

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2035

To amend title 46, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Transportation to ensure that all cargoes procured, furnished, or financed by the Department of Transportation are transported on privately-owned commercial vessels of the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 11, 2025

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

A BILL

To amend title 46, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Transportation to ensure that all cargoes procured, furnished, or financed by the Department of Transportation are transported on privately-owned commercial vessels of the United States, 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 “American Cargo for
5 American Ships Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. CARGOES PROCURED, FURNISHED, OR FINANCED**
2 **BY UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.**

3 Section 55305 of title 46, United States Code, is
4 amended—

5 (1) in subsection (a) by striking “When the
6 United States Government” and inserting “Except
7 as provided in subsection (c), when the United
8 States Government”;

9 (2) by redesignating subsections (c) through (f)
10 as subsections (d) through (g), respectively; and

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

13 “(c) EXCEPTION.—When the Department of Trans-
14 portation procures, contracts for, or otherwise obtains for
15 its own account, or provides financing in any way with
16 Federal funds or advances funds or credits, for the fur-
17 nishing or obtaining of the equipment, materials, or com-
18 modities, the Secretary of Transportation or recipient of
19 such financing shall take steps necessary and practicable
20 to ensure that 100 percent of the gross tonnage of the
21 equipment, materials, or commodities (computed sepa-
22 rately for dry bulk carriers, dry cargo liners, and tankers)
23 which may be transported on ocean vessels is transported
24 on privately-owned commercial vessels of the United
25 States, as provided under subsection (b), to the extent
26 those vessels are available at fair and reasonable rates for

1 commercial vessels of the United States, in a manner that
2 will ensure a fair and reasonable participation of commer-
3 cial vessels of the United States in those cargoes by geo-
4 graphic areas.”.

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