

§ 50105. Studies and cooperation relating to the construction of vessels

(a) **RELATIVE COSTS AND NEW DESIGNS.**—The Secretary of Transportation shall investigate, determine, and keep current records of—

- (1) the relative cost of construction of comparable vessels in the United States and in foreign countries; and
- (2) new designs, new methods of construction, and new types of equipment for vessels.

(b) **RULES, CLASSIFICATIONS, AND RATINGS.**—The Secretary shall examine the rules under which vessels are constructed abroad and in the United States and the methods of classifying and rating the vessels.

(c) **COLLABORATION WITH OWNERS AND BUILDERS.**—The Secretary shall collaborate with vessel owners and shipbuilders in developing plans for the economical construction of vessels and their propelling machinery, of most modern economical types, giving thorough consideration to all well-recognized means of propulsion and taking into account the benefits from standardized production where practicable and desirable.

(d) **EXPRESS-LINER AND SUPER-LINER VESSELS.**—The Secretary shall study and cooperate with vessel owners in devising means by which there may be constructed, by or with the aid of the United States Government, express-liner or super-liner vessels comparable to those of other nations, especially with a view to their use in a national emergency, and the use of transoceanic aircraft service in connection with or in lieu of those vessels.

(Pub. L. 109–304, §8(b), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1558.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

| <i>Revised Section</i> | <i>Source (U.S. Code)</i> | <i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i> |
|------------------------|--|--|
| 50105(a)(1) .. | 46 App.:811 (1st sentence words before 1st comma). 46 App.:1121(d). | Sept. 7, 1916, ch. 451, §12 (1st sentence words before 1st comma, 2d sentence words before 2d comma), 39 Stat. 732; Ex. Ord. No. 6166, §12, eff. June 10, 1933; June 29, 1936, ch. 858, title II, §204, title IX, §904, 49 Stat. 1987, 2016; Pub. L. 97–31, §12(27), Aug. 6, 1981, 95 Stat. 155. June 29, 1936, ch. 858, title II, §211(d), (j) (words before 1st semicolon), 49 Stat. 1989; Pub. L. 91–469, §§4(2), 35(a), Oct. 21, 1970, 84 Stat. 1018, 1035; Pub. L. 97–31, §12(67), Aug. 6, 1981, 95 Stat. 159. |
| 50105(a)(2) .. | 46 App.:1121(j) (words before 1st semicolon). | |
| 50105(b) | 46 App.:811 (2d sentence words before 2d comma). | |
| 50105(c) | 46 App.:1122(c). | |
| 50105(d) | 46 App.:1122(b)(2). | |

§ 50106. Studies on the operation of vessels

(a) **RELATIVE COSTS.**—The Secretary of Transportation shall investigate, determine, and keep current records of the relative cost of marine insurance, maintenance, repairs, wages and subsistence of officers and crews, and all other items of expense, in the operation of comparable vessels under the laws and regulations of the

United States and those of the foreign countries whose vessels are substantial competitors of American vessels.

(b) **SHIPYARDS.**—The Secretary shall investigate, determine, and keep current records of the number, location, and efficiency of shipyards in the United States.

(c) **NAVIGATION LAWS.**—The Secretary shall examine the navigation laws and regulations of the United States and make such recommendations to Congress as the Secretary considers proper for the amendment, improvement, and revision of those laws and for the development of the merchant marine of the United States.

(Pub. L. 109–304, §8(b), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1559.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

| <i>Revised Section</i> | <i>Source (U.S. Code)</i> | <i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i> |
|------------------------|---|---|
| 50106(a) | 46 App.:811 (1st sentence words after 1st comma). 46 App.:1121(e). | Sept. 7, 1916, ch. 451, §12 (1st sentence words after 1st comma, 3d sentence), 39 Stat. 732; Ex. Ord. No. 6166, §12, eff. June 10, 1933; June 29, 1936, ch. 858, title II, §204, title IX, §904, 49 Stat. 1987, 2016; Pub. L. 97–31, §12(27), Aug. 6, 1981, 95 Stat. 155. June 29, 1936, ch. 858, title II, §211(e), (g), 49 Stat. 1989; Pub. L. 91–469, §§4(2), 5, 35(a), Oct. 21, 1970, 84 Stat. 1018, 1035; Pub. L. 97–31, §12(67), Aug. 6, 1981, 95 Stat. 159. |
| 50106(b) | 46 App.:1121(g). | |
| 50106(c) | 46 App.:811 (3d sentence). | |

In subsection (b), the words “existing on June 29, 1936, or thereafter built” are omitted as obsolete.

§ 50107. Studies on marine insurance

The Secretary of Transportation shall—

(1) examine into the subject of marine insurance, the number of companies in the United States, domestic and foreign, engaging in marine insurance, the extent of the insurance on hulls and cargoes placed or written in the United States, and the extent of reinsurance of American maritime risks in foreign companies; and

(2) ascertain what steps may be necessary to develop an ample marine insurance system as an aid in the development of the merchant marine of the United States.

(Pub. L. 109–304, §8(b), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1559.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

| <i>Revised Section</i> | <i>Source (U.S. Code)</i> | <i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i> |
|------------------------|---|--|
| 50107 | 46 App.:811 (2d sentence words after 2d comma). | Sept. 7, 1916, ch. 451, §12 (2d sentence words after 2d comma), 39 Stat. 732; Ex. Ord. No. 6166, §12, eff. June 10, 1933; June 29, 1936, ch. 858, title II, §204, title IX, §904, 49 Stat. 1987, 2016; Pub. L. 97–31, §12(27), Aug. 6, 1981, 95 Stat. 155. |

§ 50108. Studies on cargo carriage and cargo containers

(a) **STUDIES.**—The Secretary of Transportation shall study—

(1) the methods of encouraging the development and implementation of new concepts for