Revised #87

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2647, AS REPORTED

OFFERED BY MR. CUMMINGS OF MARYLAND

After section 3505 insert the following new section (and redesignate accordingly):

SEC. 3506. DEFENSE OF VESSELS AND CARGOS AGAINST PIRACY.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) Protecting cargoes owned by the United States Government and transported on United States-flag vessels through an area designated by the Coast Guard or the International Maritime Bureau of the International Chamber of Commerce as an area of high risk of piracy is in our national interest.

(2) Protecting United States-citizen mariners employed on United States-flag vessels transiting an area designated by the Coast Guard or the International Maritime Bureau of the international Chamber of Commerce as an area of high risk of piracy is in our national interest.

(3) Weapons and supplies that may be used to support military operations should not fall into the hands of pirates.

1 (b) EMBARKATION OF MILITARY PERSONNEL.—The
2 Secretary of Defense shall embark military personnel on
3 board a United States-flag vessel carrying Government-
4 impelled cargoes if the vessel is—
5 (1) operating in an area designated by the
6 Coast Guard or the International Maritime Bureau
7 of the International Chamber of Commerce as an
8 area of high risk of piracy; and
9 (2) determined by the Coast Guard to be at
10 risk of being boarded by pirates.
11 (c) LIMITATION ON APPLICATION.—This section shall
12 not apply with respect to an area referred to in subsection
13 (b)(1) on the earlier of—
14 (1) September 30, 2011; or
15 (2) the date on which the Secretary of Defense
16 notifies the Congress that the Secretary believes that
17 there is not a credible threat to United States-flag
18 vessels carrying Government-impelled cargoes oper-
19 ating in such area.