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(Original Signature of Member)

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act to provide
a definition of recreational vessel for purposes of such Act.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. BYRNE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee
on _____

A BILL

To amend the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation
Act to provide a definition of recreational vessel
for purposes of such Act.

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 “Longshore and Harbor
5 Workers’ Compensation Clarification Act of 2017”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITION OF RECREATIONAL VESSEL.**

2 (a) DEFINITION.—Section 2 of the Longshore and
3 Harbor Workers’ Compensation Act (33 U.S.C. 902) is
4 amended—

5 (1) by redesignating paragraph (22) as para-
6 graph (23); and

7 (2) by inserting after paragraph (21) the fol-
8 lowing:

9 “(22)(A) The term ‘recreational vessel’ means a
10 vessel—

11 “(i) being manufactured or operated pri-
12 marily for pleasure; or

13 “(ii) leased, rented, or chartered to an-
14 other for the latter’s pleasure.

15 “(B) In applying the definition in subparagraph
16 (A), the following rules apply:

17 “(i) A vessel being manufactured or built,
18 or being repaired under warranty by its manu-
19 facturer or builder, is a recreational vessel if
20 the vessel appears intended, based on its design
21 and construction, to be for ultimate recreational
22 uses. The manufacturer or builder bears the
23 burden of establishing that a vessel is rec-
24 reational under this standard.

25 “(ii) A vessel being repaired, dismantled
26 for repair, or dismantled at the end of its life

1 will be treated as recreational at the time of re-
2 pair, dismantling for repair, or dismantling,
3 provided that such vessel shares elements of de-
4 sign and construction of traditional recreational
5 vessels and is not normally engaged in a mili-
6 tary, commercial, or traditionally commercial
7 undertaking.

8 “(iii) A vessel will be treated as a rec-
9 reational vessel if it is a public vessel, such as
10 a vessel owned or chartered and operated by the
11 United States, or by a State or political subdivi-
12 sion thereof, at the time of repair, dismantling
13 for repair, or dismantling, provided that such
14 vessel shares elements of design and construc-
15 tion with traditional recreational vessels and is
16 not normally engaged in a military, commercial,
17 or traditionally commercial undertaking.”.

18 (b) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 90 days after the
19 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Labor shall
20 revise the regulations in section 701.501 of title 20, Code
21 of Federal Regulations, by deleting the text of subsections
22 (a) and (b) of such section and replacing it with only the
23 text of the definition of recreational vessel in section 2(22)
24 of the Longshore and Harbor Workers’ Compensation Act,
25 as added by subsection (a).