

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

For effective date of this section, referred to in subsecs. (a) and (b), see section 2002 of Pub. L. 100-220, set out as an Effective Date of 1987 Amendment note under section 1901 of this title.

The Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships, referred to in subsec. (a), is Pub. L. 96-478, Oct. 21, 1980, 94 Stat. 2297, as amended, which is classified principally to this chapter (§1901 et seq.). For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1901 of this title and Tables.

## CODIFICATION

Section was formerly set out as a note under section 1902 of this title.

Section was enacted as part of the Marine Plastic Pollution Research and Control Act of 1987 and as part of the United States-Japan Fishery Agreement Approval Act of 1987, and not as part of the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships which comprises this chapter.

## AMENDMENTS

1996—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 104-324 struck out “for a period of 6 years” after “triennially thereafter” and inserted “and, not later than 1 year after October 19, 1996, and annually thereafter, shall publish in the Federal Register a list of the enforcement actions taken against any domestic or foreign ship (including any commercial or recreational ship) pursuant to the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships (33 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.)” before period at end.

1995—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 104-66 substituted “triennially” for “biennially”.

## TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For transfer of authorities, functions, personnel, and assets of the Coast Guard, including the authorities and functions of the Secretary of Transportation relating thereto, to the Department of Homeland Security, and for treatment of related references, see sections 468(b), 551(d), 552(d), and 557 of Title 6, Domestic Security, and the Department of Homeland Security Reorganization Plan of November 25, 2002, as modified, set out as a note under section 542 of Title 6.

**§ 1914. Coordination****(a) Establishment of Interagency Marine Debris Coordinating Committee**

There is established an Interagency Marine Debris Coordinating Committee to coordinate a comprehensive program of marine debris research and activities among Federal agencies, in cooperation and coordination with non-governmental organizations, industry, universities, and research institutions, States, Indian tribes, and other nations, as appropriate.

**(b) Membership**

The Committee shall include a senior official from—

- (1) the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, who shall serve as the Chairperson of the Committee;
- (2) the Environmental Protection Agency;
- (3) the United States Coast Guard;
- (4) the United States Navy; and
- (5) such other Federal agencies that have an interest in ocean issues or water pollution prevention and control as the Secretary of Commerce determines appropriate.

**(c) Meetings**

The Committee shall meet at least twice a year to provide a public, interagency forum to ensure the coordination of national and inter-

national research, monitoring, education, and regulatory actions addressing the persistent marine debris problem.

**(d) Monitoring**

The Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, in cooperation with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, shall utilize the marine debris data derived under title V of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 (33 U.S.C. 2801 et seq.) to assist—

- (1) the Committee in ensuring coordination of research, monitoring, education and regulatory actions; and
- (2) the United States Coast Guard in assessing the effectiveness of this Act and the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships [33 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.] in ensuring compliance under section 1913 of this title.

(Pub. L. 100-220, title II, §2203, Dec. 29, 1987, 101 Stat. 1466; Pub. L. 104-324, title VIII, §802(b), Oct. 19, 1996, 110 Stat. 3944; Pub. L. 109-449, §5(a), Dec. 22, 2006, 120 Stat. 3337.)

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972, referred to in subsec. (d), is Pub. L. 92-532, Oct. 23, 1972, 86 Stat. 1052, as amended. Title V of the Act, popularly known as the National Coastal Monitoring Act, is classified generally to chapter 41 (§2801 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of title V to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 2801 of this title and Tables.

This Act, referred to in subsec. (d)(2), probably should be “this title” meaning title II of Pub. L. 100-220, Dec. 29, 1987, 101 Stat. 1460, as amended, known as the Marine Plastic Pollution Research and Control Act of 1987. For complete classification of title II to the Code, see Short Title of 1987 Amendment note set out under section 1901 of this title and Tables.

The Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships, referred to in subsec. (d)(2), is Pub. L. 96-478, Oct. 21, 1980, 94 Stat. 2297, as amended, which is classified principally to this chapter (§1901 et seq.). For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1901 of this title and Tables.

## CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Marine Plastic Pollution Research and Control Act of 1987 and as part of the United States-Japan Fishery Agreement Approval Act of 1987, and not as part of the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships which comprises this chapter.

## AMENDMENTS

2006—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 109-449, §5(a)(1), added subsec. (a) and struck out former subsec. (a). Text read as follows: “The Secretary of Commerce shall establish a Marine Debris Coordinating Committee.”

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 109-449, §5(a)(2), inserted “public, interagency” before “forum”.

1996—Pub. L. 104-324 amended section generally. Prior to amendment, section read as follows: “Not later than September 30, 1988, the Secretary of Commerce shall submit to the Congress a report on the effects of plastic materials on the marine environment. The report shall—

- “(1) identify and quantify the harmful effects of plastic materials on the marine environment;
- “(2) assess the specific effects of plastic materials on living marine resources in the marine environment;
- “(3) identify the types and classes of plastic materials that pose the greatest potential hazard to living marine resources;

“(4) analyze, in consultation with the Director of the National Bureau of Standards, plastic materials which are claimed to be capable of reduction to environmentally benign submits under the action of normal environmental forces (including biological decomposition, photodegradation, and hydrolysis); and  
“(5) recommend legislation which is necessary to prohibit, tax, or regulate sources of plastic materials that enter the marine environment.”

#### TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For transfer of authorities, functions, personnel, and assets of the Coast Guard, including the authorities and functions of the Secretary of Transportation relating thereto, to the Department of Homeland Security, and for treatment of related references, see sections 468(b), 551(d), 552(d), and 557 of Title 6, Domestic Security, and the Department of Homeland Security Reorganization Plan of November 25, 2002, as modified, set out as a note under section 542 of Title 6.

### § 1915. Plastic pollution public education program

#### (a) Outreach program

##### (1) In general

Not later than April 1, 1988, the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, in consultation with the Secretary of Transportation, shall jointly commence and thereafter conduct a public outreach program to educate the public (including recreational boaters, fishermen, and other users of the marine environment) regarding—

- (A) the harmful effects of plastic pollution;
- (B) the need to reduce such pollution;
- (C) the need to recycle plastic materials;
- (D) the need to reduce the quantity of plastic debris in the marine environment; and
- (E) the requirements under this Act and the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships (33 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.) with respect to ships and ports, and the authority of citizens to report violations of this Act and the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships (33 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.).

##### (2) Authorized activities

###### (A) Public outreach program

A public outreach program under paragraph (1) may include—

- (i) developing and implementing a voluntary boaters' pledge program;
- (ii) workshops with interested groups;
- (iii) public service announcements;
- (iv) distribution of leaflets and posters; and
- (v) any other means appropriate to educating the public.

###### (B) Grants and cooperative agreements

To carry out this section, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating, the Secretary of Commerce, and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency are authorized to award grants, enter into cooperative agreements with appropriate officials of other Federal agencies and agencies of States and political subdivisions of States and with public and private entities, and provide other financial assistance to eligible recipients.

### (C) Consultation

In developing outreach initiatives for groups that are subject to the requirements of this title and the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships (33 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.), the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, shall consult with—

- (i) the heads of State agencies responsible for implementing State boating laws; and
- (ii) the heads of other enforcement agencies that regulate boaters or commercial fishermen.

### (b) Citizen Pollution Patrols

The Secretary of Commerce, along with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating, shall conduct a program to encourage the formation of volunteer groups, to be designated as “Citizen Pollution Patrols”, to assist in monitoring, reporting, cleanup, and prevention of ocean and shoreline pollution.

(Pub. L. 100–220, title II, §2204, Dec. 29, 1987, 101 Stat. 1466; Pub. L. 104–324, title VIII, §802(c), Oct. 19, 1996, 110 Stat. 3945.)

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

This Act and this title, referred to in subsec. (a)(1)(E), (2)(C), probably should all be “this title” meaning title II of Pub. L. 100–220, Dec. 29, 1987, 101 Stat. 1460, as amended, known as the Marine Plastic Pollution Research and Control Act of 1987. For complete classification of title II to the Code, see Short Title of 1987 Amendment note set out under section 1901 of this title and Tables.

The Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships, referred to in subsec. (a)(1)(E), (2)(C), is Pub. L. 96–478, Oct. 21, 1980, 94 Stat. 2297, as amended, which is classified principally to this chapter (§1901 et seq.). For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1901 of this title and Tables.

#### CODIFICATION

Section was formerly set out as a note under section 6981 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare.

Section was enacted as part of the Marine Plastic Pollution Research and Control Act of 1987 and as part of the United States-Japan Fishery Agreement Approval Act of 1987, and not as part of the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships which comprises this chapter.

#### AMENDMENTS

1996—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 104–324, §802(c)(1)–(4), struck out “for a period of at least 3 years,” after “conduct” in introductory provisions and added subpar. (E).

Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 104–324, §802(c)(5), added par. (2) and struck out heading and text of former par. (2). Text read as follows: “A public outreach program under paragraph (1) may include—

- “(A) workshops with interested groups;
- “(B) public service announcements;
- “(C) distribution of leaflets and posters; and
- “(D) any other means appropriate to educating the public.”

#### TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For transfer of authorities, functions, personnel, and assets of the Coast Guard, including the authorities