

Public Law 92-296

May 16, 1972
[H. R. 11589]

AN ACT

To authorize the foreign sale of certain passenger vessels.

Certain passen-
ger vessels.
Foreign sale.

75 Stat. 89.
46 USC 1183.

Approval con-
ditions.

49 Stat. 1985.
46 USC 1245.

53 Stat. 1255;
70 Stat. 985.

40 Stat. 901;
79 Stat. 1305.
Surety bond.

Agreement,
enforcement.

SS United
States, purchase.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, Notwithstanding any other provision of law or of prior contract with the United States, any vessel heretofore operated as a passenger vessel, as defined in section 613(a) of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended, under an operating-differential subsidy contract with the United States and now in inactive or layup status, except the steamship Independence and the steamship United States, may be sold and transferred to foreign ownership, registry, and flag, with the prior approval of the Secretary of Commerce. Such approval shall require (1) approval of the purchaser; (2) payment of existing debt and private obligations related to the vessel; (3) approval of the price, including terms of payment, for the sale of the vessel; (4) the seller to enter into an agreement with the Secretary whereby an amount equal to the net proceeds received from such sale in excess of existing obligations and expenses incident to the sale shall within a reasonable period not to exceed twelve months of receipt be committed and thereafter be used as equity capital for the construction of new vessels which the Secretary determines are built to effectuate the purposes and policy of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended; and (5) the purchaser to enter into an agreement with the Secretary, binding upon such purchaser and any later owner of the vessel and running with title to the vessel, that (a) the vessel will not carry passengers or cargo in competition, as determined by the Secretary, with any United States-flag passenger vessel for a period of two years from the date the transferred vessel goes into operation; (b) the vessel will be made available to the United States in time of emergency and just compensation for title or use, as the case may be, shall be paid in accordance with section 902 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended (46 U.S.C. 1242); (c) the purchaser will comply with such further conditions as the Secretary may impose as authorized by sections 9, 37, and 41 of the Shipping Act, 1916, as amended (46 U.S.C. 808, 835, and 839); and (d) the purchaser will furnish a surety bond in an amount and with a surety satisfactory to the Secretary to secure performance of the foregoing agreements.

In addition to any other provision such agreements may contain for enforcement of (4) and (5) above, the agreements therein required may be specifically enforced by decree for specific performance or injunction in any district court of the United States. In the agreement with the Secretary the purchaser shall irrevocably appoint a corporate agent within the United States for service of process upon such purchaser in any action to enforce the agreement.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of Commerce is authorized and directed to purchase the steamship United States, as is, where is, at the depreciated cost of the vessel to the owner, as determined by the Secretary of Commerce, less the unpaid principal and interest on the mortgage on the vessel, for layup in the National Defense Reserve Fleet and operation for the account of any agency or department of the United States during any period in which vessels may be requisitioned under section 902 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, and/or for sale or charter to

a qualified operator for operation under the American flag. The depreciated cost of the vessel to the owner shall be computed on the schedule adopted by the Internal Revenue Service for income tax purposes. Such determination shall be final. The Secretary of Commerce shall require the owner of the vessel to agree that it will pay all existing private obligations related to the vessel, and that it will commit an amount equal to the net proceeds received from such sale in excess of existing obligations and expenses incident to the sale, within a reasonable period not to exceed twelve months of receipt, as equity capital for the construction of new vessels which the Secretary determines are built to effectuate the purposes and policy of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended.

Depreciated
cost computation.

49 Stat. 1985.
46 USC 1245.

Approved May 16, 1972.

Public Law 92-297

AN ACT

To amend title 5, United States Code, to provide a career program for, and greater flexibility in management of, air traffic controllers, and for other purposes.

May 16, 1972
[H. R. 8083]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That (a) chapter 21 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding the following new section at the end thereof:

Air traffic controller career programs.
80 Stat. 408.
5 USC 2101.

“§ 2109. Air traffic controller

“For the purpose of this title, ‘air traffic controller’ or ‘controller’ means an employee of the Department of Transportation who is actively engaged in the separation and control of air traffic, or who is the immediate supervisor of an employee actively engaged in the separation and control of air traffic, in an air traffic control facility. The Secretary of Transportation may prescribe regulations to determine the application of this section.”

(b) The analysis of chapter 21 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding the following new item at the end thereof:

“2109. Air traffic controller.”

SEC. 2. (a) Section 3307 of title 5, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“§ 3307. Competitive service; maximum-age entrance requirements; exceptions

“(a) Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c) of this section, appropriated funds may not be used to pay an employee who establishes a maximum-age requirement for entrance into the competitive service.

“(b) The Secretary of Transportation may, with the concurrence of such agent as the President may designate, determine and fix the maximum limit of age within which an original appointment to a position as an air traffic controller may be made.