



INTERNATIONAL UNION OF PAINTERS AND ALLIED TRADES, AFL-CIO

May 1, 2017

The Honorable John Garamendi
United States House of Representatives
2438 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Garamendi,

On behalf of the International Union of Painters and Allied Trade's (IUPAT) growing workforce of over 100,000 members, I write to thank you for authoring and leading the effort to pass a bill to reenergize the American shipbuilding economy. The Energizing American Shipbuilding Act is an important bill needed to develop the American shipbuilding workforce while increasing economic gains due to the exportation of liquefied natural gas.

This bill aims to foster global competition by requiring that exports of liquefied natural gas from America must be transported on vessels made in the United States. This measure will impact members of the IUPAT. Among our Union's many covered building and construction trades are industrial painters who apply paint, stain, varnish, and other finishes to industrial structures. They are able to choose the right paint or finish for the surface to be covered by taking into account durability, ease of handling, method of application and customer desires. The bi-partisan Energizing Shipbuilding and American Maritime Act benefits our members and prepares America to gain a larger market share of exports of liquefied natural gas.

Our expectation is that our work as industrial painters will also support national security requirements as laid out in Section 3502 of Public Law 113-66, which state that maintaining a U.S. Shipbuilding base is critical in the construction of vessels for use in moving potential new energy exports.

A strong maritime industry is also key to good jobs. Thousands of Americans make their living in mariner and manufacturing jobs. Including direct and indirect impacts on a nationwide basis, the total economic activity associated with the industry reached 402,010 jobs across the 50 states, \$23.9 billion in labor income and \$36 Billion in GDP during 2011. The impact of the bill would be good jobs and income for businesses and employees.

While there are ships being built in the United States, these are smaller vessels due to our eroded ability to build large oceangoing commercial ships.

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IUPAT Endorsement
The Energizing American Shipbuilding Act
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A larger share of the business book for shipbuilding is going to South Korea and China. This means that American workers will not benefit from the building of ships that will eventually export American liquefied natural gas.

The IUPAT supports this bill and we believe that if we set our course now to equip the U.S. shipbuilding industry to win future orders, the economic prospects will be great for American businesses and workers.

Our IUPAT members help shape their communities in many ways: through an abiding commitment to service and by fighting passionately for workers' rights that benefit all working families.

We are committed to supporting this bill. It works for our members and we believe that it will be great for American national security.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth E. Rigmaiden". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Kenneth E. Rigmaiden
General President