

**AMENDMENT TO THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN**  
**ACT OF 2021**  
**OFFERED BY MISS GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN OF PUERTO**  
**RICO**

At the end of subtitle A of title VII, add the following:

**1 SEC. 7008. MARITIME TASK FORCE.**

2 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a Mari-  
3 time Task Force to address the health and safety of pas-  
4 sengers, crew, and associated workers, logistical issues re-  
5 lating to the continuation of maritime travel, and the re-  
6 sumption of cruise operations, including navigation safety,  
7 in United States waters during the COVID–19 public  
8 health emergency.

9 (b) MEMBERSHIP.—The Maritime Task Force shall  
10 consist of the following members, or their designees:

11 (1) The Secretary of the department in which  
12 the Coast Guard is operating, who shall serve as the  
13 chair of the Task Force.

14 (2) The Secretary of Homeland Security, dur-  
15 ing any period in which the Coast Guard is oper-  
16 ating as a service in the Navy.

17 (3) The Secretary of Commerce.

1 (4) The Secretary of Transportation.

2 (5) The Secretary of Health and Human Serv-  
3 ices.

4 (6) The Director of the Centers for Disease  
5 Control and Prevention.

6 (7) The Secretary of State.

7 (8) The Administrator of the Environmental  
8 Protection Agency.

9 (9) The Chairman of the Federal Maritime  
10 Commission.

11 (10) The Chair of the National Economic  
12 Council of the United States.

13 (c) DUTIES.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Maritime Task Force  
15 shall meet in-person or virtually during the duration  
16 of the COVID–19 public health emergency to de-  
17 velop a plan containing information about the re-  
18 quirements and protocols that each Federal agency  
19 represented on the Maritime Task Force will imple-  
20 ment to address the health, safety, security, and  
21 logistical issues relating to the continuation of mari-  
22 time travel in United States waters during the  
23 COVID–19 public health emergency, and with re-  
24 spect to the resumption of cruise operations and in-

1           creased passenger maritime travel after the COVID–  
2           19 public health emergency ends.

3           (2) PRIVATE SECTOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
4           RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not more than—

5                   (A) 10 days after receiving the written rec-  
6                   ommendations from the private sector advisory  
7                   committee under section 2(e), the Chair of the  
8                   Maritime Task Force shall call an in-person or  
9                   virtual meeting between the private sector advi-  
10                  sory committee and the Maritime Task Force;

11                   (B) 10 days after the meeting under sub-  
12                   paragraph (A), the Chair of the Maritime Task  
13                   Force shall publish the plan required under  
14                   paragraph (1) in the Federal Register; and

15                   (C) 30 days after publication of such plan  
16                   in the Federal Register, each Federal agency  
17                   represented on the Maritime Task Force shall  
18                   begin implementing the plan developed under  
19                   paragraph (1), including taking necessary ad-  
20                   ministrative actions to implement the require-  
21                   ments and protocols of the plan.

22           (d) COVID–19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY.—In  
23           this title, the term “COVID–19 public health emergency”  
24           means the public health emergency related to the  
25           coronavirus that has been declared by the Secretary of

1 Health and Human Services pursuant to section 319 of  
2 the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d).

3 **SEC. \_\_\_\_ . PRIVATE SECTOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 7 days after the  
5 date of enactment of this title, the Chair of the Maritime  
6 Task Force shall establish, and nominate representatives  
7 to, a private sector advisory committee to work in con-  
8 sultation with the Maritime Task Force.

9 (b) COMPOSITION.—The private sector advisory com-  
10 mittee shall consist of the following members:

11 (1) Two representatives from the passenger  
12 cruise line industry.

13 (2) One representative from the harbor pilots  
14 industry.

15 (3) Two representatives from longshoremen  
16 unions.

17 (4) One representatives from the travel agent  
18 industry.

19 (5) One representative from a port council.

20 (6) One representative from vessel and cargo  
21 operations.

22 (7) One representative from a small business  
23 whose primary income is derived from working with  
24 a port or cruise company.

1           (8) One representative who is a nongovern-  
2           mental medical health professional with expertise in  
3           infectious diseases.

4           (c) DUTIES.—Not later than 15 days after the ap-  
5           pointment of all members of the private sector advisory  
6           committee, the private sector advisory committee shall  
7           submit written recommendations to the Maritime Task  
8           Force established under section 2 on policies and proce-  
9           dures to be adopted for the safe resumption of the cruise  
10          line industry during and after the COVID–19 public  
11          health emergency, including providing recommendations  
12          about—

13                 (1) best scientific practices;

14                 (2) measures adopted in other travel industries  
15                 that may be adapted for the cruise line industry;  
16                 and

17                 (3) general matters affecting the safe and rea-  
18                 sonable resumption of cruise line activity.

19           (d) ADMINISTRATION.—

20                 (1) EMPLOYEE STATUS.—A member of the pri-  
21                 vate sector advisory committee shall not be consid-  
22                 ered an employee of the Federal Government by rea-  
23                 son of service on such committee, except for the pur-  
24                 poses of the following:

1 (A) Chapter 81 of title 5, United States  
2 Code.

3 (B) Chapter 171 of title 28, United States  
4 Code, and an other Federal law relating to tort  
5 liability.

6 (2) ACCEPTANCE OF VOLUNTEER SERVICES.—  
7 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a mem-  
8 ber of the private sector advisory committee shall  
9 serve on such committee on a voluntary basis with-  
10 out pay.

11 (3) STATUS OF MEMBERS.—With respect to a  
12 member of the committee whom the Chair of the  
13 Maritime Task Force appoints to represent an entity  
14 or group—

15 (A) the member is authorized to represent  
16 the interests of the applicable entity or group;  
17 and

18 (B) requirements under Federal law that  
19 would interfere with such representation and  
20 that apply to a special Government employee  
21 (as defined in section 202(a) of title 18, United  
22 States Code), including requirements relating to  
23 employee conduct, political activities, ethics,  
24 conflicts of interest, and corruption, do not  
25 apply to the member.

1 (4) SERVICE ON COMMITTEE.—

2 (A) PROHIBITION.—The Chair of the Mar-  
3 itime Task Force shall not seek, consider, or  
4 otherwise use information concerning the polit-  
5 ical affiliation of an appointee in making an ap-  
6 pointment to the committee.

7 (B) SERVICE AT PLEASURE OF THE  
8 CHAIR.—Each member of the committee shall  
9 serve at the pleasure of the Chair of the Mari-  
10 time Task Force.

11 (5) SECURITY BACKGROUND EXAMINATIONS.—  
12 The Chair of the Maritime Task Force may require  
13 an individual to have passed an appropriate security  
14 background examination before appointment to the  
15 committee.

16 (6) PROHIBITION.—A Federal employee may  
17 not be appointed as a member of the committee.

18 (7) STAFF SERVICES.—The Chair of the Mari-  
19 time Task Force shall furnish to the committee any  
20 staff and services considered by the Chair of the  
21 Maritime Task Force to be necessary for the con-  
22 duct of the committee's functions and may accept  
23 staff and services from the members of the Maritime  
24 Task Force.

1           (8) TERMINATION.—The committee shall termi-  
2           nate upon conclusion of the COVID–19 public health  
3           emergency.

