



17 May 2018

The Honorable John Garamendi  
2438 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

**Office of the  
National President**

Captain Jeff Cowan  
601 Teague Drive.  
Santa Paula, CA 93060-1632

Phone: 805-901-9558  
[jcowan@vcnet.com](mailto:jcowan@vcnet.com)  
[www.mastermariner.org](http://www.mastermariner.org)

Dear Congressman Garamendi,

The Council of American Master Mariners (CAMM) applauds the foresight and intention of the Energizing American Shipbuilding Act. Which represents the first significant legislation in over a decade to address the neglect of our American shipping and maritime industry has suffered. America's ports are a significant portal for the US economy providing both ingress and egress for goods, cargo, supplies, national security, and even tourism.

CAMM specifically supports the following points:

This Bill will increase our shipbuilding base and bring with it more jobs in defense critical industries that have been allowed to wither, until now. Providing good middle class jobs to service and build these ships.

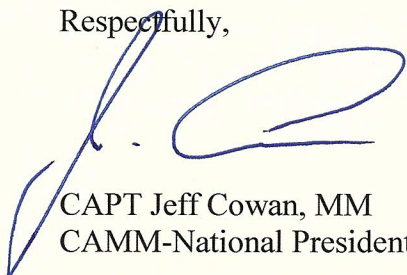
The Bill will also help ensure there will be an adequate number American Mariners in time of war and national emergency events to man the ships so vital for our nations security.

This Bill is a tremendous start to rebuilding a vital industry and make America a more prominent partner in global trade and safety while moving these crucial cargos.

The Energizing American Shipbuilding Act shall prove to be the most important Congressional Bill for our American Merchant Marine since the Jones Act.

Thank you.

Respectfully,



CAPT Jeff Cowan, MM  
CAMM-National President