

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8054

To ensure fairness and transparency in the processes used by the Navy to award contracts for ship maintenance and repair, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 17, 2024

Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To ensure fairness and transparency in the processes used by the Navy to award contracts for ship maintenance and repair, 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 “Smart Ship Repair
5 Act of 2024” or the “SSRA of 2024”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITION OF SHORT-TERM WORK FOR PURPOSES**
2 **OF NAVY CONSTRUCTION OF COMBATANT**
3 **AND ESCORT VESSELS AND ASSIGNMENT OF**
4 **VESSEL PROJECTS.**

5 Section 8669a(c)(4) of title 10, United States Code,
6 is amended by striking “10 months” and inserting “18
7 months”.

8 **SEC. 3. STUDY ON PRICE DIFFERENTIALS USED IN NAVY**
9 **SHIP REPAIR SOLICITATIONS.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of ap-
11 propriations, the Secretary of the Navy shall seek to enter
12 into an agreement with a federally funded research and
13 development center to conduct a study to assess whether
14 relevant price differentials used by the Navy in ship repair
15 solicitations accurately reflect the true market value of the
16 activity undertaken to complete the repair work involved
17 in the absence of any such differential.

18 (b) ELEMENTS.—The study under subsection (a)
19 shall address all relevant price differentials used by the
20 Navy in ship repair solicitations, including—

21 (1) the use of Government-owned and operated
22 dry docks;

23 (2) the use of inter-port differentials; and

24 (3) the use of pier differentials.

25 (c) REPORTS.—

1 (1) FFRDC REPORT.—The federally funded re-
2 search and development center that conducts the
3 study under subsection (a) shall submit to the Sec-
4 retary of the Navy a report on the results of the
5 study.

6 (2) SUBMITTAL TO CONGRESS.—Not later than
7 September 30, 2025, the Secretary of the Navy shall
8 submit to the congressional defense committees an
9 unaltered copy of the report received by the Sec-
10 retary under paragraph (1) together with a separate
11 statement of the views of the Secretary on the re-
12 sults of the study conducted under subsection (a).

13 **SEC. 4. REPORT ON NAVY POLICY FOR SOLICITING**
14 **COASTWIDE BIDS FOR CERTAIN REPAIR**
15 **AVAILABILITIES.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than March 30, 2025,
17 the Secretary of the Navy shall submit to the congres-
18 sional defense committees a report on the policy of the
19 Navy for soliciting coastwide bids for repair availabilities
20 longer than 10 months.

21 (b) ELEMENTS.—The report under subsection (a)
22 shall include an explanation and assessment of each of the
23 following:

24 (1) The intent of the policy described in sub-
25 section (a).

1 (2) The data the Navy uses to assess the effi-
2 cacy of such policy.

3 (3) How the Navy estimates the cost of moving
4 vessels out of their home port to complete the avail-
5 ability and the actual cost of moving vessels out of
6 their home port to complete the availability.

7 (4) How the Navy estimates the financial, labor
8 force, member of the Armed Forces and family well-
9 being, berthing, and related costs associated with
10 moving a vessel out of its home port to complete a
11 repair availability longer than 10 months.

12 **SEC. 5. CONGRESSIONAL DEFENSE COMMITTEES DEFINED.**

13 In this Act, the term “congressional defense commit-
14 tees” has the meaning given that term in section
15 101(a)(16) of title 10, United States Code.

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