



Marine Safety Information Bulletin

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U.S. Coast Guard Announces Publication of Proposed Rule for Uninspected Commercial Barges

The U.S. Coast Guard announces the publication in the *Federal Register* of the Lifesaving Devices -- Uninspected Commercial Barges and Sailing Vessels notice of proposed rulemaking.

Through this rulemaking the Coast Guard is proposing to amend Title 46 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) to align with section 619 of the 2010 Coast Guard Authorization Act, which brought uninspected commercial barges and sailing vessels that do not carry passengers for hire within the scope of a statute that requires the Department of Homeland Security to regulate lifesaving devices on uninspected vessels.

The effect of this proposed rule would be to require all uninspected vessel operators, including the operators of barges and sailing vessels, to either keep personal flotation devices (PFDs) on board for all personnel or ensure that personnel don PFDs and keep them on while on board.

The NPRM and related materials may be reviewed online at <http://www.regulations.gov>, docket number: USCG-2012-0919.

For more information on this rule making, please contact Mr. Martin Jackson by telephone (202) 372-1391, or e-mail Martin.L.Jackson@uscg.mil.

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