



# NAVY LEAGUE

of the United States

## Inside this issue

### Leg. Affairs Weekly Round-Up – July 20

- [Coast Guard Appropriations](#)
- [Jones Act Study](#)
- [Military to Mariner](#)
- [Rep. Joe Courtney at the Hudson Institute](#)

### Other stories of interest:

- [Top Stories](#)
- [Seapower](#)
- [Surface and Submarine Warfare](#)
- [Aviation](#)

## Leg. Affairs Weekly Round-Up – July 20

### Coast Guard Appropriations

We need your help! On Tuesday the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security released the text of their draft bill for Fiscal Year 2019. The subcommittee held a markup on Thursday, and CQ reports the full Appropriations committee is expected to vote on the bill next week.

While the Administration's budget request and the Senate bill both included \$750 million for Polar Icebreaker, the draft text in the House version strips the funding [\[Bloomberg Government story is here\]](#) as part of a larger effort to find \$5 billion in border wall funding. In response, the Navy League [sent a letter](#) to the Speaker of the House and Minority Leader, cc'd a draft to all House offices, and issued an accompanying press release, insisting that there be no delay in funding the new heavy polar icebreaker. Below is a summary of the legislation, however, these numbers are from the subcommittee's draft bill, so some accounts are not detailed. The full committee's report with more detail will be released on Tuesday and we will provide a more detailed summary next week. That makes now the perfect time [to act on our icebreaker campaign](#), and call anyone you met during the Fly In to remind them of the importance of this issue.

**The Coast Guard portion total is: \$9.3 billion (\$400M less than the President's FY19 Budget request).** The draft provides for a 2.6 percent military pay increase, and targets resources to improve readiness including:

- **Operations and Support: \$ 7.6B (\$200M less than requested)** for operations and training, military personnel costs, aviation and cutter hours, and maintenance of assets required to sustain readiness and response capabilities.

- [Expeditionary Warfare](#)
- [Jones Act discussion](#)

- **Procurement, Construction, And Improvements Account: \$ 1.4B (\$500 million less than requested)** for modernization and recapitalization of vessels, aircraft, and facilities. This includes funding for the acquisition of the second Offshore Patrol Cutter, six Fast Response Cutters, an HC-130J aircraft, UH-60 recapitalization, follow-on costs for the ninth National Security Cutter, and facility improvements at multiple locations.
- **Research & Development \$ 19.1M (Same as requested)**
- **Environmental Compliance and Restoration: \$ 13.5M (Not included in Administration request)**

[The full text of the draft bill can be viewed here](#)

***Your voice is crucial to ensuring the House not delay the next heavy polar icebreaker. Take action now at:***

***<https://www.votervoice.net/NavyLeague/Campaigns/60071/Respond> .***

***Please share this link widely by forwarding to friends, councils, and on your personal social media accounts!***

[Top](#)

## **Jones Act Study**

A new study about the Jones Act's economic impact on Puerto Rico was released this week. This fact-based analysis is the first comprehensive report on the subject since Hurricane Maria struck the island. The study concludes that the Jones Act has no impact on either retail prices or the cost of living in Puerto Rico, contrary to allegations that the Jones Act "doubles the cost" of consumer goods. In addition, the report found that the state of the art maritime technology, Puerto-Rico focused investments, and dedicated closed-loop service offered by Jones Act carriers provide a significant positive economic impact to the island, at freight rates lower or comparable to similar services to other Caribbean islands.

Here is a link to the study:

[www.americanmaritimepartnership.com/puerto-rico-economy/](http://www.americanmaritimepartnership.com/puerto-rico-economy/)

If you would like to sign up for more Jones Act related updates from friend of the Navy League the American Maritime Partnership, please

click here: <https://www.votervoice.net/AMP/Register>. When you click the link, you will have the opportunity to join a group of Jones Act supporters. Thank you for your continued interest in and support for the domestic maritime industry.

[Top](#)

### **Military to Mariner**

This week, the Navy League was a participant in a Congressional listening session on the topic "Military to Mariner: Easing the Transition." Navy League Vice President Jon Kaskin joined MARAD Administrator Mark Buzby, Rear Admiral John Nadeau, USCG, the Navy's Director, Total Force Manpower, Training and Education Requirements Division, the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Force Education and Training, and executives from unions and shipping companies to discuss this issue. This is the third meeting over the past five years, organized by the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Subcommittee, Congressman Duncan Hunter and Congressman John Garamendi. Since its inception, this group has made significant headway in making it easier for sailors and Coastguardsmen to track their experience and convert it to maritime credentialing. USCG has begun to track the number of veterans that apply for their license, and the Navy is developing a new system akin to "Turbo Tax" that helps veterans determine what credentials they have already qualified for based on their service experience through simple questions and answers. The Navy League is grateful for the bipartisan leadership that is helping sailors transition and helping with the professional development of our mariners.

[Top](#)

### **Rep. Joe Courtney at the Hudson Institute**

This week, Congressional Shipbuilding Caucus co-chair and Seapower & Projection Forces Ranking Member Joe Courtney was the featured speaker at the Hudson Institute, discussing naval power. He reflected on how things had changed over the 12 years he's been in Congress, as the global system has refocused from a ground war to threats in the maritime domain. Much of the conversation focused on the global

environment, especially China and the Pacific, saying "They really are trying to change what has been very successful 70-year-old record of peaceful rule of law that existed in the maritime realm. This whole issue of maritime freedom of navigation is changing in real time to the point where all our allies are looking at their naval budgets because they realize they can't take for granted the environment that existed before." He made a strong case for signing the Law of the Sea Treaty, as it would take away one of China's major arguments against Navy Freedom of Navigation operations. He also talked about the need for a national maritime policy, how commercial shipbuilding can help our naval shipbuilding needs. When discussing the 355-ship Navy goal, Congressman Courtney expressed concern that some of the bigger platforms are not being funded appropriately, especially attack submarines and large surface combatants. Read more in Seapower: <http://seapowermagazine.org/stories/20180718-Courtney.html>

***Please feel free to forward this newsletter to your councils, as well as friends and potential Navy League members!***



U.S. 5TH FLEET AREA OF OPERATIONS (July 18, 2018) U.S. Navy Sailors, assigned to the "Vipers" of Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron (HSM) 48, load an AGM-114 Hellfire missile onto an MH-60R Sea Hawk helicopter on the flight deck of the guided-missile destroyer USS Jason Dunham (DDG 109). Jason Dunham is deployed to the U.S. 5th Fleet area of operations in support of naval operations to ensure maritime stability and security in the Central region, connecting the Mediterranean and the Pacific through the western Indian Ocean and three strategic choke points.

(U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Jonathan Clay/Released)

[Top](#)

**Other stories of interest:**

## **Top Stories**

[Status Report-One Year Later - Proceedings Magazine/July 2018](#)

By Admiral Bill Moran, U.S. Navy

In the aftermath of the tragic events at sea last year, we have all done some serious soul searching to complement the stark findings and important recommendations of the Comprehensive Review (CR) and Strategic Readiness

Review (SRR). For the past nine months, a high-level team with cross-cutting authorities has been focused on implementing the recommendations from these reviews, as well as other reports, investigations, and fleet feedback, with the goal of restoring the Navy's distinct advantage on the high seas. Fleet leaders, men and women from the Pentagon, Systems Commands, Type Commanders, and our personnel teams continue to knock down barriers to success to ensure the necessary funding is in place and to prioritize the most urgent and important tasks. Failure is not an option.

[Inside America's Aging Nuclear Missile Submarines - Breaking Defense/July 16](#)

**[Featuring our own Sheila McNeill's [Camden Partnership](#)]**

America's nuclear deterrent is aging, with a half-dozen replacement programs on the horizon. But the young men and women who serve, Gen. John Hyten said, are better than ever: "They love this country. They want to defend this country. They go to work every day. They're amazing - they're smarter than we were, by far. They get motivated differently so you have to lead them differently, but their passion is just the same."

[Top](#)

## Seapower

[Nation's new aircraft carrier enters next phase at shipyard - Virginian-Pilot/July 15](#)

NORFOLK, Va. (AP) - The nation's newest aircraft carrier returned to a Virginia shipyard Sunday for a year of planned upgrades and fixes, marking the next phase in the development of the Navy's most advanced and scrutinized warship.

[Surge in South China Sea Naval Exercises in 2018 Vexes Beijing - Voice of America/July 16](#)

TAIPEI - A surge in naval maneuvers in the South China Sea by Western allies this year is keeping China from any further expansion into the contested waters, analysts say.

[Louisiana shipbuilder hopes to bring 1,000 jobs to Tampa shipyard through Coast Guard icebreaker program - Tampa Bay Times/July 17](#)

TAMPA - Tampa Ship could welcome more than 1,000 new shipbuilding jobs if Louisiana-based Bollinger Shipyards wins a major contract to build up to six Coast Guard polar icebreakers.

[China's Planned Nuclear Icebreaker - The Diplomat/July 17](#)

On June 23, a tender was published on the website of state-owned China National Nuclear Corporation (CNNC) for the construction of a nuclear-powered icebreaker. The project, commissioned by China Maritime Nuclear Power Development (CMNPD), a joint venture established last year with China National Nuclear Power (CNNP) as the controlling shareholder, and Jiangnan Shipyards, and Shanghai Electric among its minority shareholders, would see the construction of China's first nuclear-powered surface vessel.

[USNS Mercy Participates in Humanitarian Disaster Relief Exercise as Part of MSC's Ongoing Participation in RIMPAC 2018 - SeaWaves Magazine - July 18](#)

The Military Sealift Command hospital ship USNS Mercy (T-AH 19) conducted a humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR) exercise on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam July 11-13, as part of MSC's ongoing participation with the Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) exercise.

[US Navy asks Congress to shift millions of dollars to fix high-tech supercarrier - Navy Times/July 18](#)

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Navy needs to get the permission of lawmakers to move \$62.7 million to fix a number of hiccups in its high-tech new carrier, the Gerald R. Ford, during its post-shakedown availability that kicked off July 15.

[Top](#)

## Surface and Submarine Warfare

[Navy will award Electric Boat maintenance work on newest Virginia-class sub - The Day/July 13](#)

Groton - The Navy will award a contract to Electric Boat for initial maintenance work on the Virginia-class fast-attack submarine Indiana, a decision that U.S. Rep. Joe Courtney, D-2nd District, said will help EB avoid a projected dip in employment at the end of the year.

[US and Japan Fire Missiles to Sink Ship During RIMPAC - Military.com/July 15](#)

BARKING SANDS, Kauai -- With the explosive roar of multiple missiles and white contrails arcing high into the sky, U.S. and Japanese forces made history Thursday during Rim of the Pacific exercises.

[Top](#)

## Aviation

### Aviation

[All-Navy Crew Flies MV-22 Osprey for the First Time - USNI News/July 13](#)

The relatively short flight was performed by two pilots and two aircrewmen from the Airborne Command and Control and Logistics Wing (ACCLOGWING) Medium Tilt Rotor Training Squadron Detachment (VMTT Det.) 204, which will be the first detachment operating and maintaining the Osprey in the fleet, according to the Navy.

[Top](#)

## Expeditionary Warfare

[USS Wasp First Carrier to Use JPALS on Deployment - Seapower Magazine/July 17](#)

FARNBOROUGH, England - Early in 2018, U.S. Marine Corps F-35B Lightning II fighters deployed to the Pacific aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Wasp, and used the Joint Precision Approach and Landing System (JPALS), produced by the Raytheon Co.'s Intelligence, Information and Services business, to guide them onto the ship's deck in all weather and surface conditions up to the rough waters of Sea State 5, the company said in a July 16 release.

[Top](#)

## Jones Act discussion

**(Note: These stories do not reflect the Navy League's positions and are shared to highlight the need for our advocacy.)**

[U.S. Maritime Sector Among the Jones Act's Biggest Victims - Cato Institute Blog/June 28](#)

Monday of this week marked the Day of the Seafarer, an occasion meant to recognize the critical role played by mariners in the global economy. American seafarers, however, increasingly find little to celebrate. A large source of their travails is the Jones Act. Signed into law 98 years ago this month, the law mandates that cargo transported between two domestic ports be carried on ships that are U.S.-built, U.S.-owned, U.S.-flagged, and U.S.-crewed.

[How Gov Candidates Would Grow Hawaii's Economy - Honolulu Civil Beat/July 10](#)

...The perennial Republican candidate's plan - much of his campaign, in fact - focuses on overturning the federal Jones Act. Also known as the Merchant Marine Act of 1920, the measure requires goods transported between U.S. ports to be carried by ships built in the U.S. and staffed by U.S. crews. The Jones Act is widely thought to drive up the price of goods carried to and from Hawaii...



PACIFIC OCEAN (July 17, 2018) Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Handling) 2nd Class James Spencer signals the pilot of an F-35B Lightning II aircraft with Marine Fighter Attack Squadron (VMFA) 121 on the flight deck aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Wasp (LHD 1) during carrier qualifications and flight deck certifications. VMFA-121 is aboard Wasp assigned under the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit forward deployed to Okinawa, Japan. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Michael Molina/Released)

[Top](#)