

113TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 2924

To amend title 46, United States Code, to exempt old vessels that only operate within inland waterways from the fire-retardant materials requirement if the owners of such vessels make annual structural alterations to at least 10 percent of the areas of the vessels that are not constructed of fire-retardant materials.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 13, 2014

Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. VITTER, and Mrs. MCCASKILL) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

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## A BILL

To amend title 46, United States Code, to exempt old vessels that only operate within inland waterways from the fire-retardant materials requirement if the owners of such vessels make annual structural alterations to at least 10 percent of the areas of the vessels that are not constructed of fire-retardant materials.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. FIRE-RETARDANT MATERIALS EXEMPTION.**

4 Section 3503 of title 46, United States Code, is  
5 amended—

1 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “2008, this  
2 section” and inserting “2028, this subsection”; and

3 (2) in subsection (b)(1)—

4 (A) in the matter preceding subparagraph  
5 (A), by striking “this section” and inserting  
6 “subsection (a)”;

7 (B) in subparagraph (A), by inserting  
8 “and crew” after “prospective passengers”;

9 (C) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “or  
10 crew member” after “passenger”;

11 (D) in subparagraph (C), by striking  
12 “and” at the end; and

13 (E) by striking subparagraph (D) and in-  
14 serting the following:

15 “(D) the owner or managing operator of  
16 the vessel shall—

17 “(i) make annual structural alter-  
18 ations to not less than 10 percent of the  
19 areas of the vessel that are not constructed  
20 of fire-retardant materials;

21 “(ii) provide advance notice to the  
22 Coast Guard regarding the alterations  
23 made pursuant to clause (i); and

1                   “(iii) comply with any noncombustible  
2                   material requirements prescribed by the  
3                   Coast Guard; and

4                   “(E) the requirements referred to in sub-  
5                   paragraph (D)(iii) shall, to the extent prac-  
6                   ticable, be consistent with the preservation of  
7                   the historic integrity of the vessel in areas car-  
8                   rying or accessible to passengers or generally  
9                   visible to the public.”.

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