

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3113

To ensure the icebreaking capabilities of the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 5, 2011

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To ensure the icebreaking capabilities of the United States.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Polar Protection Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. LONG-TERM LEASE OF POLAR CAPABLE ICE-**
6 **BREAKERS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the department
8 in which the Coast Guard is operating, subject to the
9 availability of appropriations, may use competitive proce-
10 dures to enter into leases for 2 icebreakers that meet the
11 requirements of subsection (c).

1 (b) SCHEDULE.—In exercising authority under sub-
2 section (a), the Secretary shall—

3 (1) publish a request for proposals not later
4 than 90 days after the date of enactment of this
5 Act;

6 (2) require submission of proposals not later
7 than 180 days after the date of enactment of this
8 Act;

9 (3) make the final selection of proposals not
10 later than 279 days after the date of enactment of
11 this Act; and

12 (4) require that each icebreaker leased under
13 this section begin service not later than 3 years after
14 the date the proposal for the icebreaker is selected.

15 (c) LEASE DURATION.—Each lease entered into
16 under this section shall be for a period of not less than
17 10 years.

18 (d) LEASE DURATION.—In addition to such other re-
19 quirements as are established by the Secretary, each lease
20 entered into under this section shall require that—

21 (1) the vessel subject to the lease shall—

22 (A) be owned and operated by a private
23 entity;

24 (B) meet the Polar Class 1 requirements
25 for year round operations contained in the ABS

1 Guide for Building and Classing Vessels in-
2 tended for Navigation in Polar Waters, 2008;
3 and

4 (C) be built in the United States; and

5 (2) the person entering the lease with the Sec-
6 retary shall—

7 (A) maintain the vessel that is subject to
8 the lease solely in shipyards located in the
9 United States;

10 (B) ensure that such vessel is available for
11 service not less than 300 days per year;

12 (C) comply with the delivery requirement
13 under subsection (b)(4); and

14 (D) be able to carry out the purpose of
15 section 307(a) of the Coast Guard Authoriza-
16 tion Act of 2010 (14 U.S.C. 92 note).

○