

30. AN AMENDMENT TO BE OFFERED BY REPRESENTATIVE CRENSHAW OF FLORIDA, OR HIS DESIGNEE, DEBATABLE FOR 10 MINUTES:

33

**AMENDMENT TO H.R. 1588, AS REPORTED
OFFERED BY MR. CRENSHAW OF FLORIDA**

At the end of subtitle D of title XXXV (page 627,
after line 25), add the following:

1 **SEC. . AUTHORITY TO CONVEY NDRF VESSELS AND VES-**
2 **SEL CONTENTS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other law,
4 the Secretary of Transportation may convey the right,
5 title, and interest of the United States Government in and
6 to any or all of the vessels USS ORION (AS-18), USS
7 HOWARD W. GILMORE (AS-16), USS SPERRY (AS-
8 12), USS NEREUS (AS-17), USS PROTEUS (XAS-19),
9 and S.S. HATTIESBURG VICTORY (number 248651),
10 a barge and its inventoried contents (YFNB 4, also known
11 as SSE-512), and the contents (Victory class spares) that
12 have been removed from the S.S. CATAWBA VICTORY,
13 to Beauchamp Tower Corporation (a not-for-profit cor-
14 poration, in this section referred to as the “recipient”) for
15 use as moored support ships for the corporation and as
16 memorials to the Fulton class ships and the Victory class
17 ships, if—

- 18 (1) the vessel is not used for commercial trans-
19 portation purposes;



1 (2) the recipient agrees to make the vessel
2 available to the Government when the Secretary re-
3 quires use of the vessel by the Government;

4 (3) the recipient agrees that when the recipient
5 no longer requires the vessel for use as a moored
6 support ship for the corporation and as a memorial
7 to the Fulton class ships and the Victory class
8 ships—

9 (A) the recipient shall, at the discretion of
10 the Secretary, reconvey the vessel to the Gov-
11 ernment in good condition except for ordinary
12 wear and tear; or

13 (B) if the Board of Trustees of the recipi-
14 ent has decided to dissolve the recipient accord-
15 ing to the laws of the State of Florida, then—

16 (i) the recipient shall distribute the
17 vessel, as an asset of the recipient, to a
18 person that has been determined exempt
19 from taxation under section 501(c)(3) of
20 the Internal Revenue Code, or to the Fed-
21 eral Government or a State or local gov-
22 ernment for a public purpose; and

23 (ii) the vessel shall be disposed of by
24 a court of competent jurisdiction of the
25 county in which the principal office of the



1 recipient is located, for such purposes as
2 the court shall determine, or to such orga-
3 nizations as the court shall determine are
4 organized exclusively for public purposes;

5 (4) the recipient agrees to hold the Government
6 harmless for any claims arising from exposure to as-
7 bestos after conveyance of the vessel, except for
8 claims arising from use by the Government under
9 paragraph (2) or (3); and

10 (5) the recipient has available, for use to re-
11 store the vessel, in the form of cash, liquid assets,
12 a written loan commitment, or financial resources—

13 (A) except as provided in subparagraph
14 (B), of at least \$1,500,000 for each vessel con-
15 veyed; and

16 (B) at least \$50,000 for each barge with
17 contents conveyed.

18 (b) DELIVERY OF VESSEL.—If a conveyance of a ves-
19 sel is made under this section, the Secretary shall deliver
20 the vessel at the place where the vessel is located on the
21 date of the enactment of this Act, in its present condition,
22 without cost to the Government.

23 (c) MANAGEMENT OF VESSELS PENDING CONVEY-
24 ANCE.—



1 (1) 2-YEAR HOLDING PERIOD.—The Secretary
2 shall remove all vessels authorized to be conveyed
3 under this section from the scrapping disposal list
4 for a period of 2 years.

5 (2) DISPOSAL AT END OF HOLDING PERIOD.—
6 If a vessel has not been received and transported
7 from its conveyance location by the recipient before
8 the end of such 2-year period, the Secretary may
9 dispose of the vessel as the Secretary determines to
10 be appropriate.

11 (3) DISPOSAL DURING HOLDING PERIOD.—Not-
12 withstanding paragraph (1), the Secretary may dis-
13 pose of a vessel authorized to be conveyed under this
14 section during the 2-year period provided for in
15 paragraph (1), if it is determined that the vessel is
16 in danger of sinking or presents an immediate crit-
17 ical hazard to the National Defense Reserve Fleet or
18 environmental safety.

19 (d) OTHER UNNEEDED EQUIPMENT.—The Secretary
20 may convey to the recipient any unneeded equipment, ma-
21 terials, and spares from other vessels or in storage with
22 the Maritime Administration and the National Defense
23 Reserve Fleet, for the recipient's use, including the res-
24 toration and refit of the vessels conveyed under this sec-
25 tion and to assist other vessel museums.



1 (e) RETENTION OF VESSEL IN NDRF.—The Sec-
2 retary shall retain in the National Defense Reserve Fleet
3 each vessel authorized to be conveyed under subsection
4 (a), until the earlier of—

5 (1) 2 years after the date of the enactment of
6 this Act; or

7 (2) the date of conveyance of the vessel under
8 subsection (a).

