

1 “(6) the country in which the vessel was docu-
2 mented immediately before becoming documented
3 under chapter 121 has not been identified by the
4 Secretary as inadequately enforcing international
5 vessel regulations as to that vessel.

6 “(c) CONTINUED ELIGIBILITY FOR CERTIFICATE.—
7 This section does not apply to a vessel after any date on
8 which the vessel fails to comply with the applicable inter-
9 national agreements and associated guidelines referred to
10 in subsection (b)(4).

11 “(d) RELIANCE ON CLASSIFICATION SOCIETY.—

12 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may rely on
13 a certification from the American Bureau of Ship-
14 ping or, subject to paragraph (2), another classifica-
15 tion society accepted by the Secretary to establish
16 that a vessel is in compliance with the requirements
17 of paragraphs (3), (4), and (6) of subsection (b) and
18 of subsection (c).

19 “(2) FOREIGN CLASSIFICATION SOCIETY.—The
20 Secretary may accept certification from a foreign
21 classification society under paragraph (1) only—

22 “(A) to the extent that the government of
23 the foreign country in which the society is
24 headquartered provides access on a reciprocal
25 basis to the American Bureau of Shipping; and

1 “(B) if the foreign classification society
2 has offices and maintains records in the United
3 States.

4 “(e) RULEMAKING PROCEDURE.—The Secretary may
5 initiate a rulemaking procedure to implement this stand-
6 ard.

7 “(f) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Nothing in this section
8 shall be interpreted to affect requirements related to mer-
9 chant seamen credentials under part E of subtitle II of
10 this title or the requirements related to manning of vessels
11 under part F of such subtitle.”.

12 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
13 for chapter 33 of title 46, United States Code, is amended
14 by striking the items relating to sections 3317 and 3318
15 and inserting the following:

 “3317. Alternate standards.

 “3318. Fees.

 “3319. Penalties.”.

16 **SEC. 432. RULEMAKING COMMITTEE ON COMMERCIAL**
17 **MARITIME REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS.**

18 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

19 (1) COVERED REGULATION.—The term “cov-
20 ered regulation”—

21 (A) means a commercial regulation or
22 standard issued by the Coast Guard relating to
23 the operation of vessels in foreign commerce, in-
24 cluding—