

S 2924

A bill 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.

Congress: 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Transportation and Public Works

Introduced: Nov 13, 2014

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. (Nov 13, 2014)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/senate-bill/2924>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]

Party: Democratic • **State:** OH • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (8 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Boozman, John [R-AR]	R · AR		Nov 13, 2014
Sen. Landrieu, Mary L. [D-LA]	D · LA		Nov 13, 2014
Sen. McCaskill, Claire [D-MO]	D · MO		Nov 13, 2014
Sen. Portman, Rob [R-OH]	R · OH		Nov 13, 2014
Sen. Pryor, Mark L. [D-AR]	D · AR		Nov 13, 2014
Sen. Vitter, David [R-LA]	R · LA		Nov 13, 2014
Sen. Cochran, Thad [R-MS]	R · MS		Nov 17, 2014
Sen. Blunt, Roy [R-MO]	R · MO		Dec 1, 2014

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Referred To	Nov 13, 2014

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Transportation and Public Works

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
113 HR 1961	Related bill	Dec 20, 2013: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
113 S 1022	Related bill	May 22, 2013: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Amends federal shipping law to extend through October 31, 2028, the exemption of certain vessels from the requirement that U.S. passenger vessels having berth or stateroom accommodations for at least 50 passengers be constructed of fire-retardant materials in order to be granted a certificate of inspection.

Continues to apply this exemption only to vessels in operation before January 1, 1968, which operate only within the Boundary Line (the dividing point between inland waters and high seas).

Requires the owner or managing operator of an exempt vessel to:

- notify crew members that the vessel does not comply with applicable fire safety standards due primarily to the wooden construction of passenger berthing areas, and
- make annual structural alterations to at least 10% of vessel areas that are not constructed of fire-retardant materials.

Requires any noncombustible material requirements prescribed by the Coast Guard (with which an exempt vessel is still required to comply) to be consistent with the preservation of a vessel's historic integrity in areas carrying or accessible to passengers or generally visible to the public.

Actions Timeline

- **Nov 13, 2014:** Introduced in Senate
- **Nov 13, 2014:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.