

7.02, for any other violation of these rules that does not result from reasonable error.

§ 9.04 Ex parte communications.

(a) *Definitions.*

(1) The term *person outside the Office* means any individual not an employee or agent of the office, any labor organization and agent thereof, and any employing office and agent thereof, and the General Counsel and any agent thereof when prosecuting a complaint proceeding before the Office pursuant to sections 210, 215, or 220 of the CAA. The term also includes any employee of the Office who becomes a party or a witness for a party other than the Office in proceedings as defined in these rules.

(2) The term *ex parte communication* means an oral or written communication (a) that is between an interested person outside the Office and a Board member or Hearing Officer who is or may reasonably be expected to be involved in a proceeding or a rulemaking; (b) that is related to a proceeding or a rulemaking; (c) that is not made on the public record; (d) that is not made in the presence of all parties to a proceeding or a rulemaking; and (5) that is made without reasonable prior notice to all parties to a proceeding or a rulemaking.

(3) For purposes of section 9.04, the term *proceeding* means the complaint and hearing proceeding under section 405 of the CAA, an appeal to the Board under section 406 of the CAA, a pre-election investigatory hearing under section 220 of the CAA, and any other proceeding of the Office established pursuant to regulations issued by the Board under the CAA.

(4) The term *period of rulemaking* means the period commencing with the issuance of an advance notice of proposed rulemaking or of a notice of proposed rulemaking, whichever issues first, and concluding with the issuance of a final rule.

(b) *Exception to Coverage.* The rules set forth in this section do not apply during periods that the Board designates as periods of negotiated rulemaking.

(c) *Prohibited Ex Parte Communications and Exceptions.*

(1) During a proceeding, it is prohibited knowingly to make or cause to be made:

(i) a written *ex parte* communication if copies thereof are not promptly served by the communicator on all parties to the proceeding in accordance with section 9.01 of these Rules; or

(ii) an oral *ex parte* communication unless all parties have received advance notice thereof by the communicator and have an adequate opportunity to be present.

(2) During the period of rulemaking, it is prohibited knowingly to make or cause to be made a written or an oral *ex parte* communication. During the period of rulemaking, the Office shall treat any written *ex parte* communication as a comment in response to the advance notice of proposed rulemaking or the notice of proposed rulemaking, whichever is pending, and such communications will therefore be part of the public rulemaking record.

(3) Notwithstanding the prohibitions set forth in (1) and (2), the following *ex parte* communications are not prohibited:

(i) those which relate solely to matters which the Board member or Hearing Officer is authorized by law, Office rules, or order of the Board or Hearing Officer to entertain or dispose of on an *ex parte* basis;

(ii) those which all parties to the proceeding agree, or which the responsible official formally rules, may be made on an *ex parte* basis;

(iii) those which concern only matters of general significance to the field of labor and employment law or administrative practice;

(iv) those from the General Counsel to the Office or the Board when the General Counsel is acting on behalf of the Office or the Board under any section of the CAA; and

(v) those which could not reasonably be construed to create either unfairness or the appearance of unfairness in a proceeding or rulemaking.

(4) It is prohibited knowingly to solicit or cause to be solicited any prohibited *ex parte* communication.

(d) *Reporting of Prohibited Ex Parte Communications.*

(1) Any Board member or Hearing Officer who is or may reasonably be expected to be involved in a proceeding or a rulemaking and who determines that he or she is being asked to receive a prohibited *ex parte* communication shall refuse to do so and inform the communicator of this rule.

(2) Any Board member or Hearing Officer who is or may reasonably be expected to be involved in a proceeding who knowingly receives a prohibited *ex parte* communication shall

(a) notify the parties to the proceeding that such a communication has been received; and

(b) provide the parties with a copy of the communication and of any response thereto (if written) or with a memorandum stating the substance of the communication and any response thereto (if oral). If a proceeding is then pending before either the Board or a Hearing Officer, and if the Board or Hearing Officer so orders, these materials shall then be placed in the record of the proceeding. Upon order of the Hearing Officer or the Board, the parties may be provided with a full opportunity to respond to the alleged prohibited *ex parte* communication and to address what action, if any, should be taken in the proceeding as a result of the prohibited communication.

(3) Any Board member involved in a rulemaking who knowingly receives a prohibited *ex parte* communication shall cause to be published in the Congressional Record a notice that such a communication has been received and a copy of the communication and of any response thereto (if written) or with a memorandum stating the substance of the communication and any response thereto (if oral). Upon order of the Board, these materials shall then be placed in the record of the rulemaking and the Board shall provide interested persons with a full opportunity to respond to the alleged prohibited *ex parte* communication and to address what action, if any, should be taken in the proceeding as a result of the prohibited communication.

(4) Any Board member or Hearing Officer who is or may reasonably be expected to be involved in a proceeding or a rulemaking and who knowingly receives a prohibited *ex parte* communication and who fails to comply with the requirements of subsections (1), (2), or (3) above, is subject to internal censure or discipline through the same procedures that the Board utilizes to address and resolve ethical issues.

(e) *Penalties and Enforcement.*

(1) Where a person is alleged to have made or caused another to make a prohibited *ex parte* communication, the Board or the Hearing Officer (as appropriate) may issue to the person a notice to show cause, returnable within a stated period not less than seven days from the date thereof, why the Board or the Hearing Officer should not determine that the interests of law or justice require that the person be sanctioned by, where applicable, dismissal of his or her claim or interest, the striking of his or her answer, or the imposition of a some other appropriate sanction, including but not limited to the award of attorneys' fees and costs incurred in responding to a prohibited *ex parte* communication.

(2) Upon notice and hearing, the Board may censure or suspend or revoke the privilege of practice before the Office of any person who knowingly and willfully makes, solicits, or causes the making of any prohibited *ex parte* communication. Before formal proceedings under this subsection are instituted, the Board shall first provide notice in writing that it proposes to take such action and that the person or persons may show cause within a period to be stated why the Board should not take such action. Any hearings under this section shall be conducted by a Hearing Officer subject to Board review under section 8.01 of these Rules.

(3) Any Board member or Hearing Officer who is or may reasonably be expected to be involved in a proceeding or a rulemaking and who knowingly makes or causes to be made a prohibited *ex parte* communication is subject to internal censure or discipline through the same procedures that the Board utilizes to address and resolve ethical issues.

§ 9.05(a)

(a) *Informal Resolution.* At any time before a covered employee who has filed a formal request for counseling files a complaint under section 405, a covered employee and the employing office, on their own, may agree voluntarily and informally to resolve a dispute, so long as the resolution does not require a waiver of a covered employee's rights or the commitment by the employing office to an enforceable obligation.

Signed at Washington, D.C., on this 10th day of July, 1996.

R. GAULL SILBERMAN,
Executive Director,
Office of Compliance.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING
BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SMITH). Under the previous order, morning business is closed.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AP-
PROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL
YEAR 1997

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now proceed to the consideration of S. 1894, which the clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1894) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997.

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. STEVENS addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska is recognized.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I call the Senate to order, under the previous order, pursuant to the provisions of rule 19, paragraph 1(b), and ask that the proceedings be in accordance thereof for the purposes of consideration of the appropriations bill.

Mr. REID. Parliamentary inquiry.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Will the Senator yield for a parliamentary inquiry?

Mr. STEVENS. Yes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. Will the Chair explain the rule? I could not hear. The Senator's microphone was not on.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The rule requires that the debate be germane to the pending question for next 3 hours.

Mr. REID. Pursuant to the Pastore rule?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. That is correct.

Mr. STEVENS addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I am saddened that this bill has been delayed so far. There are inquiries now coming from Members who are in the area affected by Hurricane Bertha. So I am quite hopeful that the Senate will proceed to consider this bill expeditiously.

I think Senator INOUE, who is the cochairman managing this bill, agrees with me that we could finish this bill today with the cooperation of the Senate. It is going to be my intention to urge the Senate to do that.

AMENDMENT NO. 4439

(Purpose: A technical amendment to realign funds from Army and Defense Wide Operations and Maintenance accounts to the Overseas Contingency Operations Transfer Fund)

Mr. STEVENS. I, at this time, Mr. President, send to the desk a technical amendment to realign funds from the Army and Defense operation maintenance account, and ask that it be reported.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Alaska [Mr. STEVENS] proposes an amendment numbered 4439.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

On page 8, line 1, strike the number "\$17,700,859,000" and insert in lieu thereof "\$17,696,659,000".

On page 9, line 11, strike the number "\$9,953,142,000" and insert in lieu thereof "\$9,887,142,000".

On page 12, line 22, strike the number "\$1,069,957,000" and insert in lieu thereof "\$1,140,157,000".

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the amendment be temporarily laid aside so that we can proceed with our opening statements.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, with the passage of Senate bill 1745 yesterday, the National Defense Authorization Act for 1997, we are now turning to the consideration of the defense appropriations bill for next year.

As I said, I believe the Senate can quickly dispose of this bill, which is Senate bill 1894. We have, in nearly every case, followed the initiatives that have been adopted by the Senate in the authorization bill.

I know there are some individual objections to portions of the bill, but as in the case last year when Senator

INOUE and I presented an original bill to the Senate due to the need to complete preparations on this bill prior to the July 4th recess, we could not be sure that the House version of the bill would pass in time for the Defense Subcommittee to take up that bill. This Senate bill passed the subcommittee and full Appropriations Committee with only one minor adjustment, and reflects bipartisan work effort and total support by our Appropriations Committee.

Before turning to some of the details of the bill, I want to once again this year express my appreciation to my good friend from Hawaii, Senator INOUE. We have been partners in bringing this bill to the floor of the Senate for many years. And, as I said, this bill again reflects our joint judgment.

In total, the bill accommodates the 602(b) allocations provided pursuant to the joint budget resolution. The amount is \$244.74 billion in new budget authority and \$242.98 billion in outlays. Our bill before the Senate, Mr. President, exactly meets those limits. The bill provides for about \$1 billion more than the level of appropriations for 1996. But I call to the attention of the Senate that this bill includes all estimated funding for contingency operations such as Bosnia.

Again, that is another footnote to this bill. We have men and women in the field. We cannot afford to not get this bill passed by the deadline of September 30. In order to get this bill through conference and back to the Senate in time that it can be presented to the President and hopefully have him sign it, and then have time to act before September 30 in the event that he does not decide to sign it, we have to get this bill done. We have to get it to conference before the August recess.

We have worked to accommodate many of the priorities presented in the Armed Services bill. As I said, there are a few differences, however, that I should note.

The bill provides \$475 million for shortfalls in defense health programs. Our subcommittee conducted a hearing in May on this subject. The additions we have made fully cover the failure of the administration to fully budget for health care for our military personnel, their families and retirees.

Second, we provide an additional \$180 million for the Bosnia operation through December 20 of this year. As I said, that is the estimate that reflects the DOD's current best estimate for the charges which will be incurred through the Presidential deadline for withdrawal of those troops.

Third, we provide \$150 million for the Army's peer review breast cancer research program and \$100 million for a new peer review prostate cancer research program. In both instances, we have substantial involvement of military personnel in those two dread diseases, and we propose to commit some of the Defense Department's money to

proceed with research to try to deal with those scourges.

We have proposed to continue the Department's support for the defense missions of the Coast Guard and propose to transfer \$300 million of the funds involved, or at least the services that would be funded by that money, to the Coast Guard. This is the same level as is the case under this current year, 1996. The transfer was \$300 million.

We have included an additional \$119 million in the counterdrug program. This was specifically requested by Gen. Barry McCaffrey, the new administration coordinator of the counterdrug program.

We have considered closely as well the statement of administration policy concerning the House bill. The House bill was reviewed by the administration. They have given us their comments, and this bill reflects a genuine effort on the part of our committee to address the concerns raised by the President's senior advisers concerning provisions of the House bill. We worked in preparing this bill to assess the real funding problems of the military and have sought to allocate the increase afforded by the congressional budget resolution to the most urgent personnel and operational requirements.

We next worked to fund the priorities identified by each of the service chiefs. We took their counsel seriously, and this bill reflects their input. The statement of administration policy on this bill which we received last night is really from the OMB, and it notes that some of the items in the bill are not included in the President's defense plan, and that is correct. Congress rejected for 1996 and again in 1997 the reductions to defense spending proposed by the administration. The resolution adopted by Congress earlier this year provides \$30 billion more than President Clinton's budget for the fiscal years 1997, 1998, 1999, and 2000.

In testimony before our subcommittee, each of the service chiefs highlighted the shortfalls in their budget and provided the committee with their priorities at our request. While not every item in this bill is included in the Clinton 5-year plan, virtually every major increase specifically funds priorities identified by one of the service chiefs. Again, I want to point out that was our request. It was not a volunteered statement by the service chiefs, but we asked them to identify their priorities, and we have funded, to the best of our ability, the priorities identified by each of the service chiefs.

There are two specific increases not in the President's 5-year plan that I want to highlight. First, we provided an additional \$759 million to continue the modernization of the National Guard and Reserve. This annual bipartisan effort to meet the needs of the Reserve components should be in this budget. It is right to do so. We need these funds to assure that we have an active Guard and Reserve component. We rely very heavily, more than at any

time in the past, on our Guard and Reserves.

Second, I joined Senator DOLE, Senator THURMOND, Senator LOTT, and many others in recommending a significant increase in spending for national missile defense. Now, the proposed increase in this bill reflects a balanced effort to accelerate these systems to counter the theater and national threats, threats that our military and our Nation face today. For my State of Alaska, and I believe Hawaii also, deploying a capable defense missile system is a pressing and immediate priority. A recent national intelligence estimate exempted Alaska and Hawaii from its consideration of a national missile defense requirement and specifically stated that their estimate concerning the threat to the United States could not be applied to Alaska and Hawaii. We are within the threat from existing systems now.

Senator INOUE and I have looked for opportunities to save the taxpayers money in this bill, and let me point out that we have included new multiyear procurement authority for several systems, including the DTG-51 destroyer program. The Navy estimates that we will save nearly \$1 billion over the next 4 years on that destroyer alone. We fully funded the C-17 multiyear contract which was authorized earlier this year.

Those and many more details of the bill are explained in our report which has been available to every Member of the Senate since June 21. These were our objectives, and I hope the bill will enjoy support of a large bipartisan majority.

Again, I urge the Senate to proceed expeditiously on this bill. Let us finish it today. We have a series of amendments we are prepared to accept, and I think we can move along very quickly if we have the cooperation of the Senate to do so.

Let me turn now, Mr. President, to my good friend. I might state for the information of the Senate that Senator GRAHAM of Florida wished to make a statement to introduce a bill. We wanted to lay down our bill as indicated under the agreement, but it is my intention to yield such time, following the comments of the Senator from Hawaii, to Senator GRAHAM so he might make a statement, introduce a bill, on the condition we recover the floor as soon he has completed his statement.

Let me, if I may, yield the floor to the Senator from Hawaii.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Hawaii is recognized.

Mr. INOUE. I thank the Chair.

I begin by commending our subcommittee chairman, the senior Senator from the State of Alaska [Mr. STEVENS], for putting together what I consider to be a very good bill, a bill that all of us should and could support.

As the chairman indicated, last month the Senate adopted the conference report on the budget resolution, and that measure directed the Ap-

propriations Committee to increase defense budget authority by \$11.2 billion. The subcommittee's share of that increase is \$10.1 billion. Chairman STEVENS, acting in conjunction with the subcommittee, was tasked to determine how this increase should be allocated. I believe, as my colleagues review the bill, they will see that the subcommittee, under the leadership of Senator STEVENS, used this increase very judiciously.

The bill provides many improvements to the administration's budget requests. For example, the bill increases funding for operation and maintenance by \$500 million to protect readiness. We speak of readiness, Mr. President. This is necessary if we are to implement readiness. It includes such items as \$280 million for barracks renovation and repair; \$150 million for ship depot maintenance and to fund 95 percent of the Navy's identified requirements; \$148 million for identified contingency costs, as the chairman clearly pointed out, in the case of Bosnia; and \$119 million for the President's counterdrug initiative; \$50 million to clean up the environment, protect endangered species.

We also add \$590 million, Mr. President, to fully fund health care costs identified by the Surgeon General and DOD Health Affairs Secretary. This will allow our men and women in uniform access to health care that they deserve.

Third, as the chairman pointed out, we recommend \$150 million for breast cancer research, \$100 million for prostate cancer research, and \$15 million for AIDS research. I think all of us can be very proud of what the Army Institute of Research has done in the area of AIDS.

The bill also provides \$300 million for the defense missions of the Coast Guard.

Fifth, the chairman has added \$40 million to examine alternative technologies to dispose of chemical weapons. Mr. President, this bill has fully provided for the pay and allowances of our military personnel, including a 3-percent pay raise and a 4-percent increase in quarters allowances.

One can gain an appreciation from these few examples that the committee has responded to the needs of our men and women in uniform. The bill also provides \$44.1 billion for procurement of equipment, which is an increase of \$6 billion above the request of the President. This increase will provide for many of the high-priority needs identified by our commanders in the field. But the total is still \$1.7 billion below the level recommended by the Senate Armed Services Committee.

As the committee reported the bill, this bill adds \$525 million to initiate a 4-year multiyear contract for the Navy's Aegis destroyer program. According to the Navy, this recommendation will save our taxpayers \$1 billion.

This bill also adds \$163 million to improve the Navy's EA-6B electronic jam-

ming aircraft, and this will allow the Air Force to retire the EF-111, saving hundreds of millions of dollars.

Funding of \$759 million is included for equipment for our National Guard and Reserve forces to the level authorized by the Armed Services Committee. Our Guard and Reserve commanders will decide what specific equipment to purchase.

The funding added by the committee for modernization responds to the concerns expressed by many of our military leaders that action is needed to ensure our forces are equipped with the world's best equipment. This bill also provides the level approved by the Senate for ballistic missile defense, \$3.4 billion. While some of my colleagues may oppose this, I note that the Senate voted for this level last month.

The administration identified several issues in the House bill that it opposes. The committee has responded to nearly all of its concerns, rejecting restrictive legislative provisions and funding administrative priorities.

Chairman STEVENS has done a masterful job in keeping this bill clean. It safeguards our national defense and the priorities of the Senate, and rejects controversial riders. As I indicated in my opening, this is a very good bill and I am strongly in favor of his recommendations. I sincerely believe it should have the bipartisan support of the Senate.

In closing, may I note the following. I am certain there are many in this Chamber who will criticize the fact that we have appropriated funds over and above the amount requested by the administration. For that matter, I should note if it were not for this subcommittee, the C-17 program would be dead. Today it is hailed by all as being the big working ship, the ship that is necessary, the plane that will carry the cargo for us. If it were not for Chairman STEVENS and this subcommittee, the V-22 Osprey would be a dead bird. It is now considered the highest priority by the Marines.

The great hero of Desert Storm was the F-117, the Stealth fighter, the fighter that was able to knock out all the radar stations that made it possible for our bombers to come in. If it were not for this subcommittee, the F-117 would not have been operating in Desert Storm.

I would say we can take full credit for insisting upon modernizing the National Guard airlift with the C-130-H after the Air Force canceled that. Here is another historic footnote. If it were not for the action of this subcommittee, in all likelihood the central command would have been wiped out in 1990, just before Desert Storm. And we would have retired General Schwarzkopf just before Desert Storm.

I think we can take credit for saving the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences.

This subcommittee was instrumental in upgrading the Patriot missile program, a program that we were ready to wipe out. It was not perfect, but the

Patriot saved many American lives during Desert Storm.

So I just wanted to note a few of these items to indicate that, yes, we have taken the initiative to recommend items over and above that requested by the administration because, in our judgment, we felt these steps had to be taken. With that, once again I congratulate my chairman for having done a tremendous job.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following persons assisting the defense subcommittee be afford the privilege of access to Senate floor during consideration of this bill, S. 1894: Susan Hogan, Darryl Roberson, Candice Rogers, Mike Gilmore. There will be another list I will submit. If I can get consent for all of those, too?

Mr. INOUE. May I add Tina Holmlund to that, too.

Mr. STEVENS. There are others coming, from specific Members. I would like permission to add those.

Mr. REID. Reserving the right to object, I wish to add to the unanimous-consent request a congressional fellow in my office, Bob Perret, who will be here during consideration of the Defense appropriations bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. STEVENS. If I can inquire of the Senator from Florida how much time he would like to have to make the statement he wishes to make?

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, I request 15 minutes as in morning business, for purposes of introduction of the bill.

Mr. STEVENS. I ask unanimous consent it be in order for the Senator from Florida to proceed as in morning business for 15 minutes, with the provision be allowed to recover the floor when he is completed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The Senator from Florida is recognized.

Mr. GRAHAM. I thank the Chair.

(The remarks of Mr. GRAHAM and Mr. REID pertaining to the introduction of S. 1943 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. STEVENS addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska is recognized.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I have been asked to perform a couple of tasks for the leader.

COAST GUARD AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1996

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask that the Chair lay before the Senate a message from the House of Representatives on S. 1004, a bill to authorize appropriations for the U.S. Coast Guard, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the House of Representatives:

Resolved, That the bill from the Senate (S. 1004) entitled "An Act to authorize appropriations for the United States Coast Guard, and for other purposes", do pass with the following amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause, and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Coast Guard Authorization Act For Fiscal Year 1996".

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.

Sec. 2. Table of contents.

TITLE I—AUTHORIZATIONS

Sec. 101. Authorization of appropriations.

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

Sec. 103. Quarterly reports on drug interdiction.

Sec. 104. Ensuring maritime safety after closure of small boat station or reduction to seasonal status.

TITLE II—PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT

Sec. 201. Hurricane Andrew relief.

Sec. 202. Exclude certain reserves from end-of-year strength.

Sec. 203. Provision of child development services.

Sec. 204. Access to national driver register information on certain Coast Guard personnel.

Sec. 205. Officer retention until retirement eligible.

TITLE III—NAVIGATION SAFETY AND WATERWAY SERVICES MANAGEMENT

Sec. 301. Foreign passenger vessel user fees.

Sec. 302. Florida Avenue Bridge.

Sec. 303. Renewal of Houston-Galveston Navigation Safety Advisory Committee and Lower Mississippi River Waterway Advisory Committee.

Sec. 304. Renewal of the Navigation Safety Advisory Council.

Sec. 305. Renewal of Commercial Fishing Industry Vessel Advisory Committee.

Sec. 306. Nondisclosure of port security plans.

Sec. 307. Maritime drug and alcohol testing program civil penalty.

Sec. 308. Withholding vessel clearance for violation of certain Acts.

Sec. 309. Increased civil penalties.

Sec. 310. Amendment to require emergency position indicating radio beacons on the Great Lakes.

Sec. 311. Extension of Towing Safety Advisory Committee.

TITLE IV—MISCELLANEOUS

Sec. 401. Transfer of Coast Guard property in Traverse City, Michigan.

Sec. 402. Transfer of Coast Guard property in Ketchikan, Alaska.

Sec. 403. Electronic filing of commercial instruments.

Sec. 404. Board for correction of military records deadline.

Sec. 405. Judicial sale of certain documented vessels to aliens.

Sec. 406. Improved authority to sell recyclable material.

Sec. 407. Recruitment of women and minorities.

Sec. 408. Limitation of certain State authority over vessels.

Sec. 409. Vessel financing.

Sec. 410. Sense of Congress; requirement regarding notice.

Sec. 411. Special selection boards.

Sec. 412. Availability of extrajudicial remedies for default on preferred mortgage liens on vessels.

Sec. 413. Implementation of water pollution laws with respect to vegetable oil.

Sec. 414. Certain information from marine casualty investigations barred in legal proceedings.

Sec. 415. Report on LORAN-C requirements.

Sec. 416. Limited double hull exemptions.

Sec. 417. Oil spill response vessels.

Sec. 418. Offshore facility financial responsibility requirements.

Sec. 419. Manning and watch requirements on towing vessels on the Great Lakes.

Sec. 420. Limitation on application of certain laws to Lake Texoma.

Sec. 421. Limitation on consolidation or relocation of Houston and Galveston marine safety offices.

Sec. 422. Sense of the Congress regarding funding for Coast Guard.

Sec. 423. Conveyance of Light Station, Montauk Point, New York.

Sec. 424. Conveyance of Cape Ann Lighthouse, Thachers Island, Massachusetts.

Sec. 425. Amendments to Johnson Act.

Sec. 426. Transfer of Coast Guard property in Gosnold, Massachusetts.

Sec. 427. Transfer of Coast Guard property in New Shoreham, Rhode Island.

Sec. 428. Vessel deemed to be a recreational vessel.

Sec. 429. Requirement for procurement of buoy chain.

Sec. 430. Cruise vessel tort reform.

Sec. 431. Limitation on fees and charges with respect to ferries.

TITLE V—COAST GUARD REGULATORY REFORM

Sec. 501. Short title.

Sec. 502. Safety management.

Sec. 503. Use of reports, documents, records, and examinations of other persons.

Sec. 504. Equipment approval.

Sec. 505. Frequency of inspection.

Sec. 506. Certificate of inspection.

Sec. 507. Delegation of authority of Secretary to classification societies.

TITLE VI—DOCUMENTATION OF VESSELS

Sec. 601. Authority to issue coastwise endorsements.

Sec. 602. Vessel documentation for charity cruises.

Sec. 603. Extension of deadline for conversion of vessel M/V TWIN DRILL.

Sec. 604. Documentation of vessel RAINBOW'S END.

Sec. 605. Documentation of vessel GLEAM.

Sec. 606. Documentation of various vessels.

Sec. 607. Documentation of 4 barges.

Sec. 608. Limited waiver for ENCHANTED ISLE and ENCHANTED SEAS.

Sec. 609. Limited waiver for MV PLATTE.

TITLE VII—TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS

Sec. 701. Amendment of inland navigation rules.

Sec. 702. Measurement of vessels.

Sec. 703. Longshore and harbor workers compensation.

Sec. 704. Radiotelephone requirements.

Sec. 705. Vessel operating requirements.

Sec. 706. Merchant Marine Act, 1920.

Sec. 707. Merchant Marine Act, 1956.

Sec. 708. Maritime education and training.

Sec. 709. General definitions.

Sec. 710. Authority to exempt certain vessels.

Sec. 711. Inspection of vessels.

Sec. 712. Regulations.

Sec. 713. Penalties—inspection of vessels.

Sec. 714. Application—tank vessels.

Sec. 715. Tank vessel construction standards.

Sec. 716. Tanker minimum standards.

Sec. 717. Self-propelled tank vessel minimum standards.

Sec. 718. Definition—abandonment of barges.

Sec. 719. Application—load lines.

Sec. 720. Licensing of individuals.

Sec. 721. Able seamen—limited.

Sec. 722. Able seamen—offshore supply vessels.

Sec. 723. Scale of employment—able seamen.