

106TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 259

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

---

## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 20, 1999

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

---

## A BILL

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

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

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

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

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

---

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

9               “(B) The Secretary of Transportation shall—

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

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

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

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

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

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

3

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

○