SEC. 10. STUDY ON ALTERNATIVE VESSEL DESIGN FOR IMPROVED OPERATIONS AND SHOCK IMPACT MITIGATION ON SPECIAL OPERATIONS Personnel HEALTH AND FATIGUE.

(a) Study Required.—The Secretary of Defense, in cooperation with the Commander of the United States Special Operations Command, shall conduct an operational performance study on alternative vessels with M-shape hull designs for reduction of wave slap, mitigation of shock impact on special operations forces, and improved operational and cost efficiencies.

(b) Elements.—The study conducted under subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) Operational field testing of—

(A) physical health and fatigue metrics of personnel as baseline for transport on existing vessels and a comparative assessment of personnel health and fatigue upon being trans-
ported on alternative vessels with M-shape hull designs;

(B) increased sustained speeds; and

(C) improved turn radius and stability for payload targeting.

(2) A comparative cost assessment of the operation and maintenance of existing and M-shape hull vessels.

(e) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report containing the results of the study required under subsection (a).