

**THE MARITIME LAW ASSOCIATION
OF THE UNITED STATES**

COMMITTEE ON CURRENT LEGISLATION

*List of Bills Received by Emory H. Niles, Chairman,
January 1 to March 7, 1936*

1936 LIST NO. 1

SENATE BILLS

S. 2288. SENATOR GORE.

To provide for the measurement of vessels using the Panama Canal.

Note: See Report of the Committee on Interoceanic Canals, United States Senate, to accompany S. 2288, eleven pages of testimony.

S. 3500. SENATOR COPELAND.

Short title Merchant Marine Act, 1936, "To develop a strong merchant marine," etc. Bill consists of nine titles, as follows:

1. Declaration of Policy.
2. United States Maritime Authority.
3. Adjustment of Ocean Mail Contracts.
4. New Construction—Provisions for Government Financing.
5. Financial Aid to the Merchant Marine.
 - (1) Construction Differential Subsidy.
 - (2) Operating Differential Subsidy.
 - (3) Provisions Generally Applicable to Financial Aid.
6. Construction Fund.
7. Transfer of Powers.
8. Administrative Provisions.
9. Miscellaneous.

A new version was introduced on March 26th and favorably repeated by half the Committee.

S. 3501. SENATOR COPELAND.

Provides for a continuous discharge book and the division of crews into three watches; also that all licensed officers shall be citizens of the United States.

1. Empowers United States Maritime Authority to permit members of conferences to return a part of freight moneys in consideration of the shipper confining his shipments to lines and vessels which are members of the conference.

S. 3467.

Amends Section 16 of Shipping Act of 1916 by making it a misdemeanor to obtain transportation or refunds or allowances by false billing.

S. 3919. SENATOR COPELAND.

To provide for an eight-hour day for licensed officers on ocean and coastwise vessels.

A companion bill to H. R. 10000.

S. 3954. SENATOR COPELAND.

To amend the Communications Act of 1934, for the purpose of promoting life through the use of radio. Contains elaborate provisions relative to radio transmission and reception on vessels.

S. 3958. SENATOR LONERGAN.

To prevent the pollution of the navigable waters of the United States.

Makes the National Resources Committee a permanent establishment of the United States. A companion bill to H. R. 11064.

S. 3959. SENATOR LONERGAN.

To amend Section 13 of the Act of March 3, 1899, relative to the deposit of refuse in the navigable waters of the United States, and to amend Section 3 of the Oil Pollution Act of 1924.

Note: See also S. 3958 above.

S. 4013. SENATOR WALSH.

To expedite the dispatch of vessels from certain ports of call. Empowers Secretary of Commerce to direct the Collector of Customs to receive the report of arrival and entry of vessels and to give clearance to vessels on board the vessel.

A companion bill to H. R. 11145.

S. 4110. SENATOR GUFFEY.

Merchant Marine Act, 1936. Appears to have same general objects and cover the same general field as S. 3500 above. S. 4110 is divided into ten titles, as follows:

1. Declaration of Policy.
2. Transfer of Regulatory Powers and Functions.
3. United States Maritime Commission.
4. Ocean Mail Contracts.
5. Construction Differential Subsidy.
6. Operating Differential Subsidy.
7. Operating Charters.
8. Contract Restrictions.
9. American Seamen.
10. Miscellaneous Provisions.

Favorably reported by the "minority" half of the Committee on Commerce.

S. 4111. SENATOR GIBSON.

To provide for building up a strong American merchant marine.

Sets up a Federal Maritime Commission of five members with general authority to regulate shipping matters. Compare with S. 3500 and S. 4110.

S. 4272. SENATOR COPELAND.

Provides for extension of Admiralty jurisdiction to damages inflicted by vessels but consummated on land.

HOUSE BILLS

H. R. 8368.

The Liquor Enforcement Act, 1935. It has to do with vessels only in their capacity as possible carriers of illegal liquor.

H. R. 8599.

To provide for a change in the designation of the Bureau of Navigation and Steamboat Inspection to "Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation." Provides for seven supervising inspectors, ten principal traveling inspectors, appointed without regard to the Civil Service laws; authorizes Secretary of Commerce to establish rules for investigation of marine casualties; provides for investigation; provides for technical staff. Bill introduced July 29, 1935, read twice and referred to Committee on Commerce July 29, 1935, reported by Mr. Copeland February 24, 1936, and ordered printed as amended.

H. R. 9969. MR. SIROVICH.

Amends law on limitation of liability.

R. S. 4283. Applies \$60.00 death and bodily injury limit to "any seagoing sailing, steam or motor vessel, and any vessel used on lakes or rivers or in inland navigation, whether American or foreign, other than tugs, barges, fishing vessels and their tenders."

Section 4283-B. A new section prohibiting insertion of stipulated amounts in passenger tickets for damages for loss of life or bodily injury, or abridging right of claimant to trial by jury.

R. S. 4285. Adds proviso that vessel owner within three months after claim may petition for limitation of liability on deposit of security for full amount for which limitation is prayed.

H. R. 10000. MR. O'LEARY.

To provide for an eight-hour day for licensed officers on ocean and coastwise vessels. A companion bill to S. 3919.

H. R. 10308. MR. O'LEARY.

To amend the collision rules concerning lights to provide that a steam vessel when towing, shall, in addition to her side lights, carry two bright white lights in a vertical line, not less than three feet apart, and when towing one or more vessels astern, regardless of the length of the tow, shall carry an additional bright white light three feet above or below such lights.

H. R. 10723.

The Governor's Island Airport Plan for New York Harbor, to create an island over Red Hook anchorage ground. Promoted by Daniel DeV. Harned, First Vice-President of the Community Councils of the City of New York, Inc., 52 Vanderbilt Avenue, Room 310, who appeals for support. Referred to the Rivers and Harbors Committee.

H. R. 10928. MR. TONRY.

To require that the officers and crew of every vessel of the United States shall be citizens of the United States.

H. R. 11036. MR. BLAND.

To revise R. S. 4321, prescribing the form of a license for a vessel in the coasting trade or fisheries.

H. R. 11064. MR. PFEIFER.

To prevent pollution of the navigable waters of the United States. A companion bill to S. 3958.

H. R. 11145. MR. McCORMACK.

To expedite the dispatch of vessels from certain ports of call. A companion bill to S. 4013.

EMORY H. NILES,
WILLIAM J. DEAN,
WHARTON POOR,
Committee.