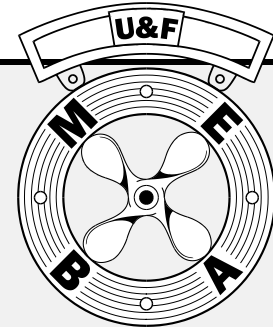


LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

JUNE 2018



Congressman John Garamendi (D-CA) is redoubling efforts to advance the U.S. Merchant Marine with the launch of a revamped version of his previous bill to jumpstart U.S.-flag energy exports. H.R. 5893, the “Energizing American Shipbuilding Act” is a bill to require a percentage of exported American crude oil and LNG to travel on U.S.-built and U.S.-flag ships. At a Maritime Day press conference, the Congressman said the bipartisan, bi-cameral effort would lead to the creation of 50 new U.S. tankers and create thousands of manufacturing and maritime jobs by 2040. Several Republican and Democratic lawmakers showed support for the bill at the press conference and Sen. Roger Wicker (R-MS) mentioned his plans to introduce an identical measure in the Senate. Advocates of U.S. shipping and shipbuilding packed the room during the announcement, and several maritime industry representatives, including M.E.B.A. Secretary-Treasurer Bill Van Loo, addressed attendees while lending boisterous support for the new bill.

The bill is similar to earlier legislation introduced by Rep. Garamendi but supplemented by more defined U.S. shipbuilding provisions along with adjusted percentages of exports required to be carried on U.S.-flag vessels. The bill would require that 2% of LNG exports travel on U.S.-built vessels in 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 bill also provides for training opportunities for U.S. mariners to ensure their readiness for these future job opportunities.

The effort begins to drum up support and co-sponsors for the legislation in both House and Senate. You can help by visiting a new Navy League online link that will allow you to easily voice your support for the bill.

The link will help you dispatch a letter – which you have the option to tailor – to your Congressional delegation. It’ll take less than two minutes - visit <https://tinyurl.com/shipletter> and help drum up support for this great new bill.