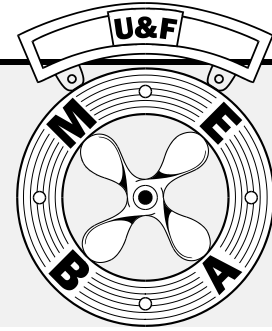


# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

OCTOBER 2019



## House Passes Bill to Award Congressional Gold Medal for WWII Merchant Mariners

On September 19<sup>th</sup>, the U.S. House of Representatives unanimously approved Congressman Garamendi's (D-CA) bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the U.S. Merchant Mariners of World War II, in recognition of their dedicated service in sustaining our armed forces. While the legislation has been received in the Senate, M.E.B.A. members are encouraged to contact their Senators to co-sponsor the upper chamber's companion bill, S. 133, introduced by Senator Murkowski of Alaska, to advance the legislation on the President's desk.

If your Senator(s) has not yet supported the legislation, please contact them via e-mail through the Navy League of the United States at <https://bit.ly/2ozWgLq> or by calling your Senator(s) via the U.S. Capitol Switchboard at (202) 224-3121.

### Cosponsors of Senator Lisa Murkowski's S. 133:

<i>Sen. Doug Jones [D-AL]</i>	<i>Sen. Chris Van Hollen [D-MD]</i>	<i>Sen. Robert P. Casey, Jr. [D-PA]</i>
<i>Sen. Dan Sullivan [R-AK]</i>	<i>Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith [R-MS]</i>	<i>Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse [D-RI]</i>
<i>Sen. Kyrsten Sinema [D-AZ]</i>	<i>Sen. Roger F. Wicker [R-MS]</i>	<i>Sen. Mike Rounds [R-SD]</i>
<i>Sen. John Boozman [R-AR]</i>	<i>Sen. Roy Blunt [R-MO],</i>	<i>Sen. John Cornyn [R-TX]</i>
<i>Sen. Dianne Feinstein [D-CA]</i>	<i>Sen. Deb Fischer [R-NE]</i>	<i>Sen. Tim Kaine [D-VA]</i>
<i>Sen. Chris Murphy [D-CT]</i>	<i>Sen. Margaret Hassan [D-NH]</i>	<i>Sen. Maria Cantwell [D-WA]</i>
<i>Sen. Christopher Coons [D-DE]</i>	<i>Sen. Jeanne Shaheen [D-NH]</i>	<i>Sen. Patty Murray, [D-WA]</i>
<i>Sen. Marco Rubio [R-FL],</i>	<i>Sen. Chuck Schumer [D-NY]</i>	<i>Sen. Shelley Capito [R-WV]</i>
<i>Sen. Mazie Hirono [D-HI]</i>	<i>Sen. Thom Tillis [R-NC]</i>	<i>Sen. Tammy Baldwin [D-WI]</i>
<i>Sen. Jerry Moran [R-KS]</i>	<i>Sen. Kevin Cramer, [R-ND]</i>	
<i>Sen. Susan Collins [R-ME]</i>	<i>Sen. James M. Inhofe [R-OK]</i>	
<i>Sen. Angus King [I-ME]</i>	<i>Sen. Ron Wyden [D-OR]</i>	

## President Trump Signs Stopgap Spending Bill to Avoid Government Shutdown

On September 27<sup>th</sup>, President Trump signed a short-term spending bill often referred to as a "continuing resolution" that would extend both the current funding levels for the Federal government and the charter of the Export-Import Bank through November 21<sup>st</sup> of this year. The stopgap bill is intended to provide more time for House and Senate negotiations to produce comprehensive spending legislation under a bipartisan budget agreement that lifted spending caps of more than \$320 billion in both domestic and military spending over the next two years.