

**Calendar No. 404**110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION**S. 1640**

To amend chapter 13 of title 17, United States Code (relating to the vessel hull design protection), to clarify the definitions of a hull and a deck.

---

## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 18, 2007

Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. KOHL, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

OCTOBER 4, 2007

Reported by Mr. LEAHY, without amendment

---

**A BILL**

To amend chapter 13 of title 17, United States Code (relating to the vessel hull design protection), to clarify the definitions of a hull and a deck.

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. VESSEL HULL DESIGN PROTECTION.**

4 (a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This section may be cited as the  
5 “Vessel Hull Design Protection Amendments of 2007”.

1 (b) DESIGNS PROTECTED.—Section 1301(a) of title  
2 17, United States Code, is amended by striking paragraph  
3 (2) and inserting the following:

4 “(2) VESSEL FEATURES.—The design of a ves-  
5 sel hull, deck, or combination of a hull and deck, in-  
6 cluding a plug or mold, is subject to protection  
7 under this chapter, notwithstanding section  
8 1302(4).”.

9 (c) DEFINITIONS.—Section 1301(b) of title 17,  
10 United States Code, is amended—

11 (1) in paragraph (2), by striking “vessel hull,  
12 including a plug or mold,” and inserting “vessel hull  
13 or deck, including a plug or mold,”;

14 (2) by striking paragraph (4) and inserting the  
15 following:

16 “(4) A ‘hull’ is the exterior frame or body of a  
17 vessel, exclusive of the deck, superstructure, masts,  
18 sails, yards, rigging, hardware, fixtures, and other  
19 attachments.”; and

20 (3) by adding at the end the following:

21 “(7) A ‘deck’ is the horizontal surface of a ves-  
22 sel that covers the hull, including exterior cabin and  
23 cockpit surfaces, and exclusive of masts, sails, yards,  
24 rigging, hardware, fixtures, and other attachments.”.



**Calendar No. 404**

110<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> Session  
**S. 1640**

---

**A BILL**

To amend chapter 13 of title 17, United States Code (relating to the vessel hull design protection), to clarify the definitions of a hull and a deck.

---

OCTOBER 4, 2007

Reported without amendment