

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1577

To amend section 1151 of title 14, United States Code, to modify the restriction on construction of Coast Guard vessels in foreign shipyards.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 1, 2025

Ms. MURKOWSKI introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To amend section 1151 of title 14, United States Code, to modify the restriction on construction of Coast Guard vessels in foreign shipyards.

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. MODIFICATION OF RESTRICTION ON CON-**
4 **STRUCTION OF VESSELS IN FOREIGN SHIP-**
5 **YARDS.**

6 Section 1151 of title 14, United States Code, is
7 amended—

8 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “Except” and
9 inserting the following:

10 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Except”; and

1 (2) by amending subsection (b) to read as fol-
2 lows:

3 “(b) EXCEPTIONS.—

4 “(1) NATIONAL SECURITY INTEREST.—

5 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The President may
6 authorize exceptions to the prohibition in sub-
7 section (a) when the President determines that
8 it is in the national security interest of the
9 United States to do so.

10 “(B) NOTIFICATION.—The President shall
11 transmit notice to Congress of any such deter-
12 mination, and no contract may be made pursu-
13 ant to the exception authorized until the end of
14 the 30-day period beginning on the date the no-
15 tice of such determination is received by Con-
16 gress.

17 “(C) CERTIFICATION.—The President may
18 only authorize an exception under this para-
19 graph if the President, in coordination with the
20 Commandant, has certified to Congress that—

21 “(i) the foreign shipyard concerned
22 is—

23 “(I) a member of the North At-
24 lantic Treaty Organization; or

1 “(II) party to an active United
2 States defense treaty in the Indo-Pa-
3 cific region;

4 “(ii) the cost to the United States
5 Government of using such foreign shipyard
6 for construction described in subsection (a)
7 is less than the cost to the United States
8 Government of using a domestic shipyard
9 for such construction;

10 “(iii) the timeline for the design, con-
11 struction, and delivery of a vessel or major
12 component described in subsection (a)
13 from a domestic shipyard is more than 18
14 months later than the timeline for the de-
15 sign, construction, and delivery of such
16 vessel or major component from such for-
17 eign shipyard; and

18 “(iv) during the 5-year period ending
19 on the date on which the certification is
20 submitted, the foreign shipyard concerned
21 has demonstrated the capacity to design,
22 construct, and deliver a vessel capable of
23 performing the missions specified in sec-
24 tion 888(a) of the Homeland Security Act
25 of 2002 (8 U.S.C. 468(a))—

1 “(I) at a cost to the United
2 States Government that is less than
3 the cost of using a domestic shipyard;
4 and

5 “(II) within a timeline for design,
6 construction, and delivery that is less
7 than 18 months later than such a
8 timeline from a domestic shipyard.

9 “(2) ACQUISITION OF COMPLETED VESSEL.—
10 The Secretary may acquire from a foreign shipyard
11 a completed vessel if—

12 “(A) the foreign shipyard is—

13 “(i) a member of the North Atlantic
14 Treaty Organization; or

15 “(ii) party to an active United States
16 defense treaty in the Indo-Pacific region;
17 and

18 “(B) the government of the country in
19 which the foreign shipyard is located enters into
20 a warranty agreement with the United States
21 Government with respect to such vessel.”.

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