based on such sex-
2 ual assault, the influence of” and inserting
3 “the signs and symptoms of either”;

4 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (2)
5 through (4) as paragraphs (3) through (5), re-
6 spectively;

7 (C) by inserting after paragraph (1) the
8 following:

9 “(2) MENTAL, BEHAVIORAL, OR EMOTIONAL
10 DISORDER.—A member of the Coast Guard who has
11 been sexually assaulted during the preceding 5-year
12 period and who alleges, based on such sexual as-
13 sault, the signs and symptoms of a diagnosable men-
14 tal, behavioral, or emotional disorder described with-
15 in the most recent edition of the Diagnostic and Sta-
16 tistical Manual of Mental Disorders published by the
17 American Psychiatric Association—

18 “(A) is provided the opportunity to request
19 a medical examination to clinically evaluate
20 such signs and symptoms; and

21 “(B) receives such a medical examination
22 to evaluate a diagnosis of post-traumatic stress
23 disorder, traumatic brain injury, or diagnosable
24 mental, behavioral, or emotional disorder de-
25 scribed within the most recent edition of the Di-

1 agnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Dis-
2 orders published by the American Psychiatric
3 Association.”;

4 (D) in paragraph (3) by striking “para-
5 graph (1)” and inserting “this subsection”; and

6 (E) in paragraph (4), as so redesignated—

7 (i) by inserting “or a diagnosable
8 mental, behavioral, or emotional disorder”
9 before “under this subsection”;

10 (ii) by inserting “performed by” after
11 “shall be”; and

12 (iii) by striking subparagraphs (A)
13 and (B) and inserting the following:

14 “(A) a board-certified psychiatrist;

15 “(B) a licensed doctorate-level psycholo-
16 gist;

17 “(C) any other appropriate licensed or cer-
18 tified healthcare professional designated by the
19 Commandant; or

20 “(D) a psychiatry resident or board-eligible
21 psychologist who—

22 “(i) has completed a 1-year internship
23 or residency; and

1 “(ii) is under the close supervision of
2 a board-certified psychiatrist or licensed
3 doctorate-level psychologist.”;

4 (2) in subsection (b) by inserting “or a
5 diagnosable mental, behavioral, or emotional dis-
6 order” after “traumatic brain injury”; and

7 (3) by adding at the end the following:

8 “(e) NOTIFICATION OF RIGHT TO REQUEST MED-
9 ICAL EXAMINATION.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Any member of the Coast
11 Guard who receives a notice of involuntary adminis-
12 trative separation shall be advised at the time of
13 such notice of the right of the member to request a
14 medical examination under subsection (a) if any con-
15 dition described in such subsection applies to the
16 member.

17 “(2) POLICY.—The Commandant shall—

18 “(A) develop and issue a clear policy for
19 carrying out the notification required under
20 paragraph (1) with respect to any member of
21 the Coast Guard described in that paragraph
22 who has made an unrestricted report of sexual
23 assault; and

24 “(B) provide information on such policy to
25 sexual assault response coordinators of the

1 Coast Guard for the purpose of ensuring that
2 such policy is communicated to members of the
3 Coast Guard who may be eligible for a medical
4 examination under this section.”.

5 **SEC. 418. PARTICIPATION IN CATCH A SERIAL OFFENDER**
6 **PROGRAM.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the department
8 in which the Coast Guard is operating when not operating
9 as a service in the Navy, acting through the Commandant,
10 shall ensure the participation of the Coast Guard in the
11 Catch a Serial Offender program (referred to in this sec-
12 tion as the “CATCH program”) of the Department of De-
13 fense established in accordance with section 543 of the
14 Carl Levin and Howard P. “Buck” McKeon National De-
15 fense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 (Public Law
16 113–291).

17 (b) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.—Not later
18 than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act,
19 the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard
20 is operating and the Secretary of Defense shall finalize
21 a memorandum of agreement to facilitate Coast Guard ac-
22 cess to and participation in the CATCH program.

1 **SEC. 419. ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY RELAT-**
2 **ING TO ALLEGATIONS OF MISCONDUCT**
3 **AGAINST SENIOR LEADERS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 25 of title
5 14, United States Code, is further amended by adding at
6 the end the following:

7 **“§ 2520. Accountability and transparency relating to**
8 **allegations of misconduct against senior**
9 **leaders**

10 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the
11 date of enactment of the Coast Guard Authorization Act
12 of 2024, the Secretary shall establish a policy to improve
13 oversight, investigations, accountability, and public trans-
14 parency regarding alleged misconduct of senior leaders of
15 the Coast Guard.

16 “(b) ELEMENTS.—The policy required by subsection
17 (a)—

18 “(1) shall require that—

19 “(A) any allegation of alleged misconduct
20 made against a senior leader of the Coast
21 Guard shall be reported to the Office of the In-
22 spector General of the department in which the
23 Coast Guard is operating not later than 72
24 hours after the allegation is reported to the
25 Coast Guard or the department in which the
26 Coast Guard is operating; and

1 “(B) the Inspector General of the depart-
2 ment in which the Coast Guard is operating
3 shall notify the head of the Coast Guard office
4 in which the senior leader is serving with re-
5 spect to the receipt of such allegation, or, in a
6 case where the senior leader is the head of such
7 Coast Guard office, the next in the chain of
8 command, as appropriate, except in a case in
9 which the Inspector General determines that
10 such notification would risk impairing an ongo-
11 ing investigation, would unnecessarily com-
12 promise the anonymity of the individual making
13 the allegation, or would otherwise be inappro-
14 priate; and

15 “(2) to the extent practicable, shall be con-
16 sistent with Department of Defense directives, in-
17 cluding Department of Defense Directive 5505.06.

18 “(c) FIRST RIGHT TO EXCLUSIVE INVESTIGATION.—
19 The Inspector General of the department in which the
20 Coast Guard is operating—

21 “(1) shall have the first right to investigate an
22 allegation described in subsection (b)(1)(A); and

23 “(2) in cases with concurrent jurisdiction in-
24 volving an allegation described in subsection
25 (b)(1)(A), may investigate such an allegation to the

1 exclusion of any other Coast Guard criminal or ad-
2 ministrative investigation if the Inspector General
3 determines that an exclusive investigation is nec-
4 essary to maintain the integrity of the investigation.

5 “(d) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY AND BROAD DISSEMINA-
6 TION.—The policy established under subsection (a) shall
7 be made available to the public and incorporated into
8 training and curricula across the Coast Guard at all levels
9 to ensure broad understanding of the policy among mem-
10 bers and personnel of the Coast Guard.

11 “(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

12 “(1) ALLEGED MISCONDUCT.—The term ‘al-
13 leged misconduct’—

14 “(A) means a credible allegation that, if
15 proven, would constitute a violation of—

16 “(i) a provision of criminal law, in-
17 cluding the Uniform Code of Military Jus-
18 tice (chapter 47 of title 10); or

19 “(ii) a recognized standard, such as
20 the Department of Defense Joint Ethics
21 Regulation or other Federal regulation, in-
22 cluding any other Department of Defense
23 regulation and any Department of Home-
24 land Security regulation; or

1 “(B) could reasonably be expected to be of
2 significance to the Secretary or the Inspector
3 General of the department in which the Coast
4 Guard is operating, particularly in a case in
5 which there is an element of misuse of position
6 or of unauthorized personal benefit to the sen-
7 ior official, a family member, or an associate.

8 “(2) SENIOR LEADER OF THE COAST GUARD.—
9 The term ‘senior leader of the Coast Guard’
10 means—

11 “(A) an active duty, retired, or reserve of-
12 ficer of the Coast Guard in the grade of O-7
13 or higher;

14 “(B) an officer of the Coast Guard selected
15 for promotion to the grade of O-7;

16 “(C) a current or former civilian member
17 of the Senior Executive Service employed by the
18 Coast Guard; or

19 “(D) any civilian member of the Coast
20 Guard whose position is deemed equivalent to
21 that of a member of the Senior Executive Serv-
22 ice, as determined by the Office of the Inspector
23 General of the department in which the Coast
24 Guard is operating, in concurrence with the
25 Secretary acting through the Commandant.”.

1 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
2 ter 25 of title 14, United States Code, is further amended
3 by inserting after the item relating to section 2519 (as
4 added by this Act) the following:

“2520. Accountability and transparency relating to allegations of misconduct
against senior leaders.”.

5 **SEC. 420. CONFIDENTIAL REPORTING OF SEXUAL HARASS-**
6 **MENT.**

7 Section 1561b of title 10, United States Code, is
8 amended—

9 (1) in subsection (a)—

10 (A) by inserting “and the Secretary of the
11 department in which the Coast Guard is oper-
12 ating when not operating as a service in the
13 Navy” after “Secretary of Defense”; and

14 (B) by inserting “or the Commandant”
15 after “Secretary of a military department”;

16 (2) in subsection (c)—

17 (A) by inserting “or the Secretary of the
18 department in which the Coast Guard is oper-
19 ating when not operating as a service in the
20 Navy” after “Secretary of Defense”; and

21 (B) in paragraph (1) by inserting “depart-
22 ments or the Commandant” after “Secretaries
23 of the military”; and

24 (3) by adding at the end the following:

1 “(e) REPORTS FOR THE COAST GUARD.—

2 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than April 30,
3 2025, and April 30 every 2 years thereafter, the
4 Secretary of the department in which the Coast
5 Guard is operating shall submit to the Committee on
6 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Sen-
7 ate and the Committee on Transportation and Infra-
8 structure of the House of Representatives a report
9 containing data on the complaints of sexual harass-
10 ment alleged pursuant to the process under sub-
11 section (a) during the previous 2 calendar years.

12 “(2) PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMA-
13 TION.—Any data on complaints described in para-
14 graph (1) shall not contain any personally identifi-
15 able information.”.

16 **SEC. 421. REPORT ON POLICY ON WHISTLEBLOWER PRO-**
17 **TECTIONS.**

18 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the
19 date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant shall sub-
20 mit to the Committees on Commerce, Science, and Trans-
21 portation and Homeland Security and Governmental Af-
22 fairs of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation
23 and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a re-
24 port on the policy of the Coast Guard on whistleblower
25 protections.

1 (b) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection
2 (a) shall include the following:

3 (1) A discussion of the policy of the Coast
4 Guard as of the date of enactment of this Act with
5 respect to—

6 (A) whistleblower protections;

7 (B) accountability measures for reprisal
8 against whistleblowers;

9 (C) the applicable professional standards
10 and potential types of support provided to whis-
11 tleblowers by members of the Coast Guard per-
12 sonnel, such as the members in the Coast
13 Guard Investigative Service; and

14 (D) the content and frequency of training
15 provided to members of the Coast Guard on ac-
16 tive duty, members of the Coast Guard Reserve,
17 and civilian personnel of the Coast Guard with
18 respect to the applicable professional standards
19 and potential types of support offered to whis-
20 tleblowers.

21 (2) A description of the responsibilities of com-
22 manders and equivalent civilian supervisors with re-
23 spect to whistleblower complaints and measures used
24 by the Coast Guard to ensure compliance with such
25 responsibilities, such as—

1 (A) the mechanisms to ensure that—

2 (i) any such commander complies with
3 section 1034 of title 10, United States
4 Code, including subsection (a)(1) of that
5 section;

6 (ii) any such equivalent civilian super-
7 visor complies with section 2302 of title 5,
8 United States Code; and

9 (iii) any such commander or super-
10 visor protects the constitutional right of
11 whistleblowers to speak with Members of
12 Congress;

13 (B) actions to be taken against any a com-
14 mander or equivalent civilian supervisor who
15 fails to act on a whistleblower complaint or im-
16 properly interferes with a whistleblower after a
17 complaint is filed or during the preparation of
18 a complaint;

19 (C) the role of Coast Guard attorneys in
20 ensuring that such commanders comply with re-
21 sponsibilities under section 1034 of title 10,
22 United States Code; and

23 (D) the role of Coast Guard civilian attor-
24 neys and administrative law judges in ensuring
25 that such civilian supervisors comply with re-

1 sponsibilities under section 2302 of title 5,
2 United States Code.

3 (3) A discussion of the availability of Coast
4 Guard staff, including civilian staff, assigned to pro-
5 viding, in accordance with professional standards or
6 practice, behavioral health care to whistleblowers, in-
7 cluding—

8 (A) the number and type of such staff;

9 (B) a description of the specific care re-
10 sponsibilities of such staff;

11 (C) an identification of any limitation ex-
12 isting as of the date of enactment of this Act
13 to the provision of such care;

14 (D) a description of any plan to increase
15 capacity of such staff to provide such care, as
16 applicable; and

17 (E) a description of any additional re-
18 sources necessary to provide such care.

19 (4) An assessment of the manner in which the
20 policies discussed in paragraph (1), the responsibil-
21 ities of commanders and civilian supervisors de-
22 scribed in paragraph (2), and the availability of
23 Coast Guard staff as discussed in paragraph (3)
24 apply specifically to cadets and leadership at the
25 Coast Guard Academy.

1 (5) Recommendations (including, as appro-
2 priate, proposed legislative changes and a plan to
3 publish in the Federal Register not later than 180
4 days after the date of enactment of this Act a re-
5 quest for information seeking public comment and
6 recommendations) of the Commandant regarding
7 matters in which Coast Guard policies and proce-
8 dures may be strengthened—

9 (A) to prevent whistleblower discrimination
10 and harassment;

11 (B) to better enforce prohibitions on retal-
12 iation, including reprisal, restriction, ostracism,
13 and maltreatment, set forth in section 1034 of
14 title 10, United States Code, and section 2302
15 of title 5, United States Code; and

16 (C) to hold commanding officers and civil-
17 ian supervisors accountable for enforcing and
18 complying with prohibitions on any form of re-
19 taliation described in such section.

20 **SEC. 422. REVIEW AND MODIFICATION OF COAST GUARD**
21 **ACADEMY POLICY ON SEXUAL HARASSMENT**
22 **AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Superintendent of the Coast
24 Guard Academy (referred to in this section as the “Super-
25 intendent”) shall—

1 (1) not later than 60 days after the date of the
2 enactment of this Act, commence a review of the
3 Coast Guard Academy policy on sexual harassment
4 and sexual violence established in accordance with
5 section 1902 of title 14, United States Code, that in-
6 cludes an evaluation as to whether any long-standing
7 Coast Guard Academy tradition, system, process, or
8 internal policy impedes the implementation of nec-
9 essary evidence-informed best practices followed by
10 other military service academies in prevention, re-
11 sponse, and recovery relating to sexual harassment
12 and sexual violence; and

13 (2) not later than 180 days after the date of
14 the enactment of this Act—

15 (A) complete such review; and

16 (B) modify such policy in accordance with
17 subsection (b).

18 (b) MODIFICATIONS TO POLICY.—In modifying the
19 Coast Guard Academy policy on sexual harassment and
20 sexual violence referred to in subsection (a), the Super-
21 intendent shall ensure that such policy includes the fol-
22 lowing:

23 (1) Each matter required to be specified by sec-
24 tion 1902(b) of title 14, United States Code.

1 (2) Updates to achieve compliance with chapter
2 47 of title 10, United States Code (Uniform Code of
3 Military Justice).

4 (3) A description of the roles and responsibil-
5 ities of staff of the Coast Guard Academy Sexual
6 Assault Prevention, Response, and Recovery pro-
7 gram, including—

8 (A) the Sexual Assault Response Coordi-
9 nator;

10 (B) the Victim Advocate Program Spe-
11 cialist;

12 (C) the Volunteer Victim Advocate; and

13 (D) the Primary Prevention Specialist, as
14 established under subsection (e).

15 (4) A description of the role of the Coast Guard
16 Investigative Service with respect to sexual harass-
17 ment and sexual violence prevention, response, and
18 recovery at the Coast Guard Academy.

19 (5) A description of the role of support staff at
20 the Coast Guard Academy, including chaplains, with
21 respect to sexual harassment and sexual violence
22 prevention, response, and recovery.

23 (6) Measures to promote awareness of dating
24 violence.

25 (7) A delineation of the relationship between—

1 (A) cadet advocacy groups organized for
2 the prevention of, response to, and recovery
3 from sexual harassment and sexual violence, in-
4 cluding Cadets Against Sexual Assault; and

5 (B) the staff of the Coast Guard Academy
6 Sexual Assault Prevention, Response, and Re-
7 covery program.

8 (8) A provision that requires cadets and Coast
9 Guard Academy personnel to participate in not
10 fewer than one in-person training each academic
11 year on the prevention of, responses to, and re-
12 sources relating to incidents of sexual harassment
13 and sexual violence, to be provided by the staff of
14 the Coast Guard Academy Sexual Assault Preven-
15 tion, Response, and Recovery program.

16 (9) The establishment, revision, or expansion,
17 as necessary, of an anti-retaliation Superintendent's
18 Instruction for cadets who—

19 (A) report incidents of sexual harassment
20 or sexual violence;

21 (B) participate in cadet advocacy groups
22 that advocate for the prevention of, response to,
23 and recovery from sexual harassment and sex-
24 ual violence; or

1 (C) seek assistance from a company offi-
2 cer, company senior enlisted leader, athletic
3 coach, or other Coast Guard Academy staff
4 member with respect to a mental health or
5 other medical emergency.

6 (10) A provision that explains the purpose of
7 and process for issuance of a no-contact order at the
8 Coast Guard Academy, including a description of the
9 manner in which such an order shall be enforced.

10 (11) A provision that explains the purpose of
11 and process for issuance of a military protective
12 order at the Coast Guard Academy, including a de-
13 scription of—

14 (A) the manner in which such an order
15 shall be enforced; and

16 (B) the associated requirement to notify
17 the National Criminal Information Center of
18 the issuance of such an order.

19 (c) PRIMARY PREVENTION SPECIALIST.—Not later
20 than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act,
21 the Superintendent shall hire a Primary Prevention Spe-
22 cialist, to be located and serve at the Coast Guard Acad-
23 emy.

24 (d) TEMPORARY LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO RECEIVE
25 MEDICAL SERVICES AND MENTAL HEALTH AND RE-

1 LATED SUPPORT SERVICES.—The Superintendent shall
2 ensure that the Academy’s policy regarding a cadet who
3 has made a restricted or unrestricted report of sexual har-
4 assment to request a leave of absence from the Coast
5 Guard Academy is consistent with other military service
6 academies.

7 **SEC. 423. COAST GUARD AND COAST GUARD ACADEMY AC-**
8 **CESS TO DEFENSE SEXUAL ASSAULT INCI-**
9 **DENT DATABASE.**

10 (a) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.—Not later
11 than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act,
12 the Commandant, in consultation with the Secretary of
13 Defense, shall enter into a memorandum of understanding
14 to enable the criminal offender case management and ana-
15 lytics database of the Coast Guard to have system inter-
16 face access with the Defense Sexual Assault Incident
17 Database (referred to in this section as the “Database”)
18 established by section 563 of the Duncan Hunter National
19 Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 (10
20 U.S.C. 1561 note).

21 (b) PLAN.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after
23 entering into the memorandum of understanding re-
24 quired under subsection (a), the Commandant, in
25 consultation with the Secretary of Defense, shall

1 submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a
2 plan to carry out the terms of such memorandum.

3 (2) ELEMENTS.—The plan required under
4 paragraph (1) shall include the following:

5 (A) Measures to ensure that authorized
6 staff of the Coast Guard have system interface
7 access to the Database, and a description of
8 any barrier to such access.

9 (B) Measures to ensure that authorized
10 staff of the Coast Guard Academy have system
11 interface access to the Database, and a descrip-
12 tion of any barrier to such access that is unique
13 to the Coast Guard Academy.

14 (C) Measures to facilitate formal or infor-
15 mal communication between the Coast Guard
16 and the Sexual Assault Prevention and Re-
17 sponse Office of the Department of Defense, or
18 any other relevant Department of Defense com-
19 ponent, to identify or seek a resolution to bar-
20 riers to Database access.

21 (D) A description of the steps, measures,
22 and improvements necessary to remove any bar-
23 rier encountered by staff of the Coast Guard or
24 the Coast Guard Academy in accessing the
25 Database, including any failure of system inter-

1 face access necessitating manual entry of inves-
2 tigative data.

3 (E) An assessment of the technical chal-
4 lenges, timeframes, and costs associated with
5 providing authorized staff of the Coast Guard
6 and the Coast Guard Academy with system
7 interface access for the Database that is sub-
8 stantially similar to such system interface ac-
9 cess possessed by other branches of the Armed
10 Forces.

11 (3) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS
12 DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term “appro-
13 priate committees of Congress” means—

14 (A) the Committee on Commerce, Science,
15 and Transportation and the Committee on
16 Armed Services of the Senate; and

17 (B) the Committee on Transportation and
18 Infrastructure and the Committee on Armed
19 Services of the House of Representatives.

20 **SEC. 424. DIRECTOR OF COAST GUARD INVESTIGATIVE**
21 **SERVICE.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 3 of title 14, United
23 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
24 lowing:

1 **“§ 325. Director of Coast Guard Investigative Service**

2 “(a) IN GENERAL.—There shall be a Director of the
3 Coast Guard Investigative Service.

4 “(b) CHAIN OF COMMAND.—The Director of the
5 Coast Guard Investigative Service shall report directly to
6 and be under the general supervision of the Commandant,
7 acting through the Vice Commandant of the Coast
8 Guard.”.

9 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for Chap-
10 ter 3 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by insert-
11 ing after the item relating to section 324 the following:
“325. Director of Coast Guard Investigative Service.”.

12 **SEC. 425. MODIFICATIONS AND REVISIONS RELATING TO**
13 **REOPENING RETIRED GRADE DETERMINA-**
14 **TIONS.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2501(d)(2) of title 14,
16 United States Code, is amended—

17 (1) in subparagraph (B) by inserting “a” before
18 “competent authority”;

19 (2) by redesignating subparagraphs (C) through
20 (E) as subparagraphs (F) through (H), respectively;
21 and

22 (3) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the fol-
23 lowing:

24 “(C) substantial evidence comes to light
25 that, during the commissioned service of the of-

1 ficer, the officer failed to carry out applicable
2 laws, with an intent to deceive or defraud;

3 “(D) substantial evidence comes to light
4 after the retirement that the officer committed
5 rape or sexual assault, as described in sections
6 920(a) and 920(b) of title 10 (articles 120(a)
7 and 120(b) of the Uniform Code of Military
8 Justice) at any time during the commissioned
9 service of the officer;

10 “(E) substantial evidence comes to light
11 after the retirement that the commissioned offi-
12 cer knew of and failed to report through proper
13 channels, in accordance with existing law at the
14 time of the alleged incident, any known in-
15 stances of sexual assault by a member of the
16 Coast Guard under the command of the officer
17 during the officer’s service;”.

18 (b) ISSUANCE AND REVISION OF REGULATIONS RE-
19 LATING TO GOOD CAUSE TO REOPEN RETIRED GRADE
20 DETERMINATIONS.—Not later than 180 days after the
21 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the depart-
22 ment in which the Coast Guard is operating shall issue
23 or revise, as applicable, and at the discretion of the Sec-
24 retary consistent with this section, regulations of the
25 Coast Guard to do the following:

1 (1) Define what constitutes good cause to re-
2 open a retired grade determination referred to in
3 subparagraph (H) of section 2501(d)(2) of title 14,
4 United States Code, as redesignated by subsection
5 (a), to ensure that the following shall be considered
6 good cause for such a reopening:

7 (A) Circumstances that constitute a failure
8 to carry out applicable laws regarding a report
9 of sexual assault with an intent to deceive by a
10 commissioned officer, that relate to a response
11 made to a report of sexual assault, during the
12 commissioned service of the officer.

13 (B) Substantial evidence of sexual assault
14 by the commissioned officer concerned, at any
15 time during the commissioned service of such
16 officer, or such evidence that was not consid-
17 ered by the Coast Guard in a manner consistent
18 with law.

19 (2) Identify the standard for making, and the
20 evidentiary showing required to support, an adverse
21 determination on the retired grade of a commis-
22 sioned officer.

23 (c) REVISION OF LIMITATIONS ON REOPENING RE-
24 TIRED GRADE DETERMINATIONS.—Not later than 180
25 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary

1 of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating
2 shall revise applicable guidance in section K.10 of chapter
3 3 of Commandant Instruction 1000.4A to remove any re-
4 striction that limits the ability to reopen the retired grade
5 of a commissioned officer based on—

6 (1) whether new evidence is discovered contem-
7 poraneously with or within a short time period after
8 the date of retirement of the officer concerned; and

9 (2) whether the misconduct concerned was not
10 discoverable through due diligence.

11 (d) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—No provision of this section
12 or the amendments made by this section shall be construed
13 to permit a review of conduct that was not in violation
14 of law or policy at the time of the alleged conduct.

15 **SEC. 426. INCLUSION AND COMMAND REVIEW OF INFORMA-**
16 **TION ON COVERED MISCONDUCT IN PER-**
17 **SONNEL SERVICE RECORDS.**

18 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 25 of title 14, United
19 States Code, is amended—

20 (1) in subchapter II, by redesignating section
21 2521 as section 2531; and

22 (2) in subchapter I, as amended by this Act, by
23 adding at the end the following:

1 **“§ 2521. Inclusion and command review of informa-**
2 **tion on covered misconduct in personnel**
3 **service records**

4 “(a) INFORMATION ON REPORTS ON COVERED MIS-
5 CONDUCT.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—If a complaint of covered
7 misconduct is made against a member of the Coast
8 Guard and the member is convicted by court-martial
9 or receives nonjudicial punishment or punitive ad-
10 ministrative action for such covered misconduct, a
11 notation to that effect shall be placed in the per-
12 sonnel service record of the member, regardless of
13 the grade of the member.

14 “(2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the inclusion
15 of information in personnel service records under
16 paragraph (1) is to alert supervisors and com-
17 manders to any member of their command who has
18 received a court-martial conviction, nonjudicial pun-
19 ishment, or punitive administrative action for cov-
20 ered misconduct in order—

21 “(A) to reduce the likelihood that repeat
22 offenses will escape the notice of supervisors
23 and commanders; and

24 “(B) to help inform commissioning or
25 promotability of the member;

1 “(3) LIMITATION ON PLACEMENT.—A notation
2 under paragraph (1) may not be placed in the re-
3 stricted section of the personnel service record of a
4 member.

5 “(4) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sub-
6 section may be construed to prohibit or limit the ca-
7 pacity of a member of the Coast Guard to challenge
8 or appeal the placement of a notation, or location of
9 placement of a notation, in the personnel service
10 record of the member in accordance with procedures
11 otherwise applicable to such challenges or appeals.

12 “(b) COMMAND REVIEW OF HISTORY OF COVERED
13 MISCONDUCT.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Under policy to be pre-
15 scribed by the Secretary, the commanding officer of
16 a unit or facility to which a covered member is as-
17 signed or transferred shall review the history of cov-
18 ered misconduct as documented in the personnel
19 service record of a covered member in order to be-
20 come familiar with such history of the covered mem-
21 ber.

22 “(2) COVERED MEMBER DEFINED.—In this
23 subsection, the term ‘covered member’ means a
24 member of the Coast Guard who, at the time of as-
25 signment or transfer as described in paragraph (1),

1 has a history of 1 or more covered misconduct of-
2 fenses as documented in the personnel service record
3 of such member or such other records or files as the
4 Commandant shall specify in the policy prescribed
5 under subparagraph (A).

6 “(c) REVIEW OF PERSONNEL SERVICE RECORD TO
7 DETERMINE SUITABILITY FOR CIVILIAN EMPLOYMENT.—
8 Under policy to be prescribed by the Secretary, the Com-
9 mandant shall establish procedures that are consistent
10 with the law, policies, and practices of the Department of
11 Defense in effect on the date of enactment of the Coast
12 Guard Authorization Act of 2024 to consider and review
13 the personnel service record of a former member of the
14 Armed Forces to determine the suitability of the individual
15 for civilian employment in the Coast Guard.”.

16 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
17 ter 25 of title 14, United States Code, is amended—

18 (1) by striking the item relating to section 2521
19 and inserting the following:

“2531. Advisory Board on Women in the Coast Guard.”; and

20 (2) by inserting after the item relating to sec-
21 tion 2520 (as added by this Act) the following:

“2521. Inclusion and command review of information on covered misconduct in
personnel service records.”.

1 **SEC. 427. FLAG OFFICER REVIEW OF, AND CONCURRENCE**
2 **IN, SEPARATION OF MEMBERS WHO HAVE RE-**
3 **PORTED SEXUAL MISCONDUCT.**

4 (a) **POLICY TO REQUIRE REVIEW OF CERTAIN PRO-**
5 **POSED INVOLUNTARY SEPARATIONS.**—Not later than 120
6 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Com-
7 mandant shall establish, with respect to any proposed in-
8 voluntary separation under chapter 59 of title 10, United
9 States Code, a Coast Guard policy to review the cir-
10 cumstances of, and grounds for, such a proposed involun-
11 tary separation of any member of the Coast Guard who—

12 (1) made a restricted or unrestricted report of
13 covered misconduct (as such term is defined in sec-
14 tion 2519 of title 14, United States Code);

15 (2) within 2 years after making such a report,
16 is recommended for involuntary separation from the
17 Coast Guard; and

18 (3) requests the review on the grounds that the
19 member believes the recommendation for involuntary
20 separation from the Coast Guard was initiated in re-
21 tiation for making the report.

22 (b) **RECUSAL.**—

23 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—The policy established under
24 subsection (a) shall set forth a process for the
25 recusal of commanding officers and the flag officer
26 described in subsection (c)(2) from making initial or

1 subsequent decisions on proposed separations or
2 from reviewing proposed separations.

3 (2) CRITERIA.—The recusal process established
4 under paragraph (1) shall specify criteria for
5 recusal, including mandatory recusal from making a
6 decision on a proposed separation, and from review-
7 ing a proposed separation, if the commanding officer
8 or the flag officer described in subsection (c)(2) was,
9 at any time—

10 (A) the subject of a complaint of any form
11 of assault, harassment, or retaliation, filed by
12 the member of the Coast Guard described in
13 subsection (a) who is the subject of a proposed
14 involuntary separation or whose proposed sepa-
15 ration is under review; or

16 (B) associated with the individual sus-
17 pected or accused of perpetrating the incident
18 of covered misconduct reported by such mem-
19 ber.

20 (c) CONCURRENCE OF FLAG OFFICER REQUIRED.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—The policy established under
22 subsection (a) shall require the concurrence of the
23 flag officer described in paragraph (2) in order to
24 separate the member of the Coast Guard described
25 in such subsection.

1 (2) FLAG OFFICER DESCRIBED.—

2 (A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
3 subparagraph (B), the flag officer described in
4 this paragraph is—

5 (i) the Deputy Commandant for Mis-
6 sion Support or the successor Vice Admiral
7 that oversees personnel policy; or

8 (ii) a designee of the Deputy Com-
9 mandant for Mission Support (or the suc-
10 cessor Vice Admiral that oversees per-
11 sonnel policy) who is in a grade not lower
12 than O-7.

13 (B) CHAIN OF COMMAND EXCEPTION.—In
14 the case of a member of the Coast Guard de-
15 scribed in subsection (a) who is in the imme-
16 diate chain of command of the Deputy Com-
17 mandant for Mission Support or the successor
18 Vice Admiral that oversees personnel policy or
19 the designee of the Deputy Commandant for
20 Mission Support or the successor Vice Admiral
21 that oversees personnel policy, the flag officer
22 described in this paragraph is a flag officer out-
23 side the chain of command of such member, as
24 determined by the Commandant consistent with
25 the policy established under subsection (a).

1 (d) NOTIFICATION REQUIRED.—Any member of the
2 Coast Guard who has made a report of covered misconduct
3 and who receives a proposal for involuntary separation
4 shall be notified at the time of such proposal of the right
5 of the member to a review under this section.

6 **SEC. 428. EXPEDITED TRANSFER IN CASES OF SEXUAL MIS-**
7 **CONDUCT OR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.**

8 (a) EXPEDITED TRANSFER POLICY UPDATE.—Not
9 later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this
10 Act, the Commandant shall update Coast Guard policy as
11 necessary to implement—

12 (1) an expedited transfer process for covered in-
13 dividuals consistent with—

14 (A) Department of Defense policy on expe-
15 dited transfers of victims of sexual assault or
16 domestic violence in place on the date of enact-
17 ment of this Act; and

18 (B) subsection (b); and

19 (2) a process by which—

20 (A) a covered individual, the commanding
21 officer of a covered individual, or any other
22 Coast Guard official may initiate a request that
23 a subject be administratively assigned to an-
24 other unit in accordance with military assign-
25 ments and authorized absence policy for the du-

1 ration of the investigation and, if applicable,
2 prosecution of such subject;

3 (B) the Coast Guard shall ensure that any
4 administrative assignment action in response to
5 a request under subparagraph (A) will be taken
6 not as a punitive measure, but solely for the
7 purpose of maintaining good order and dis-
8 cipline within the unit of the covered individual
9 or the subject; and

10 (C) protection of due process for the sub-
11 ject is preserved.

12 (b) RECUSAL.—The expedited transfer process imple-
13 mented under this section shall require the recusal of any
14 official involved in the approval or denial of an expedited
15 transfer request if the official was, at any time—

16 (1) the subject of a complaint of any form of
17 assault, harassment, or retaliation, or any other type
18 of complaint, filed by the covered individual; or

19 (2) associated, beyond workplace interactions,
20 with the subject in a manner that may present an
21 actual or apparent conflict of interest.

22 (c) NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—With respect to
23 a member of the Coast Guard who makes an unrestricted
24 report of sexual assault or a report of domestic violence,
25 the updated policy required under subsection (a) shall

1 specify the appropriate officials of the Coast Guard who
2 shall provide such member with information regarding ex-
3 pedited transfer authority.

4 (d) REPORT.—

5 (1) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than March 1
6 of the year that is not less than 1 year after the
7 date on which the updates required under subsection
8 (a) are completed, the Commandant shall submit to
9 the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Trans-
10 portation of the Senate and the Committee on
11 Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of
12 Representatives, as an enclosure or appendix to the
13 report required by section 5112 of title 14, United
14 States Code, a report on such updates that in-
15 cludes—

16 (A) a copy of the updated policies of the
17 Coast Guard relating to expedited transfers;

18 (B) a summary of such updated policies;

19 (C) for the preceding year, the number of
20 covered individuals who have requested an expe-
21 dited transfer, disaggregated by gender of the
22 requester and whether the request was granted
23 or denied;

1 (D) for each denial of an expedited trans-
2 fer request during the preceding year, a de-
3 scription of the rationale for the denial; and

4 (E) any other matter the Commandant
5 considers appropriate.

6 (2) SUBSEQUENT REPORTS.—Not later than 1
7 year after the Commandant submits the report re-
8 quired under paragraph (1), and annually thereafter
9 for 3 years, the Commandant shall submit to the
10 Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transpor-
11 tation of the Senate and the Committee on Trans-
12 portation and Infrastructure of the House of Rep-
13 resentatives, as an enclosure or appendix to the re-
14 port required by section 5112 of title 14, United
15 States Code, a report on the updates required under
16 subsection (a) that includes—

17 (A) any policies of the Coast Guard relat-
18 ing to expedited transfers that have been up-
19 dated since the previous report submitted under
20 this subsection;

21 (B) a summary of any such updated poli-
22 cies; and

23 (C) the information described under sub-
24 paragraphs (C) through (E) of paragraph (1).

25 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 (1) COVERED INDIVIDUAL.—The term “covered
2 individual” means—

3 (A) a member of the Coast Guard who is
4 a victim of sexual assault in a case handled
5 under the Sexual Assault Prevention, Response,
6 and Recovery Program or the Family Advocacy
7 Program;

8 (B) a member of the Coast Guard who is
9 a victim of domestic violence (as defined by the
10 Secretary of the department in which the Coast
11 Guard is operating in the policies prescribed
12 under this section) committed by the spouse or
13 intimate partner of the member, regardless of
14 whether the spouse or intimate partner is a
15 member of the Coast Guard; and

16 (C) a member of the Coast Guard whose
17 dependent is a victim of sexual assault or do-
18 mestic violence.

19 (2) SUBJECT.—The term “subject” means a
20 member of the Coast Guard who is the subject of an
21 investigation related to alleged incidents of sexual
22 assault or domestic violence and is stationed at the
23 same installation as, or in close proximity to, the
24 covered individual involved.

1 **SEC. 429. ACCESS TO TEMPORARY SEPARATION PROGRAM**
2 **FOR VICTIMS OF ALLEGED SEX-RELATED OF-**
3 **FENSES.**

4 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 180 days after the
5 date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant shall up-
6 date the Coast Guard policy relating to temporary separa-
7 tion of members of the Coast Guard who are victims of
8 alleged sex-related offenses as required under subsection
9 (b).

10 (b) **ELIGIBILITY.**—The updated policy required under
11 subsection (a) shall include—

12 (1) a provision that allows a member of the
13 Coast Guard to request to participate in the tem-
14 porary separation program if the member has re-
15 ported, in an unrestricted format or to the greatest
16 extent practicable, a restricted format, being the vic-
17 tim of an alleged sex-related offense on a date that
18 is during—

19 (A) the 5-year period preceding the re-
20 quested date of separation; and

21 (B) the military service of the member;

22 (2) a provision that provides eligibility for a
23 member of the Coast Guard to request temporary
24 separation if the member has reported being the vic-
25 tim of an alleged sex-related offense, even if—

1 (A) the member has had a previous tem-
2 porary separation including a previous tem-
3 porary separation as the victim of a previous
4 unrelated alleged sex-related offense; or

5 (B) the enlistment period of the member is
6 not nearing expiration or the tour or contract
7 of the member is not nearing completion;

8 (3) an updated standard of review consistent
9 with the application of, and purposes of, this section;
10 and

11 (4) the establishment of a process—

12 (A) for eligible members to make requests
13 for temporary separation under this section;
14 and

15 (B) that allows the Commandant to con-
16 sider whether to allow a member granted tem-
17 porary separation under this section to fulfill
18 the enlistment period or tour or contract obliga-
19 tion of the member after the end of the tem-
20 porary separation period.

21 (c) EXCEPTION FROM REPAYMENT OF BONUSES, IN-
22 CENTIVE PAY, OR SIMILAR BENEFITS AND TERMINATION
23 OF REMAINING PAYMENTS.—For any temporary separa-
24 tion granted under the updated policy required under sub-
25 section (a), the Secretary concerned may conduct a review

1 to determine whether to exercise discretion in accordance
2 with section 373(b)(1) of title 37, United States Code.

3 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 (1) SECRETARY CONCERNED.—The term “Sec-
5 retary concerned” has the meaning given such term
6 in section 101 of title 37, United States Code.

7 (2) SEX-RELATED OFFENSE.—The term “sex-
8 related offense” has the meaning given such term in
9 section 1044e(h) of title 10, United States Code.

10 **SEC. 430. POLICY AND PROGRAM TO EXPAND PREVENTION**
11 **OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
13 date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant shall de-
14 velop and issue a comprehensive policy for the Coast
15 Guard to reinvigorate the prevention of misconduct involv-
16 ing members and civilians of the Coast Guard that con-
17 tains the policy elements described in section 1561 of title
18 10, United States Code.

19 (b) PROGRAMS REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days
20 after the issuance of the policy required under paragraph
21 (1), the Commandant shall develop and implement for the
22 Coast Guard a program to reinvigorate the prevention of
23 misconduct involving members and civilians of the Coast
24 Guard.

1 **SEC. 431. CONTINUOUS VETTING OF SECURITY CLEAR-**
2 **ANCES.**

3 Section 1564(c) of title 10, United States Code, is
4 amended—

5 (1) in paragraph (1)—

6 (A) in the matter preceding subparagraph
7 (A) by inserting “, and the Secretary of Home-
8 land Security shall conduct an investigation or
9 adjudication under subsection (a) of any indi-
10 vidual described in paragraph (3),” after “para-
11 graph (2)”;

12 (B) in subparagraph (A)(iv) by striking
13 “the Secretary” and inserting “the Secretary of
14 Defense or the Secretary of Homeland Security,
15 as the case may be,”;

16 (2) in paragraph (2) by inserting “(other than
17 an individual described in paragraph (3))” after “is
18 an individual”;

19 (3) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and (4) as
20 paragraphs (4) and (5), respectively;

21 (4) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-
22 lowing new paragraph:

23 “(3) An individual described in this paragraph is an
24 individual who has a security clearance and is—

25 “(A) a flag officer of the Coast Guard; or

1 “(B) an employee of the Coast Guard in the
2 Senior Executive Service.”; and

3 (5) in paragraph (4), as redesignated by para-
4 graph (3), by striking “Secretary” and all that fol-
5 lows through “paragraph (2)” and inserting the fol-
6 lowing: “Secretary of Defense, in the case of an indi-
7 vidual described in paragraph (2), and the Secretary
8 of Homeland Security, in the case of an individual
9 described in paragraph (3), shall ensure that rel-
10 evant information on the conviction or determination
11 described in paragraph (1) of such an individual”.

12 **SEC. 432. TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR COV-**
13 **ERED MISCONDUCT PREVENTION AND RE-**
14 **SPONSE.**

15 (a) MODIFICATION OF CURRICULUM.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after
17 the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant
18 shall revise the curriculum of the Coast Guard with
19 respect to covered misconduct prevention and re-
20 sponse training—

21 (A) to include—

22 (i) information on procedures and re-
23 sponsibilities with respect to reporting re-
24 quirements, investigations, survivor health
25 and safety (including expedited transfers,

1 no-contact orders, military and civilian
2 protective orders, and temporary separa-
3 tions), and whistleblower protections;

4 (ii) information on Department of
5 Veterans Affairs resources available to vet-
6 erans, active-duty personnel, and reserve
7 personnel;

8 (iii) information on the right of any
9 member of the Coast Guard to seek legal
10 resources outside the Coast Guard;

11 (iv) general information regarding the
12 availability of legal resources provided by
13 civilian legal services organizations, pre-
14 sented in an organized and consistent
15 manner that does not endorse any par-
16 ticular legal services organization; and

17 (v) information on the capability, op-
18 erations, reporting structure, and require-
19 ments with respect to the Chief Prosecutor
20 of the Coast Guard; and

21 (B) to address the workforce training rec-
22 ommendations set forth in the memorandum of
23 the Coast Guard titled “Commandant’s Di-
24 rected Actions—Accountability and Trans-
25 parency”, issued on November 27, 2023.

1 (B) shall be tailored for specific leadership
2 levels, positions, pay grades, and roles.

3 (3) CONTENT.—The training and education re-
4 ferred to in paragraph (1) shall include the informa-
5 tion described in subsection (a)(1)(A).

6 (c) COVERED FIRST RESPONDER TRAINING.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after
8 the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant
9 shall ensure that—

10 (A) training for covered first responders
11 includes the covered misconduct prevention and
12 response training described in subsection (b);
13 and

14 (B) such covered misconduct prevention
15 and response training is provided to covered
16 first responders on a recurring basis.

17 (2) REQUIREMENTS.—In addition to the infor-
18 mation described in subsection (a)(1)(A), the initial
19 and recurring covered misconduct prevention and re-
20 sponse training for covered first responders shall in-
21 clude information on procedures and responsibilities
22 with respect to—

23 (A) the provision of care to a victim of cov-
24 ered misconduct, in accordance with profes-
25 sional standards or practice, that accounts for

1 trauma experienced by the victim and associ-
2 ated symptoms or events that may exacerbate
3 such trauma; and

4 (B) the manner in which such a victim
5 may receive such care.

6 (d) TRAINING FOR PROSPECTIVE COMMANDING OF-
7 FICERS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months
9 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Com-
10 mandant shall ensure that training for prospective
11 commanders and executive officers at all levels of
12 command includes the covered misconduct preven-
13 tion and response training described in subsection
14 (b).

15 (2) REQUIREMENTS.—In addition to the infor-
16 mation described in subsection (a)(1)(A), the cov-
17 ered misconduct prevention and response training
18 for prospective commanding officers and executive
19 officers shall be—

20 (A) tailored to the responsibilities and
21 leadership requirements of members of the
22 Coast Guard as they are assigned to command
23 positions; and

24 (B) revised, as necessary, to include infor-
25 mation on—

- 1 (i) fostering a command climate—
2 (I) that does not tolerate covered
3 misconduct;
4 (II) in which individuals assigned
5 to the command are encouraged to in-
6 tervene to prevent potential incidents
7 of covered misconduct; and
8 (III) that encourages victims of
9 covered misconduct to report any inci-
10 dent of covered misconduct;
11 (ii) the possible variations in the ef-
12 fect of trauma on individuals who have ex-
13 perience covered misconduct;
14 (iii) potential differences in the proce-
15 dures and responsibilities, Department of
16 Veterans Affairs resources, and legal re-
17 sources described in subsection (a)(1)(A)
18 depending on the operating environment in
19 which an incident of covered misconduct
20 occurred;
21 (iv) the investigation of alleged inci-
22 dents of covered misconduct, including
23 training on understanding evidentiary
24 standards;

1 (v) available disciplinary options, in-
2 cluding administrative action and deferral
3 of discipline for collateral misconduct, and
4 examples of disciplinary options in civilian
5 jurisdictions; and

6 (vi) the capability, operations, report-
7 ing structure, and requirements with re-
8 spect to the Chief Prosecutor of the Coast
9 Guard.

10 (e) ENTRY AND ACCESSION TRAININGS.—

11 (1) INITIAL TRAINING.—

12 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year
13 after the date of enactment of this Act, the
14 Commandant shall provide for the inclusion of
15 an initial covered misconduct prevention and re-
16 sponse training module in the training for each
17 new member of the Coast Guard, which shall be
18 provided not later than 14 duty days after the
19 date of accession.

20 (B) REQUIREMENT.—In addition to the in-
21 formation described in subsection (a)(1)(A), the
22 initial training module referred to in subpara-
23 graph (A) shall include a comprehensive expla-
24 nation of Coast Guard—

1 (i) policy with respect to covered mis-
2 conduct; and

3 (ii) procedures for reporting covered
4 misconduct.

5 (2) SUBSEQUENT TRAINING.—

6 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant shall
7 provide for the inclusion of a detailed covered
8 misconduct prevention and response training
9 module in the training for each new member of
10 the Coast Guard, which shall be provided not
11 later than 60 duty days after the date on which
12 the initial training module described in para-
13 graph (1)(A) is provided.

14 (B) CONTENT.—The detailed training
15 module referred to in subparagraph (A) shall
16 include the information described in subsection
17 (a)(1)(A).

18 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

19 (1) COVERED FIRST RESPONDER.—The term
20 “covered first responder” includes sexual assault re-
21 sponse coordinators, victim advocates, Coast Guard
22 medical officers, Coast Guard security forces, Coast
23 Guard Investigative Service agents, judge advocates,
24 special victims’ counsel, chaplains, and related per-
25 sonnel.

1 (2) COVERED MISCONDUCT.—The term “cov-
2 ered misconduct” has the meaning given such term
3 in section 2519 of title 14, United States Code.

4 **TITLE V—COMPTROLLER**
5 **GENERAL REPORTS**

6 **SEC. 501. COMPTROLLER GENERAL REPORT ON COAST**
7 **GUARD RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND IN-**
8 **NOVATION PROGRAM.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after
10 the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General
11 of the United States shall submit to the Committee on
12 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and
13 the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of
14 the House of Representatives a report on the state of the
15 research, development, and innovation program of the
16 Coast Guard during the 5-year period ending on such date
17 of enactment.

18 (b) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection
19 (a) shall include the following:

20 (1) An evaluation and description of the process
21 for selecting projects to be carried out under the re-
22 search, development, and innovation program of the
23 Coast Guard.

24 (2) An analysis of the manner in which funding
25 needs are determined and requested for such pro-

1 gram, and for the activities and projects of such pro-
2 gram, in alignment with the appropriate fiscal year.

3 (3) An assessment of the manner in which the
4 Coast Guard determines desired outcomes, and
5 measures the impact, of successful projects on the
6 execution of the operations and mission of the Coast
7 Guard.

8 (4) An assessment of the manner in which the
9 Coast Guard evaluates impacts and benefits of part-
10 nerships between the Coast Guard and the Depart-
11 ment of Defense and other entities, and a descrip-
12 tion of the extent to which and manner in which the
13 Coast Guard is leveraging such benefits and identi-
14 fying and managing any potential challenge.

15 (5) An analysis of the manner in which the
16 Commandant is working with partners to accelerate
17 project transition from research, testing, evaluation,
18 and prototype to production.

19 (6) An assessment of the manner in which the
20 authority to enter into transactions other than con-
21 tracts and grants pursuant to sections 719 and 1158
22 of title 14, United States Code, has been exercised
23 by the Commandant, and a description of any train-
24 ing or resources necessary (including additional

1 agreements for officers and training) to more fully
2 exercise such authority.

3 (7) An evaluation of the role of the Blue Tech
4 Center of Expertise established in section 302 of the
5 Coast Guard Blue Technology Center of Expertise
6 Act (Public Law 115–265).

7 (8) Recommendations regarding authorization,
8 personnel, infrastructure, and other requirements
9 necessary for the expeditious transition of tech-
10 nologies developed under such program from proto-
11 type to production in the field.

12 (c) CONSULTATION.—In developing the report re-
13 quired under subsection (a), the Comptroller General may
14 consult with—

15 (1) the maritime and aviation industries;

16 (2) the Secretary of Defense;

17 (3) the intelligence community; and

18 (4) any relevant—

19 (A) federally funded research institutions;

20 (B) nongovernmental organizations; and

21 (C) institutions of higher education.

1 **SEC. 502. COMPTROLLER GENERAL STUDY ON VESSEL**
2 **TRAFFIC SERVICE CENTER EMPLOYMENT,**
3 **COMPENSATION, AND RETENTION.**

4 (a) DEFINITION OF VESSEL TRAFFIC SERVICE CEN-
5 TER.—In this section, the term “vessel traffic service cen-
6 ter” has the meaning given the term in section 70001(m)
7 of title 46, United States Code.

8 (b) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the
9 date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General
10 of the United States shall commence a study on employ-
11 ment compensation, competitiveness, assignment, and re-
12 tention of civilian and military personnel assigned to or
13 otherwise employed at vessel traffic service centers in the
14 United States.

15 (c) ELEMENTS.—The study required under sub-
16 section (b) shall include the following:

17 (1) An assessment of the extent to which the
18 classification, assignment, selection, and pay rates of
19 personnel assigned to or otherwise employed at ves-
20 sel traffic service centers are commensurate with the
21 required experience, duties, safety functions, and re-
22 sponsibilities of such positions.

23 (2) An assessment of the appropriate classifica-
24 tion, assignment, selection, and pay rate, as well as
25 nonmonetary employment incentives, that would fos-
26 ter a robust and competitive civilian candidate pool

1 for employment opportunities in civilian positions at
2 vessel traffic service centers.

3 (3) An analysis of the average civilian employ-
4 ment retention rate and average term of employment
5 of civilian personnel, by position, at vessel traffic
6 service centers.

7 (4) An analysis of existing special payments, as
8 discussed in the report by the Government Account-
9 ability Office entitled “Federal Pay: Opportunities
10 Exist to Enhance Strategic Use of Special Pay-
11 ments” (published December 7, 2017; GAO–18–91),
12 that may be available to personnel assigned to or
13 otherwise employed at vessel traffic service centers.

14 (5) An evaluation of all assignment parameters
15 and civilian hiring authority codes used by the Coast
16 Guard in assigning and hiring personnel assigned to
17 or otherwise employed at vessel traffic service cen-
18 ters.

19 (6) An analysis of whether opportunities exist
20 to refine, consolidate, or expand Coast Guard civil-
21 ian hiring authorities for purposes of hiring per-
22 sonnel at the vessel traffic service centers.

23 (7) An assessment of the ability of the composi-
24 tion, as in effect on the first day of the study, of
25 military and civilian personnel assigned to or other-

1 wise employed at vessel traffic service centers to en-
2 sure safety on the waterways and to manage increas-
3 ing demand for vessel traffic services, taking into ac-
4 count the ranks and grades of such personnel, the
5 respective experience levels and training of such per-
6 sonnel, and the respective duties, safety functions,
7 and responsibilities of such personnel.

8 (8) An assessment of, and recommendations to
9 improve, the Coast Guard's efforts to support the
10 career progression of and advancement opportunities
11 for officers and enlisted members of the Coast
12 Guard assigned to vessel traffic service centers.

13 (d) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after com-
14 mencing the study required under subsection (b), the
15 Comptroller General shall submit to the Committee on
16 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and
17 the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of
18 the House of Representatives a report on the findings of
19 the study.

20 **SEC. 503. COMPTROLLER GENERAL REVIEW OF QUALITY**
21 **AND AVAILABILITY OF COAST GUARD BEHAV-**
22 **IORAL HEALTH CARE AND RESOURCES FOR**
23 **PERSONNEL WELLNESS.**

24 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the
25 date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General

1 of the United States shall commence a review of the qual-
2 ity and availability of behavioral health care and related
3 resources for Coast Guard personnel at the locations de-
4 scribed in subsection (b).

5 (b) LOCATIONS TO BE REVIEWED.—In conducting
6 the review under subsection (a), the Comptroller General
7 shall—

8 (1) first review the practices and policies relat-
9 ing to the availability of behavioral health care and
10 related resources at Training Center Cape May; and

11 (2) review such practices and policies at—

12 (A) the Coast Guard Academy, including
13 Officer Candidate School; and

14 (B) other Coast Guard training locations,
15 as applicable.

16 (c) ELEMENTS.—The review conducted under sub-
17 section (a) shall include, for each location described in
18 subsection (b), an assessment, and a description of avail-
19 able trend information (as applicable) for the 10-year pe-
20 riod preceding the date of the review, with respect to each
21 of the following:

22 (1) The nature of Coast Guard resources di-
23 rected toward behavioral health services at the loca-
24 tion.

1 (2) The manner in which the Coast Guard has
2 managed treatment for recruits, cadets, officer can-
3 didates, or other personnel who may be experiencing
4 a behavioral health crisis at the location (including
5 individuals who have transferred to other buildings
6 or facilities within the location).

7 (3) The extent to which the Coast Guard has
8 identified the resources, such as physical spaces and
9 facilities, necessary to manage behavioral health
10 challenges and crises that Coast Guard personnel
11 may face at the location.

12 (4) The behavioral health screenings required
13 by the Coast Guard for recruits, cadets, officer can-
14 didates, or other personnel at the location, and the
15 manner in which such screenings compare with
16 screenings required by the Department of Defense
17 for military recruits, service academy cadets, officer
18 candidates, or other personnel at military service ac-
19 cession points.

20 (5) Whether the Coast Guard has assessed the
21 adequacy of behavioral health resources and services
22 for recruits, cadets, officer candidates, and other
23 personnel at the location, and if so, the additional
24 services and resources (such as resilience and life

1 skills coaching), if any, needed to address any poten-
2 tial gaps.

3 (6) The manner in which the Coast Guard man-
4 ages care transfers related to behavior health at the
5 location, including command and other management
6 input and privacy policies.

7 (7) The extent to which the Coast Guard has
8 evaluated contributing factors or reasons for behav-
9 ioral health crises experienced by newly enlisted per-
10 sonnel, cadets, officer candidates, or other personnel
11 at the location.

12 (8) The extent to which the Coast Guard has
13 addressed, at the location, provider care staffing
14 standards and credentialing deficiencies identified in
15 the report of the Comptroller General titled “Coast
16 Guard Health Care: Improvements Needed for De-
17 termining Staffing Needs and Monitoring Access to
18 Care”, issued on February 4, 2022.

19 (d) REPORTS.—The Comptroller General shall sub-
20 mit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Trans-
21 portation of the Senate and the Committee on Transpor-
22 tation and Infrastructure of the House of Representa-
23 tives—

24 (1) as soon as practicable but not later than 1
25 year after the date of enactment of this Act, a re-

1 port relating to the results of the review conducted
2 under subsection (a) relating to Training Center
3 Cape May, including any recommendations the
4 Comptroller General considers appropriate; and

5 (2) not later than 1 year after the date of en-
6 actment of this Act—

7 (A) a report on the results of the review
8 conducted under subsection (a) relating to—

9 (i) the Coast Guard Academy, includ-
10 ing Officer Candidate School; and

11 (ii) other Coast Guard training loca-
12 tions, as applicable; and

13 (B) any recommendations the Comptroller
14 General considers appropriate.

15 **SEC. 504. COMPTROLLER GENERAL STUDY ON COAST**
16 **GUARD EFFORTS TO REDUCE PREVALENCE**
17 **OF MISSING OR INCOMPLETE MEDICAL**
18 **RECORDS AND SHARING OF MEDICAL DATA**
19 **WITH DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**
20 **AND OTHER ENTITIES.**

21 (a) STUDY.—Not later than 1 year after the date of
22 the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the
23 United States shall commence a study assessing the ef-
24 forts of the Commandant—

1 (1) to reduce the prevalence of missing or in-
2 complete medical records;

3 (2) to share medical data of members of the
4 Coast Guard with the Department of Veterans Af-
5 fairs; and

6 (3) to ensure that electronic health records are
7 provided in a format that is user friendly and easy
8 to access.

9 (b) ELEMENTS.—In conducting the study under sub-
10 section (a), the Comptroller General shall review the fol-
11 lowing:

12 (1) The steps the Commandant has taken to re-
13 duce the prevalence of missing or incomplete medical
14 records of members of the Coast Guard.

15 (2) How implementation of an electronic health
16 record system has affected the ability of the Com-
17 mandant to manage health records of members of
18 the Coast Guard, including—

19 (A) how the Commandant adds records
20 from private medical providers to the electronic
21 health record system;

22 (B) the progress of the Commandant to-
23 ward implementing the electronic health record
24 system in shipboard sick bays of the Coast
25 Guard;

1 (C) how the Coast Guard shares medical
2 records with the Department of Veterans Af-
3 fairs; and

4 (D) any other matter the Comptroller Gen-
5 eral considers appropriate with respect to med-
6 ical record storage, use, and sharing and the
7 associated consequences for member health and
8 well-being.

9 (3) The ability of members of the Coast Guard,
10 medical professionals of the Coast Guard and of the
11 Department of Defense, personnel of the Depart-
12 ment of Veterans Affairs, and other personnel to ac-
13 cess and search, as appropriate, the electronic health
14 records of individuals, including the ability to search
15 or quickly find information within electronic health
16 records.

17 (c) REPORT.—Upon completion of the study under
18 subsection (a), the Comptroller General shall submit to the
19 Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of
20 the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and In-
21 frastructure of the House of Representatives a report con-
22 taining the results of the study under subsection (a).

1 **SEC. 505. COMPTROLLER GENERAL STUDY ON COAST**
2 **GUARD TRAINING FACILITY INFRASTRUC-**
3 **TURE.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
5 date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General
6 of the United States shall commence a study on Coast
7 Guard training facility infrastructure, including the spe-
8 cific needs of the Coast Guard training facilities described
9 in subsection (c).

10 (b) ELEMENTS.—The study required under sub-
11 section (a) shall include the following:

12 (1) With respect to each Coast Guard training
13 facility described in subsection (c)—

14 (A) a summary of capital needs, including
15 construction and repair;

16 (B) a summary of equipment upgrade
17 backlogs;

18 (C) an assessment of necessary improve-
19 ments, including improvements to essential
20 training equipment (including swimming pools,
21 operational simulators, and marksmanship
22 training ranges) to enable the Coast Guard to
23 achieve all operational training objectives;

24 (D) a description of the resources nec-
25 essary to fully address all training needs;

1 (E) an assessment of any security defi-
2 ciency, including with respect to base access,
3 training facility access, and trainee berthing
4 area access;

5 (F) an identification of any exposed hazard
6 that does not serve a training purpose;

7 (G) an identification of the presence of
8 hazardous or toxic materials, including—

9 (i) lead-based paint;

10 (ii) asbestos or products that contain
11 asbestos;

12 (iii) black mold;

13 (iv) radon; and

14 (v) contaminated drinking water; and

15 (H) an assessment of the need for, and es-
16 timated cost of, remediation of such toxic mate-
17 rials.

18 (2) An evaluation of the process used by the
19 Coast Guard to identify, monitor, and construct
20 Coast Guard training facilities.

21 (c) COAST GUARD TRAINING FACILITIES DE-
22 SCRIBED.—The Coast Guard training facilities described
23 in this subsection are the following:

24 (1) The Coast Guard Academy in New London,
25 Connecticut.

- 1 (2) The Leadership Development Center in
2 New London, Connecticut.
- 3 (3) Training Center Cape May, New Jersey.
- 4 (4) Training Center Petaluma, California.
- 5 (5) Training Center Yorktown, Virginia.
- 6 (6) The Maritime Law Enforcement Academy
7 in Charleston, South Carolina.
- 8 (7) The Special Missions Training Center at
9 Camp Lejeune in North Carolina.
- 10 (8) The Gulf Regional Fisheries Training Cen-
11 ter (GRFTC) in New Orleans, Louisiana.
- 12 (9) The North Pacific Regional Fisheries
13 Training Center (NPRFTC) in Kodiak, Alaska.
- 14 (10) The Northeast Regional Fisheries Train-
15 ing Center (NRFTC) at Cape Cod, Massachusetts.
- 16 (11) The Southeast Regional Fisheries Training
17 Center (SRFTC) in Charleston, South Carolina.
- 18 (12) The Pacific Regional Fisheries Training
19 Center (PRFTC) in Alameda, California.
- 20 (13) The National Motor Lifeboat School at
21 Cape Disappointment, Washington.
- 22 (14) The Aviation Technical Training Center in
23 Elizabeth City, North Carolina.
- 24 (15) The Aviation Training Center in Mobile,
25 Alabama.

1 (d) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after com-
2 mencing the study required under subsection (a), the
3 Comptroller General shall submit to the Committee on
4 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and
5 the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of
6 the House of Representatives a report on the findings of
7 the study.

8 **SEC. 506. COMPTROLLER GENERAL STUDY ON FACILITY**
9 **AND INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS OF COAST**
10 **GUARD STATIONS CONDUCTING BORDER SE-**
11 **CURITY OPERATIONS.**

12 (a) STUDY.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
14 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comp-
15 troller General of the United States shall commence
16 a study on the facility and infrastructure needs of
17 the Coast Guard stations and units described in
18 paragraph (3).

19 (2) ELEMENTS.—The study required under
20 paragraph (1) shall include, with respect to each
21 Coast Guard station and unit described in para-
22 graph (3), the following:

23 (A) An assessment of capital needs, includ-
24 ing personnel capacity, construction, and repair.

1 (B) An assessment of equipment upgrade
2 backlogs.

3 (C) An identification of any necessary im-
4 provement, including any improvement to oper-
5 ational and training equipment necessary to
6 conduct safe and effective maritime border se-
7 curity operations.

8 (D) An identification of any resource nec-
9 essary to fully address all operational and train-
10 ing needs.

11 (E) An identification of any physical secu-
12 rity deficiency.

13 (F) An identification of any exposed haz-
14 ard.

15 (G) An identification of the presence of
16 any hazardous or toxic material, including—

17 (i) lead-based paint;

18 (ii) asbestos or any product that con-
19 tains asbestos;

20 (iii) black mold;

21 (iv) radon; and

22 (v) contaminated drinking water.

23 (H) An assessment of the need for, and es-
24 timated cost of, remediation of any toxic mate-
25 rial identified under subparagraph (G).

1 (3) COAST GUARD STATIONS DESCRIBED.—The
2 Coast Guard stations and units described in this
3 paragraph are the following:

4 (A) Coast Guard Station South Padre Is-
5 land, Texas.

6 (B) Coast Guard Station Port Aransas,
7 Texas.

8 (C) Coast Guard Station Port O'Connor,
9 Texas.

10 (D) Coast Guard Station Bellingham,
11 Washington.

12 (E) Coast Guard Station Neah Bay, Wash-
13 ington.

14 (F) Coast Guard Station Port Angeles,
15 Washington.

16 (G) Coast Guard Station Ketchikan, Alas-
17 ka.

18 (H) Coast Guard Station San Diego, Cali-
19 fornia.

20 (I) Coast Guard Station Key West, Flor-
21 ida.

22 (J) Coast Guard Station Marathon, Flor-
23 ida.

24 (K) Coast Guard Station Islamorada, Flor-
25 ida.

1 (L) Coast Guard Station Jonesport,
2 Maine.

3 (M) Coast Guard Station Bayfield, Wis-
4 consin.

5 (N) Coast Guard Station Sturgeon Bay,
6 Wisconsin.

7 (O) Coast Guard Marine Safety Detach-
8 ment Santa Barbara.

9 (P) Any other Coast Guard station the
10 Comptroller General considers appropriate.

11 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after com-
12 mencing the study required under subsection (a), the
13 Comptroller General shall submit to the Committee on
14 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, the
15 Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the
16 House of Representatives, and the Commandant a report
17 on the findings of the study, including any recommenda-
18 tion the Comptroller General considers appropriate.

19 (c) BRIEFINGS.—Not later than 180 days after the
20 date on which the report required under subsection (b)
21 is submitted to the Commandant, the Commandant shall
22 provide a briefing to the Committee on Commerce,
23 Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Com-
24 mittee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House
25 of Representatives on—

1 percent of the monthly cost of adequate housing for
2 such members in the corresponding military housing
3 area.

4 (2) An analysis of each of the following:

5 (A) Anchor points, including—

6 (i) the methodology for the establish-
7 ment of anchor points; and

8 (ii) with respect to housing provided
9 as part of a public-private venture and
10 Government-owned and Government-leased
11 housing, the disparities between estab-
12 lished anchor points and housing standards
13 across the armed forces (as such term is
14 defined in section 101 of title 10, United
15 States Code).

16 (B) Existing military housing boundary
17 areas that affect the Coast Guard.

18 (C) Actions taken by the Commandant to
19 comprehensively monitor basic allowance for
20 housing rates for Coast Guard duty locations.

21 (D) The frequency of reviews conducted by
22 the Commandant of the site visits used by the
23 Department of Defense to inform military hous-
24 ing area boundaries.

1 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date
2 on which the study required under subsection (a) com-
3 mences, the Comptroller General shall submit to the Com-
4 mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the
5 Senate, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastruc-
6 ture of the House of Representatives, and the Com-
7 mandant a report on the findings of the study, including
8 any recommendation the Comptroller General considers
9 appropriate.

10 (d) PLAN.—Not later than 1 year after the date on
11 which the report required by subsection (c) is submitted
12 to the Commandant, the Commandant shall submit to the
13 Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of
14 the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and In-
15 frastructure of the House of Representatives—

16 (1) an implementation plan, including time-
17 frames and milestones, addressing any recommenda-
18 tion made by the Comptroller General in such re-
19 port, as the Commandant considers appropriate; and

20 (2) with respect to any recommendation set
21 forth in such report that the Commandant declines
22 to implement, a written justification for the decision.

23 (e) ANCHOR POINT DEFINED.—In this section, the
24 term “anchor point”—

1 (1) means the minimum housing standard ref-
2 erence benchmark used to establish the basic allow-
3 ance for housing under section 403 of title 37,
4 United States Code; and

5 (2) includes housing type and size based on pay
6 grade and dependent status.

7 **SEC. 508. COMPTROLLER GENERAL REPORT ON SAFETY**
8 **AND SECURITY INFRASTRUCTURE AT COAST**
9 **GUARD ACADEMY.**

10 (a) GAO REPORT.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
12 the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller
13 General of the United States shall submit to the
14 Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transpor-
15 tation of the Senate and the Committee on Trans-
16 portation and Infrastructure of the House of Rep-
17 resentatives a report on the safety and security in-
18 frastructure at the Coast Guard Academy.

19 (2) ELEMENTS.—The report required under
20 paragraph (1) shall include an assessment of each of
21 the following:

22 (A) Existing security infrastructure for the
23 grounds, buildings, athletic facilities, and any
24 other facility of the Coast Guard Academy, in-

1 including access points, locks, surveillance, and
2 other security methods, as appropriate.

3 (B) Coast Guard policies with respect to
4 the management, data storage and access, and
5 operational capacity of the security infrastruc-
6 ture and methods evaluated under subpara-
7 graph (A).

8 (C) Special security needs relating to
9 events at the Coast Guard Academy, such as
10 large athletic events and other widely attended
11 events.

12 (D) Coast Guard policies and procedures
13 with respect to access to Coast Guard Academy
14 grounds by—

15 (i) current or former members of the
16 Coast Guard;

17 (ii) current or former civilian employ-
18 ees of the Coast Guard;

19 (iii) Coast Guard personnel that re-
20 side at the Academy and families of cadets;
21 and

22 (iv) members of the public.

23 (E) Existing processes by which the Com-
24 mandant, the Superintendent of the Coast
25 Guard Academy, or a designated individual may

1 prohibit or restrict access to Coast Guard Acad-
2 emy grounds by any current or former member
3 or civilian employee of the Coast Guard who—

4 (i) has been subject to court-martial
5 under the Uniform Code of Military Jus-
6 tice for sexual misconduct; or

7 (ii) has been administratively dis-
8 ciplined for sexual misconduct.

9 (F) Enforcement processes regarding ac-
10 cess to Coast Guard Academy grounds for indi-
11 viduals (including current and former cadets,
12 members, and civilian employees of the Coast
13 Guard) who are or have been subject to a no-
14 contact order relating to—

15 (i) a cadet or member of the faculty
16 of the Academy; or

17 (ii) any other individual with access to
18 Academy grounds.

19 (G) Recommendations to improve—

20 (i) the security of the Coast Guard
21 Academy; and

22 (ii) the safety of—

23 (I) cadets at the Coast Guard
24 Academy; and

1 (II) members of the Coast Guard
2 stationed at, and civilian employees
3 of, the Coast Guard Academy.

4 (b) ACTIONS BY COMMANDANT.—

5 (1) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after
6 the date on which the Comptroller General submits
7 the report required under subsection (a), the Com-
8 mandant shall submit to the Committee on Com-
9 merce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate
10 and the Committee on Transportation and Infra-
11 structure of the House of Representatives a report
12 that includes—

13 (A) a detailed plan to improve the security
14 of, and the safety of cadets at, the Coast Guard
15 Academy; and

16 (B) a detailed timeline for implementation
17 of—

18 (i) the recommendations made by the
19 Comptroller General in such report; and

20 (ii) any other safety improvement the
21 Commandant considers appropriate.

22 (2) POLICY.—Not later than 30 days after the
23 date on which the Comptroller General submits the
24 report required under subsection (a), the Com-
25 mandant, in a manner that maintains good order

1 and discipline, shall update Coast Guard policy re-
2 lating to access to the Coast Guard Academy
3 grounds to include procedures by which individuals
4 may be prohibited from accessing the Coast Guard
5 Academy—

6 (A) as the Commandant considers appro-
7 priate; and

8 (B) consistent with the recommendations
9 made by the Comptroller General in such re-
10 port.

11 **SEC. 509. COMPTROLLER GENERAL STUDY ON ATHLETIC**
12 **COACHING AT COAST GUARD ACADEMY.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the
14 date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General
15 of the United States, in consultation with the Super-
16 intendent of the Coast Guard Academy, shall commence
17 a study on the number of administratively determined bil-
18 lets for teaching and coaching necessary to support Coast
19 Guard Academy recruitment, intercollegiate athletics,
20 health and physical education, and leadership development
21 programs.

22 (b) ELEMENTS.—The study required under sub-
23 section (a) shall include the following:

24 (1) An identification of the number of full-time
25 and part-time employees performing coaching func-

1 tions at the Coast Guard Academy whose positions
2 are funded by a nonappropriated fund instrumen-
3 tality of the Coast Guard.

4 (2) An identification of the number of full-time
5 and part-time employees whose positions are funded
6 by a nonappropriated fund instrumentality per-
7 forming coaching functions at the following:

8 (A) The United States Military Academy.

9 (B) The United States Naval Academy.

10 (C) The United States Air Force Academy.

11 (D) The United States Merchant Marine
12 Academy.

13 (3) An analysis of the roles performed by ath-
14 letic coaches with respect to officer development at
15 the Coast Guard Academy, including the specific
16 functions of athletic coaches within the health and
17 physical education and leadership development pro-
18 gram curriculums.

19 (4) An identification of any adverse impacts on
20 or deficiencies in cadet training and officer develop-
21 ment resulting from an inadequate number of ad-
22 ministratively determined billets for teaching and
23 coaching at the Coast Guard Academy.

1 (c) CONSULTATION.—In conducting the study under
2 subsection (a), the Comptroller General may consult a fed-
3 erally funded research and development center.

4 (d) REPORT.—The Comptroller General shall submit
5 to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transpor-
6 tation of the Senate and the Committee of Transportation
7 and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a re-
8 port on the results of the study conducted under this sec-
9 tion.

10 **SEC. 510. COMPTROLLER GENERAL STUDY AND REPORT ON**
11 **PERMANENT CHANGE OF STATION PROCESS.**

12 (a) STUDY.—Not later than 1 year after the date of
13 enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the
14 United States shall commence a study to evaluate the ef-
15 fectiveness of the permanent change of station process of
16 the Coast Guard.

17 (b) REPORT.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
19 commencing the study required by subsection (a),
20 the Comptroller General shall submit to the Com-
21 mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of
22 the Senate and the Committee on Transportation
23 and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives
24 a report on the findings of the study.

1 (2) ELEMENTS.—The report required by para-
2 graph (1) shall include the following:

3 (A) A description of the permanent change
4 of station policies of the Coast Guard.

5 (B) A description of Coast Guard spending
6 on permanent change of station moves and as-
7 sociated support costs.

8 (C) An evaluation of the effectiveness of
9 using contracted movers for permanent change
10 of station moves, including the estimated costs
11 associated with—

12 (i) lost or damaged personal property
13 of members of the Coast Guard;

14 (ii) delays in scheduling such a move
15 through a contracted mover;

16 (iii) delayed delivery of household
17 goods; and

18 (iv) other related challenges.

19 (D) A review of changes to permanent
20 change of station policies implemented during
21 the 10-year period ending on the date of enact-
22 ment of this Act, and the costs or savings to
23 the Coast Guard directly associated with such
24 changes.

1 (E) Recommendations to improve the per-
2 manent change of station process of the Coast
3 Guard.

4 (F) Any additional information or related
5 matter arising from the study, as the Comp-
6 troller General considers appropriate.

7 **TITLE VI—AMENDMENTS**

8 **SEC. 601. AMENDMENTS.**

9 (a) PROHIBITION ON ENTRY AND OPERATION.—Sec-
10 tion 70022(b)(1) of title 46, United States Code, is
11 amended by striking “Federal Register” and inserting
12 “the Federal Register”.

13 (b) PORT, HARBOR, AND COASTAL FACILITY SECUR-
14 ITY.—Section 70116(b) of title 46, United States Code,
15 is amended—

16 (1) in paragraph (1) by striking “terrorism
17 cyber” and inserting “terrorism, cyber”; and

18 (2) in paragraph (2) by inserting a comma
19 after “acts of terrorism”.

20 (c) ENFORCEMENT BY STATE AND LOCAL OFFI-
21 CERS.—Section 70118(a) of title 46, United States Code,
22 is amended—

23 (1) by striking “section 1 of title II of the Act
24 of June 15, 1917 (chapter 30; 50 U.S.C. 191)” and
25 inserting “section 70051”; and

1 (2) by striking “section 7(b) of the Ports and
2 Waterways Safety Act (33 U.S.C. 1226(b))” and in-
3 serting “section 70116(b)”.

4 (d) CHAPTER 701 DEFINITIONS.—Section 70131(2)
5 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

6 (1) by striking “section 1 of title II of the Act
7 of June 15, 1917 (50 U.S.C. 191)” and inserting
8 “section 70051”; and

9 (2) by striking “section 7(b) of the Ports and
10 Waterways Safety Act (33 U.S.C. 1226(b))” and in-
11 serting “section 70116(b)”.

12 (e) NOTICE OF ARRIVAL REQUIREMENTS FOR VES-
13 SELS ON THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF.—

14 (1) PREPARATORY CONFORMING AMEND-
15 MENT.—Section 70001 of title 46, United States
16 Code, is amended by redesignating subsections (l)
17 and (m) as subsections (m) and (n), respectively.

18 (2) TRANSFER OF PROVISION.—Section 704 of
19 the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act
20 2012 (Public Law 112–213; 46 U.S.C. 70001 note)
21 is—

22 (A) amended by striking “of title 46,
23 United States Code,”;

24 (B) amended by striking “(33 U.S.C. 1223
25 note)” and inserting “(46 U.S.C. 70001 note)”;

1 (C) transferred to appear after 70001(k)
2 of title 46, United States Code; and

3 (D) redesignated as subsection (l).

4 (f) TITLE 46.—Title 46, United States Code, is
5 amended as follows:

6 (1) Section 2101(2) is amended by striking
7 “section 1” and inserting “section 101”.

8 (2) Section 2116(b)(1)(D) is amended by strik-
9 ing “section 93(c)” and inserting “section 504(c)”.

10 (3) In the analysis for subtitle VII by striking
11 the period after “70001” in the item relating to
12 chapter 700.

13 (4) In the analysis for chapter 700 by striking
14 the item relating to section 70006 and inserting the
15 following:

“70006. Establishment by Secretary of the department in which the Coast
Guard is operating of anchorage grounds and regulations gen-
erally.”.

16 (5) In the heading for subchapter IV in the
17 analysis for chapter 700 by inserting a comma after
18 “DEFINITIONS”.

19 (6) In the heading for subchapter VI in the
20 analysis for chapter 700 by striking “OF THE
21 UNITED” and inserting “OF UNITED”.

22 (7) Section 70052(e)(1) is amended by striking
23 “section 4197 of the Revised Statutes of the United

1 States (46 U.S.C. App. 91)” and inserting “section
2 60105”.

3 (g) OIL POLLUTION ACT OF 1990.—The Oil Pollu-
4 tion Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.) is amended as
5 follows:

6 (1) Section 1001 (33 U.S.C. 2701) is amend-
7 ed—

8 (A) in paragraph (32)(G) by striking
9 “pipeline” and all that follows through “off-
10 shore facility” and inserting “pipeline, offshore
11 facility”;

12 (B) in paragraph (39) by striking “section
13 101(20)(G)(i)” and inserting “section
14 101(20)(H)(i)”;

15 (C) in paragraph (40) by striking “section
16 101(20)(G)(ii)” and inserting “section
17 101(20)(H)(ii)”;

18 (D)) in paragraph (41) by striking “sec-
19 tion 101(20)(G)(iii)” and inserting “section
20 101(20)(H)(iii)”;

21 (E) in paragraph (42) by striking “section
22 101(20)(G)(iv)” and inserting “section
23 101(20)(H)(iv)”;

1 (F) in paragraph (43) by striking “section
2 101(20)(G)(v)” and inserting “section
3 101(20)(H)(v)”; and

4 (G) in paragraph (44) by striking “section
5 101(20)(G)(vi)” and inserting “section
6 101(20)(H)(vi)”.

7 (2) Section 1003(d)(6) (33 U.S.C. 2703(d)(6))
8 is amended by striking “this paragraph” and insert-
9 ing “this subsection”.

10 (3) Section 1016 (33 U.S.C. 2716) is amend-
11 ed—

12 (A) by redesignating subsections (e)
13 through (i) as subsections (d) through (h), re-
14 spectively; and

15 (B) in subsection (e)(1)(B), as redesign-
16 ated by subparagraph (A), by striking “sub-
17 section (e)” and inserting “subsection (d)”.

18 (4) Section 1012(b)(2) (33 U.S.C. 2712(b)(2))
19 is amended by striking “section 1016(f)(1)” and in-
20 serting “section 1016(e)(1)”.

21 (5) Section 1005(b)(5)(B) (33 U.S.C.
22 2716(b)(5)(B)) is amended by striking “section
23 1016(g)” and inserting “section 2716(f)”.

24 (6) Section 1018(c) (33 U.S.C. 2718(c)) is
25 amended by striking “the Act of March 3, 1851 (46

1 U.S.C. 183 et seq.)” and inserting “chapter 305 of
2 title 46, United States Code”.

3 (7) Section 7001(h)(1) (33 U.S.C. 2761(h)(1))
4 is amended by striking “subsection (c)(4)” and in-
5 serting “subsection (e)(4)”.

6 **TITLE VII—NATIONAL OCEANIC**
7 **AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINIS-**
8 **TRATION**

9 **Subtitle A—National Oceanic and**
10 **Atmospheric Administration**
11 **Commissioned Officer Corps**

12 **SEC. 701. TITLE AND QUALIFICATIONS OF HEAD OF NA-**
13 **TIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMIN-**
14 **ISTRATION COMMISSIONED OFFICER CORPS**
15 **AND OFFICE OF MARINE AND AVIATION OP-**
16 **ERATIONS; PROMOTIONS OF FLAG OFFICERS.**

17 (a) TITLE AND QUALIFICATIONS OF HEAD.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 228(c) of the Na-
19 tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
20 Commissioned Officer Corps Act of 2002 (33 U.S.C.
21 3028(c)) is amended—

22 (A) in the subsection heading, by striking
23 “CORPS AND OFFICE OF” and inserting “COM-
24 MISSIONED OFFICER CORPS AND ASSISTANT
25 ADMINISTRATOR FOR”;

1 (B) in the second sentence, by striking
2 “serving in” and all that follows through
3 “half)” and inserting “who has served, on the
4 date of such appointment, in the grade of cap-
5 tain or above for not less than one year”; and

6 (C) in the fourth sentence, by striking “Di-
7 rector of the Office of” and inserting “Assistant
8 Administrator of the National Oceanic and At-
9 mospheric Administration for”.

10 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 4(a)
11 of the Commercial Engagement Through Ocean
12 Technology Act of 2018 (33 U.S.C. 4103(a)) is
13 amended by striking “Director of the Office of” and
14 inserting “Assistant Administrator of the National
15 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for”.

16 (b) PROMOTIONS OF FLAG OFFICERS.—Section 226
17 of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
18 Commissioned Officer Corps Act of 2002 (33 U.S.C.
19 3026) is amended—

20 (1) by striking “Appointments” and inserting
21 the following:

22 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Appointments”;

23 (2) by inserting after “all permanent grades”
24 the following: “, other than a grade described in
25 subsection (b),”; and

1 (3) by adding at the end the following:

2 “(b) FLAG OFFICERS.—Appointments in and pro-
3 motions to the grade of rear admiral (upper half) or above
4 shall be made by the President, by and with the advice
5 and consent of the Senate.”.

6 **SEC. 702. NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMIN-**
7 **ISTRATION VESSEL FLEET.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—The NOAA Fleet Modernization
9 Act (33 U.S.C. 891 et seq.) is amended—

10 (1) in section 603 (33 U.S.C. 891a)—

11 (A) in the section heading, by striking
12 “**FLEET**” and all that follows through “**PRO-**
13 **GRAM**” and inserting “**OPERATION AND**
14 **MAINTENANCE OF NOAA FLEET**”; and

15 (B) by striking “is authorized” and all
16 that follows and inserting the following: “, act-
17 ing through the Assistant Administrator of
18 NOAA for Marine and Aviation Operations,
19 shall operate and maintain a fleet of vessels to
20 meet the requirements of NOAA in carrying out
21 the mission and functions of NOAA, subject to
22 the requirements of this title.”;

23 (2) in section 604 (33 U.S.C. 891b)—

24 (A) in subsection (a), by striking “Sec-
25 retary” and all that follows and inserting “Sec-

1 retary, acting through the Assistant Adminis-
2 trator of NOAA for Marine and Aviation Oper-
3 ations, shall develop and submit to the Com-
4 mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transpor-
5 tation of the Senate and the Committee on Nat-
6 ural Resources and the Committee on Science,
7 Space, and Technology of the House of Rep-
8 resentatives a replacement and modernization
9 plan for the NOAA fleet not later than 180
10 days after the date of the enactment of the
11 Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2024, and
12 every 2 years thereafter.”;

13 (B) by striking subsections (b) and (d);

14 (C) by redesignating subsection (e) as sub-
15 section (b);

16 (D) in subsection (b), as so redesignated—

17 (i) in paragraph (1), by striking “pro-
18 posed” and all that follows and inserting
19 the following: “in operation in the NOAA
20 fleet as of the date of submission of the
21 Plan, a description of the status of those
22 vessels, and a statement of the planned
23 and anticipated service life of those ves-
24 sels;”;

25 (ii) by striking paragraph (6);

1 (iii) by redesignating paragraphs (2),
2 (3), (4), and (5) as paragraphs (4), (5),
3 (6), and (7), respectively;

4 (iv) by inserting after paragraph (1)
5 the following:

6 “(2) a plan with respect to operation, mainte-
7 nance, and replacement of vessels described in para-
8 graph (1), including the schedule for maintenance or
9 replacement and anticipated funding requirements;

10 “(3) the number of vessels proposed to be con-
11 structed by NOAA;”;

12 (v) in paragraph (4), as so redesign-
13 nated, by striking “constructed, leased, or
14 chartered” and inserting “acquired, leased,
15 or chartered by NOAA”;

16 (vi) in paragraph (6), as so redesign-
17 nated—

18 (I) by striking “or any other fed-
19 eral official” and inserting “the Direc-
20 tor of the National Science Founda-
21 tion, or any other Federal official”;

22 and

23 (II) by striking “their avail-
24 ability” and inserting “the availability
25 of those vessels”;

1 (vii) in paragraph (7), as so redesignated,
2 nated, by striking “; and” and inserting a
3 semicolon; and

4 (viii) by adding at the end the following:
5

6 “(8) a plan for using small vessels, uncrewed
7 systems, and partnerships to augment the requirements
8 of NOAA for days at sea;

9 “(9) the number of officers of the NOAA commissioned
10 officer corps and professional wage mariners
11 needed to operate and maintain the NOAA
12 fleet, including the vessels identified under paragraph
13 (3); and

14 “(10) current and potential challenges with
15 meeting the requirements under paragraph (9) and
16 proposed solutions to those challenges.”; and

17 (E) by adding at the end the following:

18 “(c) VESSEL PROCUREMENT APPROVAL.—The National
19 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration may not
20 procure vessels that are more than 65 feet in length without
21 the approval of the Assistant Administrator of NOAA
22 for Marine and Aviation Operations.”;

23 (3) in section 605 (33 U.S.C. 891c)—

24 (A) in subsection (a), in the matter preceding
25 paragraph (1), by striking “working

1 through the Office of the NOAA Corps Oper-
2 ations and the Systems Procurement Office”
3 and inserting “acting through the Assistant Ad-
4 ministrator of NOAA for Marine and Aviation
5 Operations”; and

6 (B) in subsection (b)—

7 (i) by striking “shall” and all that fol-
8 lows through “submit to Congress” and in-
9 serting “, acting through the Assistant Ad-
10 ministrator of NOAA for Marine and Avia-
11 tion Operations, shall submit to the Com-
12 mittee on Commerce, Science, and Trans-
13 portation of the Senate and the Committee
14 on Natural Resources and the Committee
15 on Science, Space, and Technology of the
16 House of Representatives,”; and

17 (ii) by striking “subsequent”;

18 (4) in section 608 (33 U.S.C. 891f)—

19 (A) by striking subsection (b);

20 (B) by striking “(A) VESSEL AGREE-
21 MENTS.—”; and

22 (C) by inserting after “Secretary” the fol-
23 lowing: “, acting through the Assistant Admin-
24 istrator of NOAA for Marine and Aviation Op-
25 erations,”; and

1 (5) in section 610 (33 U.S.C. 891h)—

2 (A) in subsection (a), by striking “for car-
3 rying” and all that follows and inserting the fol-
4 lowing: “\$93,000,000 for the period of fiscal
5 years 2025 through 2026 to carry out this title
6 and section 302 of the Fisheries Survey Vessel
7 Authorization Act of 2000 (title III of Public
8 Law 106–450; 114 Stat. 1945; 33 U.S.C. 891b
9 note).”; and

10 (B) in subsection (b), by striking “Na-
11 tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
12 fleet modernization” and inserting “NOAA fleet
13 modernization,”.

14 (b) FISHERY SURVEY VESSELS.—Section 302(a) of
15 the Fisheries Survey Vessel Authorization Act of 2000
16 (title III of Public Law 106–450; 114 Stat. 1945; 33
17 U.S.C. 891b note) is amended—

18 (1) by striking “may in accordance with this
19 section” and inserting “may”;

20 (2) by striking “up to six”; and

21 (3) by inserting after “this section” the fol-
22 lowing: “and the NOAA Fleet Modernization Act
23 (33 U.S.C. 891 et seq.)”.

24 (c) NOTIFICATIONS OF PROPOSED DEACTIVATION OF
25 VESSELS.—Section 401(b)(4) of the National Oceanic and

1 Atmospheric Administration Authorization Act of 1992
2 (Public Law 102–567; 106 Stat. 4291; 33 U.S.C. 891b
3 note) is amended—

4 (1) by striking “(A)” and all that follows
5 through “The Secretary” and inserting “The Sec-
6 retary”;

7 (2) by striking “the Committee on Merchant
8 Marine and Fisheries” and inserting “the Com-
9 mittee on Natural Resources and the Committee on
10 Science, Space, and Technology”; and

11 (3) by striking “, if an equivalent” and all that
12 follows through “deactivation”.

13 **SEC. 703. COOPERATIVE AVIATION CENTERS.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 218 of the National Oce-
15 anic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Offi-
16 cer Corps Act of 2002 (33 U.S.C. 3008) is amended—

17 (1) in the section heading, by striking “**AVIA-**
18 **TION ACCESSION TRAINING PROGRAMS**” and in-
19 serting “**COOPERATIVE AVIATION CENTERS**”;

20 (2) in subsection (a), by striking paragraphs
21 (2) and (3) and inserting the following:

22 “(2) COOPERATIVE AVIATION CENTER.—The
23 term ‘Cooperative Aviation Center’ means a Cooper-
24 ative Aviation Center designated under subsection
25 (b)(1).”;

1 (3) in subsection (b)—

2 (A) in the subsection heading, by striking
3 “AVIATION ACCESSION TRAINING PROGRAMS”
4 and inserting “COOPERATIVE AVIATION CEN-
5 TERS”;

6 (B) by striking paragraphs (3) and (4);

7 (C) by redesignating paragraph (2) as
8 paragraph (3);

9 (D) by striking paragraph (1) and insert-
10 ing the following:

11 “(1) DESIGNATION REQUIRED.—The Adminis-
12 trator shall designate one or more Cooperative Avia-
13 tion Centers for the commissioned officer corps of
14 the Administration at institutions described in para-
15 graph (3).

16 “(2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of Cooperative
17 Aviation Centers is to facilitate the development and
18 recruitment of aviators for the commissioned officer
19 corps of the Administration.”; and

20 (E) in paragraph (3), as so redesignated—

21 (i) in the matter preceding subpara-
22 graph (A), inserting “that” after “edu-
23 cational institution”;

24 (ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking
25 “that requests” and inserting “applies”;

- 1 (iii) in subparagraph (B)—
2 (I) by striking “that has” and in-
3 sserting “has”; and
4 (II) by striking the semicolon
5 and inserting “; and”;
6 (iv) in subparagraph (C)—
7 (I) by striking “that is located”
8 and inserting “is located”;
9 (II) by striking clause (ii);
10 (III) by striking “that—” and all
11 that follows through “experiences”
12 and inserting “that experiences”; and
13 (IV) by striking “; and” and in-
14 sserting a period; and
15 (v) by striking subparagraph (D); and
16 (4) by striking subsections (c), (d), and (e) and
17 inserting the following:
18 “(c) COOPERATIVE AVIATION CENTERS ADVISOR.—
19 “(1) ASSIGNMENT.—The Administrator shall
20 assign an officer or employee of the commissioned
21 officer corps of the Administration to serve as the
22 Cooperative Aviation Centers Advisor.
23 “(2) DUTIES.—The Cooperative Aviation Cen-
24 ters Advisor shall—

1 “(A) coordinate all engagement of the Ad-
2 ministration with Cooperative Aviation Centers,
3 including assistance with curriculum develop-
4 ment; and

5 “(B) serve as the chief aviation recruiting
6 officer for the commissioned officer corps of the
7 Administration.”.

8 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
9 in section 1 of the Act entitled “An Act to reauthorize
10 the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act of 1998, and
11 for other purposes” (Public Law 107–372) is amended by
12 striking the item relating to section 218 and inserting the
13 following:

 “Sec. 218.Cooperative Aviation Centers.”.

14 **SEC. 704. ELIGIBILITY OF FORMER OFFICERS TO COMPETE**
15 **FOR CERTAIN POSITIONS.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—The National Oceanic and Atmos-
17 pheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps Act of
18 2002 (33 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.) is amended by inserting
19 after section 269B the following new section:

20 **“SEC. 269C. ELIGIBILITY OF FORMER OFFICERS TO COM-**
21 **PETE FOR CERTAIN POSITIONS.**

22 “(a) IN GENERAL.—An individual who was separated
23 from the commissioned officer corps of the Administration
24 under honorable conditions after not fewer than 3 years
25 of active service may not be denied the opportunity to com-

1 pete for a vacant position with respect to which the agency
2 in which the position is located will accept applications
3 from individuals outside the workforce of that agency
4 under merit promotion procedures.

5 “(b) TYPE OF APPOINTMENT.—If selected for a posi-
6 tion pursuant to subsection (a), an individual described
7 in that subsection shall receive a career or career-condi-
8 tional appointment, as appropriate.

9 “(c) ANNOUNCEMENTS.—The area of consideration
10 for a merit promotion announcement with respect to a po-
11 sition that includes consideration of individuals within the
12 Federal service for that position shall—

13 “(1) indicate that individuals described in sub-
14 section (a) are eligible to apply for the position; and

15 “(2) be publicized in accordance with section
16 3327 of title 5, United States Code.

17 “(d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
18 tion may be construed to confer an entitlement to vet-
19 erans’ preference that is not otherwise required by any
20 statute or regulation relating to veterans’ preference.

21 “(e) REGULATIONS.—The Director of the Office of
22 Personnel Management shall prescribe regulations nec-
23 essary for the administration of this section.

24 “(f) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 3
25 years after the date of enactment of the Coast Guard Au-

1 thORIZATION Act of 2024, the Administrator shall submit
2 to the Committees on Commerce, Science, and Transpor-
3 tation and Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
4 of the Senate and the Committees on Natural Resources
5 and Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Rep-
6 resentatives a report which includes the following:

7 “(1) A description of how the Administrator
8 has utilized the authority granted under this section,
9 including the number and locations of individuals
10 hired utilizing the authority granted under this sec-
11 tion.

12 “(2) An overview of the impact to Federal em-
13 ployment for former members of the commissioned
14 officer corps of the Administration as a result of the
15 authority granted under this section.

16 “(g) SUNSET.—This section shall be repealed on the
17 date that is 5 years after the date of enactment of the
18 Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2024.”.

19 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
20 in section 1 of such Act is amended by inserting after the
21 item relating to section 269B the following new item:

“Sec. 269C. Eligibility of former officers to compete for certain positions.”.

1 **SEC. 705. ALIGNMENT OF PHYSICAL DISQUALIFICATION**
2 **STANDARD FOR OBLIGATED SERVICE AGREE-**
3 **MENTS WITH STANDARD FOR VETERANS'**
4 **BENEFITS.**

5 Section 216(c)(2)(B) of the National Oceanic and At-
6 mospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps
7 Act of 2002 (33 U.S.C. 3006(c)(2)(B)) is amended by
8 striking “misconduct or grossly negligent conduct” and in-
9 serting “willful misconduct”.

10 **SEC. 706. STREAMLINING SEPARATION AND RETIREMENT**
11 **PROCESS.**

12 Section 241(c) of the National Oceanic and Atmos-
13 pheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps Act of
14 2002 (33 U.S.C. 3041(c)) is amended to read as follows:

15 “(c) EFFECTIVE DATE OF RETIREMENTS AND SEPA-
16 RATIONS.—

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), a
18 retirement or separation under subsection (a) shall
19 take effect on such date as is determined by the Sec-
20 retary.

21 “(2) DETERMINATION OF DATE.—The effective
22 date determined under paragraph (1) for a retire-
23 ment or separation under subsection (a) shall be—

24 “(A) except as provided by subparagraph
25 (B), not earlier than 60 days after the date on

1 which the Secretary approves the retirement or
2 separation; or

3 “(B) if the officer concerned requests an
4 earlier effective date, such earlier date as is de-
5 termined by the Secretary.”.

6 **SEC. 707. SEPARATION OF ENSIGNS FOUND NOT FULLY**
7 **QUALIFIED.**

8 Section 223(b) of the National Oceanic and Atmos-
9 pheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps Act of
10 2002 (30 U.S.C. 3023(b)) is amended—

11 (1) by striking “permanent”; and

12 (2) by striking “the officer’s commission shall
13 be revoked and”.

14 **SEC. 708. REPEAL OF LIMITATION ON EDUCATIONAL AS-**
15 **SISTANCE.**

16 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 204 of the National Oce-
17 anic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Offi-
18 cer Corps Amendments Act of 2020 (33 U.S.C. 3079–1)
19 is repealed.

20 (b) **CLERICAL AMENDMENT.**—The table of contents
21 in section 1(b) of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
22 Administration Commissioned Officer Corps Amendments
23 Act of 2020 (Public Law 116–259; 134 Stat. 1153) is
24 amended by striking the item relating to section 204.

1 **SEC. 709. DISPOSAL OF SURVEY AND RESEARCH VESSELS**
2 **AND EQUIPMENT OF THE NATIONAL OCEANIC**
3 **AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION.**

4 Section 548 of title 40, United States Code, is
5 amended—

6 (1) by striking “The Maritime” and inserting
7 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in sub-
8 section (b), the Maritime”; and

9 (2) by adding at the end the following:

10 “(b) NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMIN-
11 ISTRATION VESSELS AND EQUIPMENT.—

12 “(1) AUTHORITY.—The Administrator of the
13 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
14 may dispose of covered vessels and equipment, which
15 would otherwise be disposed of under subsection (a),
16 through sales or transfers under this title.

17 “(2) USE OF PROCEEDS.—During the 2-year
18 period beginning of the date of enactment of the
19 Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2024, notwith-
20 standing section 571 of this title or section 3302 of
21 title 31, the Administrator of the National Oceanic
22 and Atmospheric Administration may—

23 “(A) retain the proceeds from the sale or
24 transfer of a covered vessel or equipment under
25 paragraph (1) until expended under subpara-
26 graph (B); and

1 “(B) use such proceeds, without fiscal year
2 limitation, for the acquisition of new covered
3 vessels and equipment or the repair and main-
4 tenance of existing covered vessels and equip-
5 ment.

6 “(3) COVERED VESSELS AND EQUIPMENT DE-
7 FINED.—In this subsection, the term ‘covered vessels
8 and equipment’ means survey and research vessels
9 and related equipment owned by the Federal Gov-
10 ernment and under the control of the National Oce-
11 anic and Atmospheric Administration.”.

12 **Subtitle B—South Pacific Tuna**
13 **Treaty Matters**

14 **SEC. 721. REFERENCES TO SOUTH PACIFIC TUNA ACT OF**
15 **1988.**

16 Except as otherwise expressly provided, wherever in
17 this subtitle an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms
18 of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provi-
19 sion, the reference shall be considered to be made to a
20 section or other provision of the South Pacific Tuna Act
21 of 1988 (16 U.S.C. 973 et seq.).

22 **SEC. 722. DEFINITIONS.**

23 (a) APPLICABLE NATIONAL LAW.—Section 2(4) (16
24 U.S.C. 973(4)) is amended by striking “described in para-

1 graph 1(a) of Annex I of” and inserting “noticed and in
2 effect in accordance with”.

3 (b) CLOSED AREA.—Section 2(5) (16 U.S.C. 973(5))
4 is amended by striking “of the closed areas identified in
5 Schedule 2 of Annex I of” and inserting “area within the
6 jurisdiction of a Pacific Island Party that is closed to ves-
7 sels pursuant to a national law of that Pacific Island Party
8 and is noticed and in effect in accordance with”.

9 (c) FISHING.—Section 2(6) (16 U.S.C. 973(6)) is
10 amended—

11 (1) in subparagraph (C), by inserting “for any
12 purpose” after “harvesting of fish”; and

13 (2) by amending subparagraph (F) to read as
14 follows:

15 “(F) use of any other vessel, vehicle, air-
16 craft, or hovercraft for any activity described in
17 this paragraph except for emergencies involving
18 the health or safety of the crew or the safety
19 of a vessel.”.

20 (d) FISHING VESSEL; VESSEL.—Section 2(7) (16
21 U.S.C. 973(7)) is amended by striking “commercial fish-
22 ing” and inserting “commercial purse seine fishing for
23 tuna”.

24 (e) LICENSING AREA.—Section 2(8) (16 U.S.C.
25 973(8)) is amended by striking “in the Treaty Area” and

1 all that follows and inserting “under the jurisdiction of
2 a Pacific Island Party, except for internal waters, terri-
3 torial seas, archipelagic waters, and any Closed Area.”.

4 (f) LIMITED AREA; PARTY; TREATY AREA.—Section
5 2 (16 U.S.C. 973) is amended—

6 (1) by striking paragraphs (10), (13), and (18);

7 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (11) and (12)
8 as paragraphs (10) and (11), respectively;

9 (3) by redesignating paragraph (14) as para-
10 graph (12); and

11 (4) by redesignating paragraphs (15) through
12 (17) as paragraphs (14) through (16), respectively.

13 (g) REGIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—Section 2
14 (16 U.S.C. 973) is amended by inserting after paragraph
15 (12), as redesignated by subsection (f)(3), the following:

16 “(13) The term ‘regional terms and conditions’
17 means any of the terms or conditions attached by
18 the Administrator to a license issued by the Admin-
19 istrator, as notified by the Secretary.”.

20 **SEC. 723. PROHIBITED ACTS.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5(a) (16 U.S.C. 973c(a))
22 is amended—

23 (1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by
24 striking “Except as provided in section 6 of this Act,
25 it” and inserting “It”;

1 (2) by striking paragraphs (3) and (4);

2 (3) by redesignating paragraphs (5) through
3 (13) as paragraphs (3) through (11), respectively;

4 (4) in paragraph (3), as so redesignated, by in-
5 serting “, except in accordance with an agreement
6 pursuant to the Treaty” after “Closed Area”;

7 (5) in paragraph (10), as so redesignated, by
8 striking “or” at the end;

9 (6) in paragraph (11), as so redesignated, by
10 striking the period at the end and inserting a semi-
11 colon; and

12 (7) by adding at the end the following:

13 “(12) to violate any of the regional terms and
14 conditions; or

15 “(13) to violate any limit on an authorized fish-
16 ing effort or catch.”.

17 (b) IN THE LICENSING AREA.—Section 5(b) (16
18 U.S.C. 973c(b)) is amended—

19 (1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by
20 striking “Except as provided in section 6 of this Act,
21 it” and inserting “It”;

22 (2) by striking paragraph (5); and

23 (3) by redesignating paragraphs (6) and (7) as
24 paragraphs (5) and (6), respectively.

1 **SEC. 724. EXCEPTIONS.**

2 Section 6 (16 U.S.C. 973d) is repealed.

3 **SEC. 725. CRIMINAL OFFENSES.**

4 Section 7(a) (16 U.S.C. 973e(a)) is amended by
5 striking “section 5(a) (8), (10), (11), or (12)” and insert-
6 ing “paragraph (6), (8), (9), or (10) of section 5(a)”.

7 **SEC. 726. CIVIL PENALTIES.**

8 (a) AMOUNT.—Section 8(a) (16 U.S.C. 973f(a)) is
9 amended—

10 (1) in the first sentence, by striking “Code”
11 after “liable to the United States”; and

12 (2) in the fourth sentence, by striking “Except
13 for those acts prohibited by section 5(a) (4), (5),
14 (7), (8), (10), (11), and (12), and section 5(b) (1),
15 (2), (3), and (7) of this Act, the” and inserting
16 “The”.

17 (b) WAIVER OF REFERRAL TO ATTORNEY GEN-
18 ERAL.—Section 8(g) (16 U.S.C. 973f(g)) is amended—

19 (1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by
20 striking “section 5(a)(1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7),
21 (8), (9), or (13)” and inserting “paragraph (1), (2),
22 (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), (11), (12), or (13) of section
23 5(a)”;

24 (2) in paragraph (2), by striking “, all Limited
25 Areas closed to fishing,” after “outside of the Li-
26 censing Area”.

1 **SEC. 727. LICENSES.**

2 (a) FORWARDING OF VESSEL LICENSE APPLICA-
3 TION.—Section 9(b) (16 U.S.C. 973g(b)) is amended to
4 read as follows:

5 “(b) In accordance with subsection (e), and except
6 as provided in subsection (f), the Secretary shall forward
7 a vessel license application to the Administrator whenever
8 such application is in accordance with application proce-
9 dures established by the Secretary.”.

10 (b) FEES AND SCHEDULES.—Section 9(c) (16 U.S.C.
11 973g(c)) is amended to read as follows:

12 “(c) Fees required under the Treaty shall be paid in
13 accordance with the Treaty and any procedures estab-
14 lished by the Secretary.”.

15 (c) MINIMUM FEES REQUIRED TO BE RECEIVED IN
16 INITIAL YEAR; GROUNDS FOR DENIAL OF FORWARDING
17 OF LICENSE APPLICATION; GRANDFATHERING OF CER-
18 TAIN VESSELS.—Section 9 (16 U.S.C. 973g) is amend-
19 ed—

20 (1) by striking subsection (f);

21 (2) by redesignating subsections (g) and (h) as
22 subsections (f) and (g), respectively;

23 (3) by amending subsection (f), as so redesign-
24 nated, to read as follows:

1 “(f) The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary
2 of State, may determine that a license application should
3 not be forwarded to the Administrator if—

4 “(1) the application is not in accordance with
5 the Treaty or the procedures established by the Sec-
6 retary; or

7 “(2) the owner or charterer—

8 “(A) is the subject of proceedings under
9 the bankruptcy laws of the United States, un-
10 less reasonable financial assurances have been
11 provided to the Secretary;

12 “(B) has not established to the satisfaction
13 of the Secretary that the fishing vessel is fully
14 insured against all risks and liabilities normally
15 provided in maritime liability insurance; or

16 “(C) has not paid any penalty which has
17 become final, assessed by the Secretary in ac-
18 cordance with this Act.”; and

19 (4) in subsection (g), as redesignated by para-
20 graph (2)—

21 (A) by amending paragraph (1) to read as
22 follows:

23 “(1) section 12113 of title 46, United States
24 Code;”;

1 (B) in paragraph (2), by inserting “of
2 1972” after “Marine Mammal Protection Act”;

3 (C) in paragraph (3), by inserting “of
4 1972” after “Marine Mammal Protection Act”;
5 and

6 (D) in the matter following paragraph (3),
7 by striking “any vessel documented” and all
8 that follows and inserting the following:

9 “any vessel documented under the laws of the United
10 States as of the date of enactment of the Fisheries Act
11 of 1995 (Public Law 104–43) for which a license has been
12 issued under subsection (a) may fish for tuna in the Li-
13 censing Area, and on the high seas and in waters subject
14 to the jurisdiction of the United States west of 146 west
15 longitude and east of 129.5 east longitude in accordance
16 with international law, subject to the provisions of the
17 Treaty, this Act, and other applicable law, provided that
18 no such vessel intentionally deploys a purse seine net to
19 encircle any dolphin or other marine mammal in the
20 course of fishing.”.

21 **SEC. 728. ENFORCEMENT.**

22 (a) NOTICE REQUIREMENTS TO PACIFIC ISLAND
23 PARTY CONCERNING INSTITUTION OF LEGAL PRO-
24 CEEDINGS.—Section 10(c)(1) (16 U.S.C. 973h(c)(1)) is
25 amended—

1 (1) in the first sentence, by striking “paragraph
2 8 of Article 4 of”; and

3 (2) in the third sentence, by striking “Article
4 10 of”.

5 (b) SEARCHES AND SEIZURES BY AUTHORIZED OF-
6 FICERS.—Section 10(d)(1)(A) (16 U.S.C. 973h(d)(1)(A))
7 is amended—

8 (1) in clause (ii), by striking “or” at the end;
9 and

10 (2) in clause (iii), by adding “or” at the end.

11 **SEC. 729. FINDINGS BY SECRETARY OF COMMERCE.**

12 (a) ORDER OF VESSEL TO LEAVE WATERS UPON
13 FAILURE TO SUBMIT TO JURISDICTION OF PACIFIC IS-
14 LAND PARTY; PROCEDURE APPLICABLE.—Section 11(a)
15 (16 U.S.C. 973i(a)) is amended—

16 (1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by
17 striking “, all Limited Areas,”;

18 (2) in paragraph (1)—

19 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking
20 “paragraph 2 of Article 3 of”; and

21 (B) in subparagraph (C), by striking
22 “within the Treaty Area” and inserting “under
23 the jurisdiction”; and

24 (3) in paragraph (2)—

1 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “sec-
2 tion 5 (a)(4), (a)(5), (b)(2), or (b)(3)” and in-
3 serting “paragraph (3) of section 5(a) or para-
4 graph (2) or (3) of section 5(b)”;

5 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking “sec-
6 tion 5(b)(7)” and inserting “section 5(b)(6)”;
7 and

8 (C) in subparagraph (C), by striking “sec-
9 tion 5(a)(7)” and inserting “section 5(a)(5)”.

10 (b) ORDER OF VESSEL TO LEAVE WATERS WHERE
11 PACIFIC ISLAND PARTY INVESTIGATING ALLEGED TREA-
12 TY INFRINGEMENT.—Section 11(b) (16 U.S.C. 973i(b)) is
13 amended by striking “paragraph 7 of Article 5 of”.

14 **SEC. 730. DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION.**

15 Section 12 (16 U.S.C. 973j) is amended to read as
16 follows:

17 **“SEC. 12. DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION.**

18 “(a) PROHIBITED DISCLOSURE OF CERTAIN INFOR-
19 MATION.—Pursuant to section 552(b)(3) of title 5, United
20 States Code, except as provided in subsection (b), the Sec-
21 retary shall keep confidential and may not disclose the fol-
22 lowing information:

23 “(1) Information provided to the Secretary by
24 the Administrator that the Administrator has des-
25 ignated confidential.

1 “(2) Information collected by observers.

2 “(3) Information submitted to the Secretary by
3 any person in compliance with the requirements of
4 this Act.

5 “(b) AUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF CERTAIN INFOR-
6 MATION.—The Secretary may disclose information de-
7 scribed in subsection (a)—

8 “(1) if disclosure is ordered by a court;

9 “(2) if the information is used by a Federal em-
10 ployee—

11 “(A) for enforcement; or

12 “(B) in support of the homeland security
13 missions and non-homeland security missions of
14 the Coast Guard as defined in section 888 of
15 the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C.
16 468);

17 “(3) if the information is used by a Federal em-
18 ployee or an employee of a Fishery Management
19 Council for the administration of the Treaty or fish-
20 ery management and monitoring;

21 “(4) to the Administrator, in accordance with
22 the requirements of the Treaty and this Act;

23 “(5) to the secretariat or equivalent of an inter-
24 national fisheries management organization of which
25 the United States is a member, in accordance with

1 the requirements or decisions of such organization,
2 and insofar as possible, in accordance with an agree-
3 ment that prevents public disclosure of the identity
4 of any person that submits such information;

5 “(6) if the Secretary has obtained written au-
6 thorization from the person providing such informa-
7 tion, and disclosure does not violate other require-
8 ments of this Act; or

9 “(7) in an aggregate or summary form that
10 does not directly or indirectly disclose the identity of
11 any person that submits such information.

12 “(c) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—

13 “(1) Nothing in this section shall be construed
14 to adversely affect the authority of Congress, includ-
15 ing a Committee or Member thereof, to obtain any
16 record or information.

17 “(2) The absence of a provision similar to para-
18 graph (1) in any other provision of law shall not be
19 construed to limit the ability of the Senate or the
20 House of Representatives, including a Committee or
21 Member thereof, to obtain any record or informa-
22 tion.”.

23 **SEC. 731. CLOSED AREA STOWAGE REQUIREMENTS.**

24 Section 13 (16 U.S.C. 973k) is amended by striking
25 “. In particular, the boom shall be lowered” and all that

1 follows and inserting “and in accordance with any require-
2 ments established by the Secretary.”.

3 **SEC. 732. OBSERVERS.**

4 Section 14 (16 U.S.C. 973l) is repealed.

5 **SEC. 733. FISHERIES-RELATED ASSISTANCE.**

6 Section 15 (16 U.S.C. 973m) is amended to read as
7 follows:

8 **“SEC. 15. FISHERIES-RELATED ASSISTANCE.**

9 “The Secretary and the Secretary of State may pro-
10 vide assistance to a Pacific Island Party to benefit such
11 Pacific Island Party from the development of fisheries re-
12 sources and the operation of fishing vessels that are li-
13 censed pursuant to the Treaty, including—

14 “(1) technical assistance;

15 “(2) training and capacity building opportuni-
16 ties;

17 “(3) facilitation of the implementation of pri-
18 vate sector activities or partnerships; and

19 “(4) other activities as determined appropriate
20 by the Secretary and the Secretary of State.”.

21 **SEC. 734. ARBITRATION.**

22 Section 16 (16 U.S.C. 973n) is amended—

23 (1) by striking “Article 6 of” after “arbitral tri-
24 bunal under”; and

1 (2) by striking “paragraph 3 of that Article”
2 and all that follows through “under such paragraph”
3 and inserting “the Treaty, shall determine the loca-
4 tion of the arbitration, and shall represent the
5 United States in reaching agreement under the
6 Treaty”.

7 **SEC. 735. DISPOSITION OF FEES, PENALTIES, FORFEIT-**
8 **URES, AND OTHER MONEYS.**

9 Section 17 (16 U.S.C. 973o) is amended by striking
10 “Article 4 of”.

11 **SEC. 736. ADDITIONAL AGREEMENTS.**

12 Section 18 (16 U.S.C. 973p) is amended by striking
13 “Within 30 days after” and all that follows and inserting
14 “The Secretary may establish procedures for review of any
15 agreements for additional fishing access entered into pur-
16 suant to the Treaty.”.

17 **Subtitle C—Other Matters**

18 **SEC. 741. NORTH PACIFIC RESEARCH BOARD ENHANCE-**
19 **MENT.**

20 (a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This section may be cited as the
21 “North Pacific Research Board Enhancement Act”.

22 (b) **AMENDMENTS.**—Section 401(e) of the Depart-
23 ment of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations
24 Act, 1998 (43 U.S.C. 1474d(e)) is amended—

25 (1) in paragraph (3)—

1 (A) in subparagraph (L), by striking
2 “and” after the semicolon;

3 (B) in subparagraph (M), by striking the
4 period at the end and inserting a semicolon;

5 (C) in subparagraph (N), by striking the
6 period at the end and inserting “; and”;

7 (D) by inserting after subparagraph (N)
8 the following:

9 “(O) one member who shall represent Alas-
10 ka Natives and possesses personal knowledge
11 of, and direct experience with, subsistence uses
12 and shall be nominated by the Board and ap-
13 pointed by the Secretary.”; and

14 (E) by adding at the end the following:
15 “Board members appointed under subpara-
16 graphs (N) and (O) shall serve for 3-year
17 terms, and may be reappointed once.”;

18 (2) by redesignating paragraph (5) as para-
19 graph (6); and

20 (3) by inserting after paragraph (4) the fol-
21 lowing:

22 “(5) If the amount made available for a fiscal
23 year under subsection (c)(2) is less than the amount
24 made available in the previous fiscal year, the Ad-
25 ministrator of the National Oceanic and Atmos-

1 pheric Administration may increase the 15 percent
2 cap on administrative expenses provided under para-
3 graph (4)(B) for that fiscal year to prioritize—

4 “(A) continuing operation of the Board;

5 “(B) maximizing the percentage of funds
6 directed to research; and

7 “(C) maintaining the highest quality
8 standards in administering grants under this
9 subsection.”.

10 (c) WAIVER.—Beginning on the date of enactment of
11 this Act and ending on the date that is 5 years after such
12 date of enactment, the 15 percent cap on funds to provide
13 support for the North Pacific Research Board and admin-
14 ister grants under section 401(e)(4)(B) of the Department
15 of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act,
16 1998 (43 U.S.C. 1474d(e)(4)(B)) shall be waived.