

beginning on the date of enactment of this Act [Dec. 22, 2023]—

“(1) section 7307 of title 46, United States Code, shall be applied by substituting ‘18 months’ for ‘3 years’;

“(2) section 7308 of such title shall be applied by substituting ‘12 months’ for ‘18 months’; and

“(3) section 7309 of such title shall be applied by substituting ‘6 months’ for ‘12 months’.”

ACCEPTANCE OF CERTAIN SERVICES TOWARD
ENDORSEMENT AS ABLE SEAMAN

Service used to qualify for endorsement as able seaman—fishing industry to be accepted as qualifying service toward an endorsement under this section, see section 602(e)(3) of Pub. L. 101-595, set out as a note under section 7306 of this title.

§ 7308. Able seamen—limited

The required service for the endorsement of able seaman—limited, qualified for limited service on a vessel on any waters, is at least 18 months¹ service on deck on board vessels of at least 100 gross tons as measured under section 14502 of this title, or an alternate tonnage measured under section 14302 of this title as prescribed by the Secretary under section 14104 of this title operating on the oceans or navigable waters of the United States (including the Great Lakes).

(Pub. L. 98-89, Aug. 26, 1983, 97 Stat. 543; Pub. L. 104-324, title VII, §721, Oct. 19, 1996, 110 Stat. 3938.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised section</i>	<i>Source section (U.S. Code)</i>
7308	46:672(b)(2)

Section 7308 establishes the minimum service requirements for an individual to qualify for an endorsement as able seamen—limited.

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

1996—Pub. L. 104-324 inserted “as measured under section 14502 of this title, or an alternate tonnage measured under section 14302 of this title as prescribed by the Secretary under section 14104 of this title” after “100 gross tons”.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

TEMPORARY REDUCTION OF LENGTHS OF CERTAIN
PERIODS OF SERVICE

Section to be applied by substituting “12 months” for “18 months” for the 3-year period beginning on Dec. 22, 2023, see section 3534(j) of Pub. L. 118-31, set out as a note under section 7307 of this title.

ACCEPTANCE OF CERTAIN SERVICES TOWARD
ENDORSEMENT AS ABLE SEAMAN

Service used to qualify for endorsement as able seaman—fishing industry to be accepted as qualifying service toward an endorsement under this section, see section 602(e)(3) of Pub. L. 101-595, set out as a note under section 7306 of this title.

§ 7309. Able seamen—special

The required service for the endorsement of able seaman—special, qualified for special serv-

¹ See Temporary Reduction of Lengths of Certain Periods of Service note below.

ice on a vessel on any waters, is at least 12 months¹ service on deck on board vessels operating on the oceans or the navigable waters of the United States (including the Great Lakes).

(Pub. L. 98-89, Aug. 26, 1983, 97 Stat. 543.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised section</i>	<i>Source section (U.S. Code)</i>
7309	46:672(b)(3)

Section 7309 establishes the minimum service requirements for an individual to qualify as able seaman—special.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

TEMPORARY REDUCTION OF LENGTHS OF CERTAIN
PERIODS OF SERVICE

Section to be applied by substituting “6 months” for “12 months” for the 3-year period beginning on Dec. 22, 2023, see section 3534(j) of Pub. L. 118-31, set out as a note under section 7307 of this title.

ACCEPTANCE OF CERTAIN SERVICES TOWARD
ENDORSEMENT AS ABLE SEAMAN

Service used to qualify for endorsement as able seaman—fishing industry to be accepted as qualifying service toward an endorsement under this section, see section 602(e)(3) of Pub. L. 101-595, set out as a note under section 7306 of this title.

§ 7310. Able seamen—offshore supply vessels

For service on a vessel of less than 500 gross tons as measured under section 14502 of this title, or an alternate tonnage measured under section 14302 of this title as prescribed by the Secretary under section 14104 of this title engaged in support of exploration, exploitation, or production of offshore mineral or energy resources, an individual may be rated as able seaman—offshore supply vessels if the individual has at least 6 months’ service on deck on board vessels operating on the oceans or the navigable waters of the United States (including the Great Lakes).

(Pub. L. 98-89, Aug. 26, 1983, 97 Stat. 543; Pub. L. 104-324, title VII, §722, Oct. 19, 1996, 110 Stat. 3938.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised section</i>	<i>Source section (U.S. Code)</i>
7310	46:672(b)(3)

Section 7310 establishes the minimum service requirements for an individual to serve as able seamen—offshore supply vessels on vessels of less than 500 gross tons engaged in the exploration, exploitation, or production of offshore mineral or energy resources.

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

1996—Pub. L. 104-324 inserted “as measured under section 14502 of this title, or an alternate tonnage measured under section 14302 of this title as prescribed by the Secretary under section 14104 of this title” after “500 gross tons”.

¹ See Temporary Reduction of Lengths of Certain Periods of Service note below.