

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3214

To amend title 14, United States Code, to establish the National Icebreaker Fund to pay the costs of construction, alteration, renovation, lease, or charter of icebreakers for the Coast Guard, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 27, 2015

Mr. HUNTER (for himself, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, and Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend title 14, United States Code, to establish the National Icebreaker Fund to pay the costs of construction, alteration, renovation, lease, or charter of icebreakers for the Coast Guard, and for other purposes.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “National Icebreaker
5 Fund Act of 2015”.

1 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL ICEBREAKER FUND.**

2 (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF FUND.—Chapter 15 of title
3 14, United States Code, is amended—

4 (1) by redesignating subchapter III as sub-
5 chapter IV;

6 (2) by redesignating section 581 as section 591;

7 and

8 (3) by inserting after chapter II the following:

9 “SUBCHAPTER III—ICEBREAKERS

10 **“§ 581. National Icebreaker Fund**

11 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the
12 Treasury of the United States a fund to be known as the
13 ‘National Icebreaker Fund’.

14 “(b) USE.—

15 “(1) AUTHORIZED PURPOSES.—Amounts in the
16 Fund shall be available for obligation and expendi-
17 ture by the Secretary only for the following pur-
18 poses:

19 “(A) Construction, alteration, and renova-
20 tion of icebreakers for the Coast Guard, includ-
21 ing design work related to construction, alter-
22 ation, and renovation.

23 “(B) Lease or charter of icebreakers for
24 the Coast Guard.

1 “(2) AUTHORIZATION REQUIRED.—Amounts in
2 the Fund may be obligated or expended only in
3 amounts authorized by law.

4 “(c) DEPOSITS.—There shall be deposited in the
5 Fund the following:

6 “(1) All funds appropriated to the department
7 in which the Coast Guard is operating for—

8 “(A) construction, alteration, and renova-
9 tion of icebreakers, including design work re-
10 lated to construction, alteration, and renova-
11 tion; or

12 “(B) lease or charter of icebreakers.

13 “(2) All receipts from the disposition of ice-
14 breakers by the Federal Government.

15 “(3) Unobligated funds that are transferred to
16 the Fund under subsection (d).

17 “(4) Contributions of money, and proceeds of
18 other contributions, accepted under subsection (e).

19 “(5) All funds appropriated to the Department
20 of Defense or any other Federal agency for—

21 “(A) construction, alteration, and renova-
22 tion of icebreakers, including design work re-
23 lated to construction, alteration, and renova-
24 tion; or

25 “(B) lease or charter of icebreakers.

1 “(d) TRANSFERS.—At the end of any fiscal year, the
2 Secretary may transfer to the Fund any unobligated funds
3 remaining from funds under the administrative control of
4 the Secretary.

5 “(e) ACCEPTANCE OF SUPPORT.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may accept
7 from any person, foreign government, or inter-
8 national organization any contribution of money,
9 personal property, or assistance in-kind for support
10 of icebreaking in the polar regions.

11 “(2) USE.—Any contribution accepted under
12 paragraph (1) may be retained and used by the Sec-
13 retary of the department in which the Coast Guard
14 is operating or disposed of in accordance with proce-
15 dures prescribed by the Secretary, subject to the
16 limitations in subsection (f) and paragraph (3) of
17 this subsection.

18 “(f) LIMITATIONS ON USE OF FUNDS.—

19 “(1) FOREIGN VESSELS.—Amounts in the Fund
20 may not be used to lease, charter, construct, alter,
21 renovate, or in any other way acquire any vessel
22 built in a shipyard located in a foreign country, un-
23 less specifically authorized by law.

24 “(2) CONSTRUCTION, ALTERATION, AND REN-
25 OVATION IN UNITED STATES; VESSEL DESIGN RE-

1 REQUIREMENTS.—Amounts in the Fund may not be
2 used to construct, alter, or renovate a vessel in any
3 shipyard other than a shipyard in the United States.

4 “(3) PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURES.—The Sec-
5 retary may—

6 “(A) expend from the Fund amounts de-
7 posited under paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of
8 subsection (c), only for the lease, charter, con-
9 struction, alteration, or renovation of ice-
10 breakers capable of search and rescue, saving of
11 life at sea, maritime safety and security, drug
12 and migrant interdiction, fisheries law enforce-
13 ment, and environmental response in the Arctic;
14 and

15 “(B) expend from the Fund the amounts
16 deposited under paragraphs (4) and (5) of sub-
17 section (c), for—

18 “(i) activities described in subpara-
19 graph (A); or

20 “(ii) additional capabilities that are—

21 “(I) necessary to carry out na-
22 tional defense missions; or

23 “(II) for missions related to re-
24 search and resupply in the Antarctic.

1 “(g) EXPIRATION OF APPROPRIATED FUNDS AFTER
2 10 YEARS.—No part of an appropriation that is deposited
3 in the Fund under subsection (c)(1) shall remain available
4 for obligation more than 10 years after the end of fiscal
5 year for which appropriated, except to the extent specifi-
6 cally provided by law.

7 “(h) BUDGET REQUESTS.—Budget requests sub-
8 mitted to Congress for the Fund shall separately iden-
9 tify—

10 “(1) the amount requested for programs,
11 projects, and activities for construction, alteration,
12 and renovation of icebreakers; and

13 “(2) the amount requested for programs,
14 projects, and activities for lease or charter of ice-
15 breakers;

16 “(i) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

17 “(1) The term ‘Fund’ means the National Ice-
18 breaker Fund established by subsection (a).

19 “(2) The term ‘icebreaker’ means an icebreaker
20 capable of operations in polar regions.”.

21 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for such
22 chapter is amended by striking the items relating to sub-
23 chapter III and inserting the following:

“SUBCHAPTER III. ICEBREAKERS

“Sec. 581. National Icebreaker Fund

“Sec. 591. Definitions.”.

1 SEC. 3. INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT.

2 The Secretary of the department in which the Coast
3 Guard is operating, in consultation with the Secretary of
4 State and the Director of the National Science Founda-
5 tion, shall enter into an agreement with nations that oper-
6 ate facilities in Antarctica to establish a mechanism to
7 provide icebreaking services necessary to supply those fa-
8 cilities by constructing, leasing or chartering, renovating,
9 operating, or maintaining an icebreaker capable of per-
10 forming such services.

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