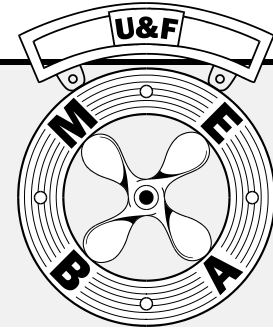


LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

JULY 2018



Subcommittee Advances Bill Fully Funding MSP

The Senate Subcommittee on Transportation Housing and Urban Development on the Senate Appropriations Committee approved a Defense bill that funds the Maritime Security Program at its fully authorized level (\$300 million) for Fiscal Year 2019. It is expected the Senate will pass this legislation (the National Defense Authorization Act) which matches full funding for the MSP in its House counterpart.

Senate Companion Bill to Energizing American Shipbuilding Act

Senator Roger Wicker (R-Miss.) has introduced a Senate version of the “Energizing American Shipbuilding Act,” legislation requiring a percentage of exported American crude oil and LNG to travel on U.S.-built and U.S.-flag ships. The bill, S. 2916, is the companion to the Rep. John Garamendi (D-CA)-led effort in the House – H.R. 5893. Sen. Wicker is the Chairman of the Senate Seapower Subcommittee and a member of the Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety and Security.

The bills would require that 2% of LNG exports travel on U.S.-built vessels by 2024 ramping up to 15% in 2040. Crude exports would travel on U.S.-built ships beginning at 1% in 2023 ramping up to 10% in 2032. The bills also provide for training opportunities for U.S. mariners to ensure their readiness for these future job opportunities.

“Rebuilding America’s shipbuilding and mariner base is an idea that unites Democrats, Republicans, metallurgical trades, the business community, labor, and our armed forces,” said Rep. Garamendi. “These industries are not only vital to our economy—they’re vital to our country’s national security. Congress has neglected our maritime industry for too long, to the point that we’re now several dozen merchant ships and 1,800 mariners short of what’s needed to guarantee sufficient sealift support in times of crisis. This bill seeks to turn the ship around by taking advantage of America’s energy export boom to bring back American shipbuilding, shipyard, and mariner jobs rather than continuing to outsource them to countries like China. I believe this bill is the start of a long-term reinvestment in the idea of America as a maritime, seafaring nation.”

You can visit a Navy League weblink to voice your support for the legislation to your Congressional delegation. It’ll take less than two minutes - visit <https://tinyurl.com/shipletter> and help drum up support for this positive initiative.