
HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4002

State of Washington 67th Legislature 2022 Regular Session

By Representatives Berry, Hoff, Ryu, Sells, Valdez, Graham, Klicker, Macri, Santos, Pollet, and Frame

Prefiled 12/23/21. Read first time 01/10/22. Referred to Committee on Community & Economic Development.

1 TO THE SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES, ELECTED BY THE CITIZENS OF
2 WASHINGTON STATE, OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

3 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
4 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled,
5 respectfully represent and petition as follows:

6 WHEREAS, Washington state is committed to the development of its
7 maritime industry's role in achieving a sustainable future and
8 contributions to economic growth, ecological health, and thriving
9 communities; and

10 WHEREAS, The current global pandemic has demonstrated the
11 critical importance of maintaining resilient domestic industries and
12 transportation services to the citizens and workforce of Washington
13 state; and

14 WHEREAS, The Merchant Marine Act of 1920, known as the Jones Act
15 after Senator Wesley Jones of Washington, and codified in Title 46 of
16 the United States Code, requires that vessels carrying cargo between
17 locations in the United States be owned by American companies, crewed
18 by American mariners, and built in American shipyards; and

19 WHEREAS, Washington state is home to 22,500 maritime jobs
20 supported by the Jones Act, the sixth highest among all states, that
21 generate \$1,500,000,000 in labor income through the construction and
22 maintenance of ferries, fishing boats, and cargo vessels; and

1 WHEREAS, Maritime industry jobs create ladders of opportunity
2 through high-paying, family-wage careers that offer significant
3 career advancement without generally necessitating advanced formal
4 education and extensive student loans; and

5 WHEREAS, The more than 40,000 vessel strong Jones Act fleet
6 supports nearly 650,000 family-wage jobs and over \$154,000,000,000 in
7 economic output nationally and \$6,100,000,000 to the Washington state
8 economy;

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington state Senate
10 and House of Representatives affirm its resolute support for the
11 Jones Act and celebrate the centennial anniversary of the Jones Act
12 in fostering a strong domestic maritime industry that is critical to
13 Washington state's and the nation's economic prosperity and national
14 security; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
16 immediately transmitted to the senators and representatives, elected
17 by the citizens of Washington state, in the Congress of the United
18 States of America in Washington, D.C.

--- END ---