



MARITIME TRADES DEPARTMENT

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR AND CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

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American Federation of Government Employees

American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees

American Federation of Teachers

Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers International Union

Communications Workers of America

International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Iron Workers

International Association of Fire Fighters

International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers

International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers, AFL-CIO/CLC

International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders, Blacksmiths, Forgers and Helpers

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

International Union of Allied, Novelty and Production Workers, AFL-CIO

International Union of Elevator Constructors

International Union of Operating Engineers

International Union of Painters and Allied Trades of the United States and Canada

Office and Professional Employees International Union

Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' International Association of the United States and Canada

Seafarers International Union of North America

Transportation • Communications International Union/IAM

United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States and Canada

United Mine Workers of America

United Steel, Paper & Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial & Service Workers International Union

March 14, 2022

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the 23 affiliated unions representing more than 5 million working people in the United States and Canada, the Maritime Trades Department, AFL-CIO once again thanks you for your longstanding and steady support for the Jones Act.

Nearly as consistent as your backing has been for the Jones Act has been the attacks on the nation's cabotage law from foreign interests whenever they perceive an opportunity to take advantage of a crisis to buttress their cause. Such is the case now with the war in Ukraine. Within days of the fighting in Europe, anti-Jones Act elements launched negative attacks in the media and through legislative allies.

The U.S. maritime industry has been and continues to be able to meet the nation's domestic petroleum and supply chain needs. We thank you and your administration for denying already submitted Jones Act waiver requests. There is no need for any such waiver, which would take jobs away from American mariners and hurt national security.

Just as you have stood for American workers over the years, the men and women who crew, build and supply the vessels of the U.S.-flag merchant fleet stand with our fellow countrymen. Since America's founding, the U.S.-flag merchant marine has answered the nation's call. From delivering materiel to global war zones to rushing aid to Puerto Rico immediately after natural disasters, U.S. merchant mariners have supplied the vital needs and resources without fail.

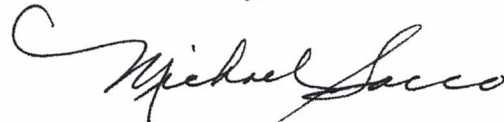
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Just last week, the presidents of the U.S. maritime unions announced their solidarity with you in your implementation of sanctions against Russia. The unions of the Maritime Trades Department reinforce that support.

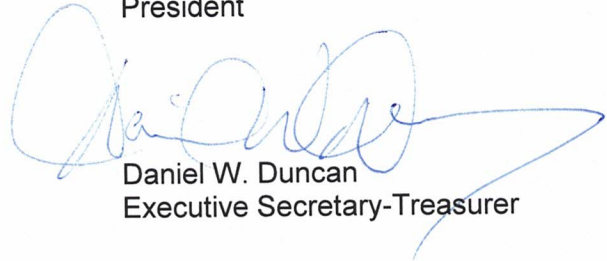
Thank you for your defense of the Jones Act and the U.S.-flag merchant marine. Thank you for your leadership.

We look forward to working with you on this and other matters of concern.

In Solidarity,



Michael Sacco
President



Daniel W. Duncan
Executive Secretary-Treasurer