

International Brotherhood of  
**BOILERMAKERS • IRON SHIP BUILDERS**



**BLACKSMITHS • FORGERS & HELPERS**

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May 17, 2018

The Honorable John Garamendi  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Garamendi,

On behalf of the International Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders, Blacksmiths, Forgers and Helpers, I would like to express our strong support for the *Energizing American Shipbuilding Act (EASA)*.

For over 100 years, the Boilermakers have played an integral part in our nation's ship building industry, both in private/domestic and military construction. Unfortunately, there has been an overall decline in privately-owned U.S. flagged commercial international trading vessels in the last several decades. Our lack of capacity to build large oceangoing commercial ships, particularly LNG carriers and storage vessels, is a major concern as the majority of these orders are now being built overseas.

Ship building, both construction and maintenance, has always played a vital role in providing good paying middle-class jobs, including the downstream manufacturing/supply chain industries, all across the country. In addition to increasing U.S.-built and U.S.-flagged ocean-going vessels, your legislation's requirement for U.S.-sourced and U.S.-constructed components for newly constructed LNG and crude oil vessels is crucial to supporting our nation's industrial base. EASA would help support U.S. marine engineering expertise and the use of cutting edge ship construction technologies.

The *Energizing American Shipbuilding Act* would reaffirm our nation's commitment to our domestic maritime industry and provide important cargo opportunities for our fleet as well as further supporting a U.S. shipbuilding base that is essential to the U.S. Navy and national security requirements.

We sincerely appreciate your leadership and advocacy on behalf of the U.S. maritime industry and we look forward to working with you on this important legislation.

Fraternally,

Newton B. Jones  
International President

cc: William T. Creeden, IST  
U.S. International Vice Presidents  
Tyler E. Brown, ED-ISO  
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