118TH CONGRESS
1ST 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.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Hammers' Law''.

SEC. 2. LIMITATIONS IN CERTAIN CASES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 30307 of title 46, United 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''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 303 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to section 30307 and inserting the following:

"30307. Limitations in certain cases.".