

1 (2) not later than 90 days after submitting the
2 report under paragraph (1)—

3 (A) initiate a rulemaking activity and
4 make such policy and guidance updates deter-
5 mined necessary by the Secretary to address the
6 consensus recommendations reached by the
7 rulemaking committee under subsection (e);

8 (B) submit a report to the appropriate
9 committees of Congress identifying the rec-
10 ommendations of the rulemaking committee
11 that require legislative changes; and

12 (C) submit a report to the Secretary of
13 State identifying recommendations of the rule-
14 making committee that require changes to trea-
15 ty requirements and regulations established by
16 the International Maritime Organization, in-
17 cluding recommendations that should inform
18 the policy of the United States as a member of
19 the International Maritime Organization.

20 **SEC. 433. AMENDMENTS TO SHIPOWNERS' LIMITATION OF**
21 **LIABILITY ACT OF 1851.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 30523 of title 46, United
23 States Code, is amended—

24 (1) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the
25 following:

1 “(a) LIMIT OF OWNER LIABILITY.—

2 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in sec-
3 tion 30524 of this title, the liability of—

4 “(A) the owner of a vessel of the United
5 States for any claim, debt, or liability described
6 in subsection (b) shall not exceed the value of
7 the vessel and pending freight; and

8 “(B) the owner of a foreign vessel for any
9 claim, debt, or liability described in subsection
10 (b) shall not exceed the amount that is 10 times
11 the value of the vessel and pending freight.

12 “(2) MULTIPLE OWNERS.—If a vessel has more
13 than one owner, the proportionate share of the liabil-
14 ity under paragraph (1) of any one such owner shall
15 not exceed that owner’s proportionate interest in the
16 vessel and pending freight.”; and

17 (2) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the
18 following:

19 “(c) CLAIMS NOT SUBJECT TO LIMITATION.—Sub-
20 section (a) does not apply to—

21 “(1) a claim for wages; or

22 “(2) with respect to the liability of an owner of
23 a foreign vessel, a claim, debt, or liability arising
24 from personal injury or wrongful death of a person
25 who was not a crewmember or passenger of the for-

1 eign vessel at the time the injury (including fatal in-
2 jury, if applicable) occurred.”.

3 (b) AMENDMENT TO CESSATION OF CERTAIN AC-
4 TIONS.—Section 30529(e) of title 46, United States Code,
5 is amended by striking “the matter in question” and in-
6 serting “a matter subject to limitation under section
7 30523”.

8 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
9 subsections (a) and (b) shall apply to any liability subject
10 to section 30523(a) of title 46, United States Code, that
11 arises on or after March 25, 2024.

12 **TITLE V—SHIPBUILDING**
13 **Subtitle A—Shipbuilding Financial**
14 **Incentives**

15 **SEC. 501. SHIPBUILDING FINANCIAL INCENTIVES.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—Part C of subtitle V of title 46,
17 United States Code, is amended by inserting after chapter
18 537 the following:

19 **“CHAPTER 538—SHIPBUILDING**
20 **FINANCIAL INCENTIVES**

21 **“§ 53801. Shipbuilding financial incentives**

22 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Maritime Adminis-
23 trator shall establish a program that, in accordance with
24 the requirements of this section, provides Federal financial
25 assistance to covered entities to—

1 “(1) aid in the construction of a vessel that
2 shall be documented under the laws of the United
3 States; or

4 “(2) incentivize a qualified shipyard investment.

5 “(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

6 “(1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CON-
7 GRESS.—The term ‘appropriate committees of Con-
8 gress’ means the Committee on Commerce, Science,
9 and Transportation and the Committee on Appro-
10 priations of the Senate and the Committee on
11 Armed Services and the Committee on Appropria-
12 tions of the House of Representatives.

13 “(2) COVERED ENTITY.—The term ‘covered en-
14 tity’ means—

15 “(A) any proposed vessel purchaser who is
16 a citizen of the United States; or

17 “(B) any shipyard of the United States
18 with the ability, experience, financial resources,
19 and other qualifications to construct or repair a
20 military vessel or a vessel to be used in the for-
21 eign commerce of the United States.

22 “(3) FOREIGN COMMERCE.—The term ‘foreign
23 commerce’ means—

24 “(A) commerce or trade between the
25 United States, its territories or possessions, or