

TITLE 33 - NAVIGATION AND NAVIGABLE WATERS
CHAPTER 38 - DUMPING OF MEDICAL WASTE BY PUBLIC VESSELS

§ 2503. Prohibition

After 6 months after November 18, 1988, no public vessel shall dispose of potentially infectious medical waste into ocean waters unless—

- (1) (A) the health or safety of individuals on board the vessel is threatened; or
(B) during time of war or a declared national emergency;
- (2) the waste is disposed of beyond 50 nautical miles from the nearest land; and
- (3) (A) in the case of a public vessel which is not a submersible, the waste is sterilized, properly packaged, and sufficiently weighted to prevent the waste from coming ashore after disposal; and
(B) in the case of a public vessel which is a submersible, the waste is properly packaged and sufficiently weighted to prevent the waste from coming ashore after disposal.

(Pub. L. 100–688, title III, § 3104, Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4152.)