

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1423

To provide authorization for nonpecuniary damages in an action resulting from a cruise ship voyage occurring on the high seas.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 10, 2025

Mrs. FISCHER (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. RICKETTS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

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## A BILL

To provide authorization for nonpecuniary damages in an action resulting from a cruise ship voyage occurring on the high seas.

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 “Hammers’ Law”.

5       **SEC. 2. LIMITATIONS IN CERTAIN CASES.**

6       (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 30307 of title 46, United  
7       States Code, is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking “**Commercial aviation accidents**” and inserting “**Limitations in certain cases**”;

(2) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the following:

“(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) CRUISE SHIP.—The term ‘cruise ship’ means a passenger vessel, other than a vessel of the United States operated by the Federal Government or a vessel owned and operated by a State, that—

“(A) is authorized to carry at least 250 passengers;

“(B) has onboard sleeping facilities for each passenger;

“(C) is on a voyage that embarks or disembarks passengers in the United States; and

“(D) is not engaged on a coastwise voyage.

“(2) NONPECUNIARY DAMAGES.—The term ‘nonpecuniary damages’ means damages for loss of care, comfort, and companionship.”;

(3) in subsection (b), by inserting “or cruise ship voyage” after “commercial aviation”; and

(4) in subsection (c), by inserting “or cruise ship voyage” after “commercial aviation”.

1       (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
2 for chapter 303 of title 46, United States Code, is amend-  
3 ed by striking the item relating to section 30307 and in-  
4 serting the following:

“30307. Limitations in certain cases.”.

