

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4082

To require a report on Coast Guard personnel skills transfer to the dredging sector and the importance of certain waterways to national security, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 23, 2025

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana (for himself and Mr. EZELL) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

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## A BILL

To require a report on Coast Guard personnel skills transfer to the dredging sector and the importance of certain waterways to national security, 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 “Industrial Certification  
5       for Coast Guard Veterans Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. REPORT ON COAST GUARD PERSONNEL SKILLS**  
2 **TRANSFER TO THE DREDGING SECTOR AND**  
3 **THE IMPORTANCE OF CERTAIN WATERWAYS**  
4 **TO NATIONAL SECURITY.**

5 Recognizing the critical role of Federal channels and  
6 other channels determined by the Secretary of Homeland  
7 Security to be strategically important in supporting na-  
8 tional security and economic prosperity, and the essential  
9 function of the United States dredging industry in main-  
10 taining such waterways, not later than 180 days after the  
11 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall sub-  
12 mit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House  
13 of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Secu-  
14 rity and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report that  
15 includes the following:

16 (1) An analysis of the skills and experience of  
17 Coast Guard personnel, particularly such personnel  
18 with backgrounds in engineering, navigation, heavy  
19 equipment operation, and maintenance, that are di-  
20 rectly transferable to the dredging industry, which is  
21 vital for the upkeep of Federal channels and other  
22 channels determined by the Secretary to be strategi-  
23 cally important.

24 (2) A plan for developing and implementing tar-  
25 geted outreach and recruitment strategies to connect  
26 separating or retiring Coast Guard personnel with

1 employment opportunities in the dredging industry,  
2 thereby strengthening the workforce that supports  
3 national security interests.

4 (3) An evaluation of the potential for estab-  
5 lishing credentialing or certification programs to rec-  
6 ognize and validate the skills of Coast Guard per-  
7 sonnel for employment in the dredging industry, en-  
8 suring a skilled workforce for maintaining Federal  
9 channels and other channels determined by the Sec-  
10 retary to be strategically important.

11 (4) A description of any existing or planned co-  
12 ordination with the Army Corps of Engineers and  
13 other relevant agencies to facilitate the transition of  
14 Coast Guard personnel into the dredging industry,  
15 reinforcing the capacity of the United States to en-  
16 sure the readiness and reliability of Federal channels  
17 and other channels determined by the Secretary to  
18 be strategically important.

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