

1971 No. 1423 (C.36)

MERCHANT SHIPPING

**The Merchant Shipping (Oil Pollution) Act 1971
(Commencement) Order 1971**

Made - - - *26th August 1971*

The Secretary of State in exercise of the powers conferred on him by section 21(3) of the Merchant Shipping (Oil Pollution) Act 1971^(a) hereby orders as follows :—

1. This Order may be cited as the Merchant Shipping (Oil Pollution) Act 1971 (Commencement) Order 1971.

2. The provisions of the Merchant Shipping (Oil Pollution) Act 1971 specified in the Schedule to this Order shall come into operation on 9th September 1971.

Anthony Grant,
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State,
Department of Trade and Industry.

26th August 1971.

SCHEDULE

Provisions of the Act	Subject matter of provisions
Section 1 excluding subsection (2) ..	Liability for oil pollution damage in the United Kingdom.
Section 2	Exceptions from liability under section 1.
Section 3	Restriction of liability for oil pollution damage.
Section 9	Extinguishment of claims arising under section 1 after specified period.
Section 13 subsection (1)	Jurisdiction of courts over claims arising under section 1.
Section 14 subsection (1)	Government ships.

(a) 1971 c. 59.

Provisions of the Act	Subject matter of provisions
Section 15	Liability for cost of preventive measures where section 1 does not apply.
Section 16	Recourse actions.
Sections 17, 18, 20 and 21	Miscellaneous provisions.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Order.)

This Order brings into force the provisions of the Merchant Shipping (Oil Pollution) Act 1971 specified in the Schedule. These impose strict liability on the owners of ships carrying persistent oil in bulk as cargo for oil pollution damage caused by oil from their ships. They also deal with liability for the cost of preventive measures taken to prevent or reduce oil pollution damage in cases where section 1 does not apply, extinguishment of liability under section 1, jurisdiction in relation to claims under section 1 and miscellaneous provisions.