

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 5053

To prohibit reductions in the workforce at public shipyards, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 26, 2025

Mr. PAPPAS (for himself and Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To prohibit reductions in the workforce at public shipyards,  
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 “Protecting Public  
5 Naval Shipyards Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON REDUCING THE WORKFORCE AT**  
2 **PUBLIC SHIPYARDS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The workforce at public shipyards  
4 and any other positions at a public shipyard not specified  
5 in subsection (b) shall be exempt from any hiring freezes  
6 or workforce reductions related to spending cuts, re-  
7 programming of funds, or the probationary status of em-  
8 ployees.

9 (b) WORKFORCE AT PUBLIC SHIPYARDS DEFINED.—  
10 In this section, the term “workforce at public shipyards”  
11 includes any of the following positions at a public ship-  
12 yard:

- 13 (1) Welders.
- 14 (2) Pipefitters.
- 15 (3) Shipfitters.
- 16 (4) Radiological technicians and engineers.
- 17 (5) Engineers and engineer technicians.
- 18 (6) Apprentices.
- 19 (7) Positions supporting a workforce develop-  
20 ment pipeline.
- 21 (8) Positions supporting nuclear maintenance  
22 and refueling.
- 23 (9) Mechanics.
- 24 (10) Painters and blasters.
- 25 (11) Positions supporting maintenance and op-  
26 erations of infrastructure.

1           (12) Positions supporting implementation of the  
2       Shipyard Infrastructure Optimization Program.

3       (c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-  
4       tion may be construed to restrict the authority of the Sec-  
5       retary of Defense to manage the workforce of the Depart-  
6       ment of Defense under existing procedures in cases of mis-  
7       conduct or poor performance.

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