

**Calendar No. 658**114<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION**S. 1717****[Report No. 114-367]**

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**

JULY 8, 2015

Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mrs. McCASKILL, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. VITTER, Mr. COTTON, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. CASSIDY, and Mr. BLUNT) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

OCTOBER 27, 2016

Reported under authority of the order of the Senate of September 29, 2016,  
by Mr. THUNE, without amendment

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**A BILL**

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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—

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

8            (2) in subsection (b)(1)—

9                    (A) in the matter preceding subparagraph  
10 (A), by striking “this section” and inserting  
11 “subsection (a)”;

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

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

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

18                    (E) by striking subparagraph (D) and in-  
19 serting the following:

20                    “(D) the owner or managing operator of  
21 the vessel shall—

22                            “(i) make annual structural alter-  
23 ations to not less than 10 percent of the  
24 areas of the vessel that are not constructed  
25 of fire-retardant materials;

1                   “(ii) provide advance notice to the  
2                   Coast Guard regarding the alterations  
3                   made pursuant to clause (i); and

4                   “(iii) comply with any noncombustible  
5                   material requirements prescribed by the  
6                   Coast Guard; and

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

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