

A BILL

To abolish the United States Coast Guard, repeal section 101 of title 14, United States Code, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “United States Coast Guard Abolition Act of 2026”.

SECTION 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

- (1) The United States Coast Guard (USCG), a component of the Department of Homeland Security, conducts maritime law enforcement, search and rescue, marine safety and environmental regulation, and port security, and operates as a military service within the Department of Homeland Security in peacetime.
- (2) By performing domestic regulatory and law enforcement functions in peacetime as a separate service outside the Navy, the Coast Guard carries out civil and domestic functions that extend beyond the power “To provide and maintain a Navy” in Article I, Section 8, Clause 13 and beyond the power “To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces” in Clause 14.
- (3) The functions of the Coast Guard are not “necessary and proper for carrying into Execution” any power vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States and therefore find no support in Article I, Section 8, Clause 18, which Madison in Federalist No. 44 described as a means of executing powers already granted rather than a source of new ones, as the Anti-Federalist writer Brutus warned in his first essay of 1787 it would otherwise become.
- (4) By boarding and searching vessels without warrants or individualized suspicion, the Coast Guard infringes the Fourth Amendment’s protection of “the right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures,” and its requirement that no warrants shall issue “but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.”
- (5) By imposing civil penalties for regulatory violations, the Coast Guard subjects Americans to penalties and forfeitures that may be grossly disproportionate to any offense, contrary to the Eighth Amendment’s command that excessive fines shall not be “imposed.”

(6) In carrying out its functions, the Coast Guard disregards the Ninth Amendment, which provides that “The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people,” including the right of the people to order their own lives, property, and affairs free of federal direction in matters the Constitution does not commit to the Federal Government.

(7) The Constitution delegates to the United States no power over domestic waters and policing within the States. By performing domestic law enforcement and regulatory functions in peacetime outside the naval forces, the Coast Guard exercises powers that the Tenth Amendment reserves “to the States respectively, or to the people,” contrary to Federalist No. 45, in which Madison described the powers delegated to the Federal Government as “few and defined” and those remaining in the States as “numerous and indefinite.”

(8) The Declaration of Independence affirms that governments are instituted to secure the unalienable rights of the people and derive “their just powers from the consent of the governed,” and it charged the Crown with having “erected a multitude of New Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harass our people, and eat out their substance.” The Coast Guard perpetuates the centralized administration the Declaration condemned. The Declaration likewise condemned keeping “among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies without the Consent of our legislatures” and the effort “to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil power.”

(9) Abolishing the United States Coast Guard and repealing section 101 of title 14, United States Code, will reduce the size and cost of the Federal Government, return to the States and to the people the powers the Constitution reserves to them, and restore the constitutional principles of limited government and enumerated powers.

SECTION 3. ABOLITION OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD.

(a) In General.—The United States Coast Guard, a component of the Department of Homeland Security, is hereby abolished effective immediately following the enactment of this Act.

(b) Wind-Down Operations.—Immediately following the enactment of this Act, the President shall designate an appropriate official to expeditiously wind down the operations of the United States Coast Guard, ceasing all functions, except that functions of the naval forces of the United States, as authorized by Article I, Section 8, Clauses 13 and 14 of the Constitution, shall be transferred to such other department or officer of the United States as determined by such official.

(c) Transfer of Assets and Liabilities.—All assets, liabilities, contracts, property, and records of the United States Coast Guard shall be transferred to the designated official under subsection (b) for appropriate disposition.

(d) Employee Transition.—Employees of the United States Coast Guard, and members of the armed forces assigned to it, shall be offered opportunities for reassignment within the federal government, including, for members of the armed forces, transfer to the naval forces of the

United States or to the militia of the several States, or provided with severance and retraining assistance as prescribed by existing federal law.

SECTION 4. REPEAL OF PROVISIONS OF LAW ESTABLISHING THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD.

(a) In General.—Section 101 of title 14, United States Code, and any other provision of law establishing the United States Coast Guard or vesting functions in the United States Coast Guard, are hereby repealed.

(b) Conforming Amendments.—The United States Code and all other relevant Federal laws are amended by—

(1) striking all references to the United States Coast Guard and to any office, officer, or function established in or vested in the United States Coast Guard;

(2) reassigning only functions of the naval forces of the United States, as authorized by Article I, Section 8, Clauses 13 and 14 of the Constitution, in accordance with section 3(b), and terminating every other function of the United States Coast Guard; and

(3) making such other conforming changes as necessary to reflect the repeal and the permanent abolition of the United States Coast Guard.

(c) Effective Date.—The repeal under this section shall take effect immediately following the enactment of this Act.

SECTION 5. TRANSITION PROVISIONS.

(a) No Restoration of Prior Structures.—No element of the United States Coast Guard shall revert to its organizational structure as it existed prior to the establishment of the United States Coast Guard, and no function of the United States Coast Guard shall be restored to any predecessor department, agency, or office.

(b) Permanent Abolition.—No department, agency, office, or other entity shall be established to carry out the functions of the United States Coast Guard abolished by this Act, other than the enumerated functions transferred under section 3(b).

SECTION 6. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision of this Act, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held invalid, the remainder of the Act and the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.