

1 **SEC. 421. SHIP AMERICA OFFICE.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 553 of title 46, United
3 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
4 lowing:

5 **“Subchapter IV—Ship America Office**

6 **“§ 55341. Establishment of Ship America Office**

7 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Maritime Adminis-
8 trator shall establish within the Maritime Administration
9 an office to be known as the ‘Ship America Office’. The
10 Maritime Administrator shall appoint the head of the Ship
11 America Office (in this section referred to as the ‘Ship
12 America Associate Administrator’).

13 “(b) DUTIES.—The Ship America Associate Adminis-
14 trator shall have the following duties:

15 “(1) Providing assistance to private sector enti-
16 ties, Federal financial assistance recipients, Federal
17 agencies, Federal contractors, and owners and oper-
18 ators of oceangoing vessels of the United States to
19 facilitate the movement of commercial and govern-
20 ment cargo on vessels of the United States in inter-
21 national commerce.

22 “(2) Maximizing compliance across Federal
23 agencies with this chapter, section 2631 of title 10,
24 United States Code, and any other cargo preference
25 law of the United States.

1 “(3) Providing training and assistance to Fed-
2 eral employees, in all Federal agencies responsible
3 for shipping preference cargo, on the legal obliga-
4 tions under this chapter, section 2631 of title 10,
5 United States Code, and any other cargo preference
6 law of the United States.

7 “(4) Supporting the efforts of the executive
8 branch to develop and sustain a fleet of vessels of
9 the United States and maritime industrial base to
10 meet the sealift needs of Federal agencies.

11 “(5) Where practicable, making accessible, and
12 regularly updating, the publicly available contact in-
13 formation for oceangoing vessels of the United
14 States for the purposes of moving international com-
15 merce.

16 “(6) Publishing, and regularly updating, cen-
17 tralized information on the commercial benefits
18 available to private sector entities for moving com-
19 mercial cargo on oceangoing vessels of the United
20 States.

21 “(7) Preparing the reports under subsection
22 (c).

23 “(c) REPORTS REQUIRED.—Not later than 1 year
24 after the date of enactment of this section, and biennially
25 thereafter, the Maritime Administrator, acting through