Public Law 102-100
102d Congress

An Act

To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1992 for the Federal Maritime Commission, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Federal Maritime Commission Authorization Act of 1991".

SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Federal Maritime Commission $17,974,000 for fiscal year 1992.

SEC. 3. COASTWISE TRADE AUTHORIZATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 27 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1920 (46 App. U.S.C. 883), or any other provision of law restricting the operation of foreign-flag vessels in the coastwise trade of the United States, as applicable on the date of enactment of this Act, the foreign-flag vessel NORDIC LOUISIANA may, during the period described in subsection (b), engage in the transportation by water of molten sulphur in the coastwise trade of the United States, if—

(1) a binding contract for the construction or rebuilding, in the United States, of a coastwise-qualified replacement vessel is executed within 9 months after the date of enactment of this Act;
(2) all ship repair work on the NORDIC LOUISIANA necessary to its operation under this section is performed in the United States; and
(3) all officers and crew members employed on board the NORDIC LOUISIANA during its operation under this section are United States citizens.

(b) PERIOD OF AUTHORIZATION.—The period of transportation authorized under subsection (a) begins on the date of enactment of this Act and ends on the earlier of—

(1) the date that is 4 years after such date of enactment; or
(2) the date of delivery of a coastwise-qualified replacement vessel constructed in or rebuilt in the United States.

SEC. 4. WAIVERS FOR CERTAIN VESSELS.

(a) AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE CERTIFICATES OF DOCUMENTATION.—Notwithstanding section 12106, 12107, and 12108 of title 46, United States Code, and section 27 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1920 (46 App. U.S.C. 883), the Secretary of Transportation may issue a certificate of documentation for the following vessels:
(1) ARGOSY (United States official number 528616).
(2) CUTTY SARK (United States official number 282523).
(3) JIGGS (United States official number 208787).
(4) LOIS T (United States official number 668034).
(5) MARICA (State of Maryland registration number MD 6417P).
(6) PHOENIX (United States official number 655712).
(7) PURE PLEASURE (United States official number 968163).
(8) STARLIGHT VIII (United States official number 910317).
(9) WINDWARD III (United States official number 552289).
(10) LOGAN T (United States official number 953795).
(11) ERIC WC (hull identification number 64103).
(12) COMMANDO (United States official number 955188).

(b) WAIVER FOR CERTAIN INFLATABLE VESSELS.—Notwithstanding section 8 of the Act of June 19, 1886 (46 App. U.S.C. 289), and section 27 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1920 (46 App. U.S.C. 883), the following inflatable vessels may engage in the coastwise trade:

(1) Serial number 3968B, model number J990.
(2) Serial number 4581B, model number J990.
(3) Serial number A501A, model number D989.
(4) Serial number A502A, model number D989.
(5) Serial number 6291C, model number G091.
(6) Serial number 6300C, model number G091.
(7) Serial number 7302C, model number G091.
(8) Serial number 7305C, model number G091.

(c) DOCUMENTATION OF M/V NUSHAGAK.—Notwithstanding section 12106 of title 46, United States Code, and section 27 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1920 (46 App. U.S.C. 883), as applicable on the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation may issue a certificate of documentation for the fish processing vessel NUSHAGAK, United States official number 618759.

SEC. 5. CONTROLLED CARRIERS.

(a) CONTROLLED CARRIER RATES.—Section 9(a) of the Shipping Act of 1984 (46 App. U.S.C. 1708(a)) is amended by inserting “or service contracts” immediately after “tariffs” each place it appears.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE OF RATES.—Section 9(c) of the Shipping Act of 1984 (46 App. U.S.C. 1708(c)) is amended by inserting “and except for service contracts” immediately after “Notwithstanding section 8(d) of this Act”.

Approved August 17, 1991.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 1006:

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 102-80 (Comm. on Merchant Marine and Fisheries).
SENATE REPORTS: No. 102-134 (Comm. on Commerce, Science, and Transportation).


June 24, considered and passed House.
Aug. 1, considered and passed Senate, amended.
Aug. 2, House concurred in Senate amendment.