

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4756

To permit the use of NATO and major non-NATO ally dredge ships in
the United States.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 11, 2026

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

A BILL

To permit the use of NATO and major non-NATO ally
dredge ships in the United States.

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 “Allied Partnership and
5 Port Modernization Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DREDGING; DREDGED MATERIAL.**

7 (a) DREDGING.—Section 55109 of title 46, United
8 States Code, is amended—

9 (1) in subsection (a), by inserting “or (c)” after
10 “subsection (b)”;

1 (2) by redesignating subsection (c) as sub-
2 section (d); and

3 (3) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-
4 lowing:

5 “(c) DREDGING BY NATO-AFFILIATED VESSELS.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A vessel described in para-
7 graph (2) may engage in dredging in the navigable
8 waters of the United States.

9 “(2) VESSELS.—A vessel described in this para-
10 graph is a vessel—

11 “(A) documented under the laws of a coun-
12 try that is a member of the North Atlantic
13 Treaty Organization;

14 “(B) built by a country that is a member
15 of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization or a
16 major non-NATO ally (as defined in section
17 2350a(i) of title 10); and

18 “(C) for which a majority of the owners
19 and operators of the vessel are entities incor-
20 porated in a country that is a member of the
21 North Atlantic Treaty Organization.”.

22 (b) EXCLUDING DREDGED MATERIAL FROM TRANS-
23 PORTATION REQUIREMENTS.—Section 55110 of title 46,
24 United States Code, is amended—

1 (1) in the section heading, by striking “**or**
2 **dredged material**” and inserting “**(excluding**
3 **dredged material)**”; and

4 (2) by striking “or dredged material” and in-
5 serting “(excluding dredged material)”.

