117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

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

_____

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

_____

Mrs. FISCHER (for herself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) introduced the following
bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on
_____

_____

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   (1) in the section heading, by striking "**Com-**

2   **mercial aviation accidents**" and inserting

3   "**Limitations in certain cases**";

4   (2) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the

5   following:

6   "(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

7   "(1) CRUISE SHIP.—The term 'cruise ship'

8   means a passenger vessel, other than a vessel of the

9   United States operated by the Federal Government

10   or a vessel owned and operated by a State, that—

11   "(A) is authorized to carry at least 250

12   passengers;

13   "(B) has onboard sleeping facilities for

14   each passenger;

15   "(C) is on a voyage that embarks or dis-

16   embarks passengers in the United States; and

17   "(D) is not engaged on a coastwise voyage.

18   "(2) NONPECUNIARY DAMAGES.—The term

19   'nonpecuniary damages' means damages for loss of

20   care, comfort, and companionship.";

21   (3) in subsection (b), by inserting "or cruise

22   ship voyage" after "commercial aviation"; and

23   (4) in subsection (c), by inserting "or cruise

24   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.".