

## CHAPTER 277

## THE MERCHANT SEAMEN'S DISCIPLINE ACT

Arrangement of Sections  
Section

1. Short title.
2. Neglecting to join ship, deserting or joining in state of drunkenness.
3. Recovery of penalties.

## MERCHANT SEAMEN'S DISCIPLINE

(26th February, 1918.)

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20/1973.

**1.** This Act may be cited as the Merchant Seamen's Discipline Act. **Short title.**

**2.** (1) If whilst within the jurisdiction a seaman lawfully engaged in accordance with the Merchant Shipping Acts 1894 to 1914, to serve on board any ship or vessel belonging to or chartered, hired or requisitioned by the Admiralty, or Army Council, or the Shipping Controller—

**Neglecting to join ship, deserting or joining in state of drunkenness.**

(a) neglects or refuses without reasonable cause to join his ship or vessel, or to proceed to sea in his ship or vessel, or deserts or is absent without leave from his ship or vessel or from his duty at any time; or

(b) joins his ship or vessel, or is whilst on board his ship or vessel in a state of drunkenness so that the performance of his duties or the navigation of his ship or vessel is thereby impeded;

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he shall be guilty of an offence.

(2) If such seaman is brought before a Court on a charge of having committed an offence under this section, he shall, if the offence comes within the provisions of paragraph (a) be liable to a fine not exceeding fifteen hundred dollars, and if the offence comes within the provisions of paragraph (b) he shall be liable to a fine not exceeding two hundred and fifty dollars.

Recovery of penalties.

**3.** All penalties under this Act shall be recoverable on summary conviction.

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