

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5053

To prohibit reductions in the workforce at public shipyards, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 26, 2025

Mr. PAPPAS (for himself and Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To prohibit reductions in the workforce at public 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 “Protecting Public
5 Naval Shipyards Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON REDUCING THE WORKFORCE AT**
2 **PUBLIC SHIPYARDS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The workforce at public shipyards
4 and any other positions at a public shipyard not specified
5 in subsection (b) shall be exempt from any hiring freezes
6 or workforce reductions related to spending cuts, re-
7 programming of funds, or the probationary status of em-
8 ployees.

9 (b) WORKFORCE AT PUBLIC SHIPYARDS DEFINED.—
10 In this section, the term “workforce at public shipyards”
11 includes any of the following positions at a public ship-
12 yard:

- 13 (1) Welders.
- 14 (2) Pipefitters.
- 15 (3) Shipfitters.
- 16 (4) Radiological technicians and engineers.
- 17 (5) Engineers and engineer technicians.
- 18 (6) Apprentices.
- 19 (7) Positions supporting a workforce develop-
20 ment pipeline.
- 21 (8) Positions supporting nuclear maintenance
22 and refueling.
- 23 (9) Mechanics.
- 24 (10) Painters and blasters.
- 25 (11) Positions supporting maintenance and op-
26 erations of infrastructure.

1 (12) Positions supporting implementation of the
2 Shipyard Infrastructure Optimization Program.

3 (c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
4 tion may be construed to restrict the authority of the Sec-
5 retary of Defense to manage the workforce of the Depart-
6 ment of Defense under existing procedures in cases of mis-
7 conduct or poor performance.

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