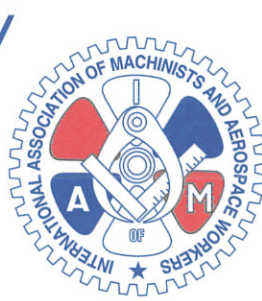


**International
Association of
Machinists and
Aerospace Workers**



9000 Machinists Place
Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772-2687

Area Code 301
967-4500



OFFICE OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

May 23, 2018

Dear Representative,

On behalf of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM), I am writing to urge you to support Congressman John Garamendi's important job creating bill, H.R. 5893, the Energizing American Shipbuilding Act. This legislation would take necessary steps to rebuild our dwindling fleet of U.S.-flag commercial vessels, create thousands of high-quality middle class jobs, bolster critical national security assets, enhance public safety, and strengthen the U.S. shipbuilding and maritime industries.

With the recent lifting of crude oil export restrictions and increased domestic natural gas production, U.S. exports of these energy assets have increased dramatically. It is estimated that in the coming years these increased export markets will require an additional 100 liquid natural gas (LNG) carriers and hundreds of oil tankers. If Congress fails to act to rebuild our inadequate U.S. fleet, all LNG and crude oil exported by the U.S will travel on foreign-built and foreign-flagged vessels.

This legislation would immediately launch an LNG and crude oil shipbuilding program in the U.S. These programs would ramp up over time; so that 15 percent of all LNG and 10 percent of all crude oil exported from the U.S. would eventually travel on U.S. built and flagged vessels. The law would also require that a significant portion of the iron, steel, and manufactured components used in these ships be U.S sourced and U.S. constructed. Additionally, the law would require that exporters create training opportunities for American workers to become credentialed mariners.

The Energizing American Shipbuilding Act would help ensure that the United States retains a solid core of skills and capabilities in both the shipbuilding and ship operating industries which are vital for the success of our domestic commercial and military shipbuilding industries. This solid core would help guarantee that the U.S. will not fall victim to the whims and dictates of foreign governments, or foreign shipping companies when we need these services most, such as in times of pressing national security concerns or natural disasters. At the same time, it would create thousands of good, middle-class jobs here in the U.S.

For all of these reasons, I strongly urge you to support this vital legislation, H.R. 5893, the Energizing American Shipbuilding Act. To become a cosponsor, please have your staff contact Emily Burns (Emily.Burns@mail.house.gov) in Representative John Garamendi's office.

If you have any questions, please contact Legislative Director Hasan Solomon at (301)967-4575.

Sincerely,

Robert Martinez, Jr.
International President, IAMAW