

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4433

To authorize amounts to be made available for improvements to the Coast Guard Yard, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 16, 2022

Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself and Mr. CARDIN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To authorize amounts to be made available for improvements to the Coast Guard Yard, 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 “Service to the Fleet
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS; PURPOSES.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
8 ings:

9 (1) For more than 100 years, the Coast Guard
10 Yard has built, repaired, and renovated ships.

1 (2) The Coast Guard Yard—

2 (A) is the sole shipbuilding facility, and a
3 major repair facility, of the Coast Guard;

4 (B) is 1 of only 5 remaining public ship-
5 yards in the United States;

6 (C) supports more than 2,000 full-time
7 personnel and their families;

8 (D) supports the Army, the Navy, the Na-
9 tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration,
10 and other Federal agencies;

11 (E) hosts the largest warehousing oper-
12 ation of the Department of Homeland Security,
13 which serves the entire Coast Guard surface
14 fleet;

15 (F) is the Coast Guard's only Navy-cer-
16 tified heavy weapons overhaul facility;

17 (G) hosts an average of 8 visiting Coast
18 Guard Cutters and vessels of other Federal
19 agencies, and their crews, at any given time;

20 (H) supports the renovation and transfer
21 of vessels and weapons systems for foreign mili-
22 tary sale; and

23 (I) provides housing, medical and emer-
24 gency services, human resources, morale, wel-
25 fare and recreation support, and other base ac-

1 activities to approximately 1,000 visiting crew
2 members annually.

3 (3) The Coast Guard Yard faces a rapid and
4 widespread failure of critical infrastructure, nearly
5 all of which was built in during a 4-year period dur-
6 ing World War II.

7 (4) Based on the grading criteria of the Amer-
8 ican Society of Civil Engineers, the overall infra-
9 structure grade for the Coast Guard Yard is a D+,
10 which is below the C- average for other Coast Guard
11 facilities.

12 (5) Infrastructure and facilities at the Coast
13 Guard Yard are failing at a rate that is faster than
14 the rate at which such infrastructure and facilities
15 can be maintained with current resources.

16 (6) Infrastructure failures at the Coast Guard
17 Yard have caused injuries, had negative environ-
18 mental impacts, reduced productivity, increased re-
19 pair costs, and undermined the ability of the Coast
20 Guard Yard to carry out its mission.

21 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

22 (1) with respect to the Coast Guard Yard—

23 (A) to improve resilience and capacity;

24 (B) to maintain and expand Coast Guard
25 organic manufacturing capacity;

- 1 (C) to expand training and recruitment;
2 (D) to enhance safety; and
3 (E) to improve environmental compliance;
4 and
5 (2) to ensure that the Coast Guard Yard is pre-
6 pared to meet the growing needs of the modern
7 Coast Guard fleet.

8 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

9 In this Act:

10 (1) COAST GUARD YARD.—The term “Coast
11 Guard Yard” means the Coast Guard Yard in Balti-
12 more, Maryland.

13 (2) COMMANDANT.—The term “Commandant”
14 means the Commandant of the Coast Guard.

15 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
16 the Secretary of the department in which the Coast
17 Guard is operating.

18 **SEC. 4. COAST GUARD YARD RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE**

19 **AND CONSTRUCTION IMPROVEMENT.**

20 (a) IN GENERAL.—Of the amounts authorized to be
21 appropriated under section 4902(2)(A)(ii) of title 14,
22 United States Code—

23 (1) \$400,000,000 shall be made available for
24 fiscal year 2023 to the Secretary for the purpose of
25 making improvements to the facilities of the Coast

1 Guard Yard to complete preparations for, and con-
2 struction of a floating drydock and phases 1 through
3 3 of the Coast Guard Shipyard Infrastructure Opti-
4 mization Plan; and

5 (2) \$232,000,000 shall be made available for
6 completion of the Coast Guard Shipyard Infrastruc-
7 ture Optimization Plan, to remain available until ex-
8 pended.

9 (b) INCLUSIONS.—In carrying out the improvements
10 referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary shall ensure
11 that such improvements include the following:

12 (1) Facilities upgrades needed to improve the
13 climate resilience of the Coast Guard Yard and asso-
14 ciated infrastructure.

15 (2) Acquisition of a large-capacity dry dock.

16 (3) Wharf improvements.

17 (4) Environmental remediation.

18 (5) Construction of a new warehouse and paint
19 facility.

20 (6) Acquisition of a new travel lift.

21 (7) Any other shore infrastructure maintenance
22 and capital improvement projects the Commandant
23 considers necessary.

1 **SEC. 5. REPORT ON WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
3 date of the enactment of the Act, the Commandant shall
4 submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and
5 Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on
6 Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Rep-
7 resentatives a report outlining workforce development
8 needs at the Coast Guard Yard with respect to civilian
9 employees and active duty members of the Coast Guard.

10 (b) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection
11 (a) shall—

12 (1) include—

13 (A) an assessment of the need for addi-
14 tional personnel with expertise in trades, engi-
15 neering, cyber, and any other field necessary to
16 meet the evolving mission of the Coast Guard
17 Yard;

18 (B) a description of the resources nec-
19 essary to re-establish an apprenticeship pro-
20 gram at the Coast Guard Yard; and

21 (C) recommendations with respect to the
22 authorities, funding, training, and recruitment
23 necessary to meet the workforce development
24 needs of the Coast Guard Yard during the 10-
25 year period beginning on the date on which the
26 report is submitted; and

1 (2) take into consideration matters of diversity
2 and inclusion in the workforce at the Coast Guard
3 Yard.

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