

S 3204

Cruise Vessel Security and Safety Act of 2008

Congress: 110 (2007–2009, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Transportation and Public Works

Introduced: Jun 26, 2008

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (Jun 26, 2008)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/110th-congress/senate-bill/3204>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Kerry, John F. [D-MA]

Party: Democratic • State: MA • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jun 26, 2008

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jun 26, 2008

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Transportation and Public Works

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
110 HR 6408	Identical bill	Jun 27, 2008: Referred to the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation.

Cruise Vessel Security and Safety Act of 2008 - Sets forth cruise vessel security and safety requirements concerning: (1) vessel design and construction; (2) crew access to passenger staterooms; (3) log book entry and reporting of deaths, missing individuals, and alleged crimes; (4) database of crewmembers terminated due to commission of a crime; (5) maintenance of rape kits on board; (6) crime scene investigation training and certification for vessel crewmembers; (7) video surveillance to monitor crime; and (8) posting of certain safety information.

Sets forth penalties for violations of this Act.

Amends the Ports and Waterways Safety Act to revise the authority of the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating (Secretary) to dispatch Coast Guard personnel on vessels to deter or respond to terrorism or transportation security incidents. Authorizes use of such personnel to act as: (1) environmental observers to monitor compliance with federal laws regarding the discharge of waste into U.S. waters; and (2) public safety officers to assist vessel passengers and crew with reporting and investigation of crimes, securing of suspects, and collection of crime evidence.

Directs the Secretary to study and report to Congress on the security needs of a passenger vessel depending on the number of passengers on the vessel, with recommendations for security improvements.

Amends the Death on the High Seas Act to extend from three to 12 miles from the U.S. shore the high seas jurisdiction wherein a death by a wrongful act, neglect, or default of a person or vessel will allow the personal representative of the decedent to bring a civil action in admiralty.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 26, 2008:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jun 26, 2008:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.