

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4951

To authorize an exception to the prohibition on the construction of naval vessels in foreign shipyards, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 12, 2025

Mr. KENNEDY of Utah introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To authorize an exception to the prohibition on the construction of naval vessels in foreign shipyards, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Ensuring Naval Readiness Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. EXCEPTION TO PROHIBITION ON CONSTRUCTION**
7 **OF NAVAL VESSELS IN FOREIGN SHIPYARDS.**

8 Section 8679 of title 10, United States Code, is
9 amended—

1 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “subsection
2 (b)” and inserting “subsections (b) and (c)”; and

3 (2) in subsection (b)—

4 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “to do
5 so.” and inserting the following: “to do so, if—

6 “(A) the foreign shipyard concerned is located
7 in a North Atlantic Treaty Organization member
8 country or a country in the Indo-Pacific Region that
9 is party to a mutual defense treaty with the United
10 States; and

11 “(B) the cost of the construction concerned is
12 less than the cost would be if such construction oc-
13 curred in a domestic shipyard.”; and

14 (B) by adding at the end the following new
15 paragraph:

16 “(3) Before the construction of a naval vessel, or a
17 major component of the hull or superstructure of a naval
18 vessel, may commence at a foreign shipyard pursuant to
19 this subsection, the Secretary of the Navy shall submit
20 to Congress a certification that the foreign shipyard is not
21 owned or operated by a Chinese company or a multi-
22 national company domiciled in the People’s Republic of
23 China.”.

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