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Asserting our right "...to petition the Government for redress of grievances."

Amendment 1, U.S. Constitution, Dec. 15, 1791

## HOW TO CONTACT MEMBERS OF CONGRESS ON MARITIME ISSUES

### "Civics 101"

The United States Federal Government is composed of three separate and distinct Branches:

- The **Executive Branch** includes the President and Vice-President who serve four-year terms. The President appoints his "Cabinet" composed of Secretaries of Cabinet Level Departments. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in which the U.S. Coast Guard now resides is one such Department with approximately 160,000 employees. The Coast Guard is the Department of Homeland Security's largest Agency with approximately 42,000 employees. The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) is another DHS agency.
- The **Judicial Branch**. Includes the Supreme Court, Federal Courts of Appeal, Federal District Courts.
- **Congress**. Includes the U.S. House of Representatives with its 435 "Representatives" apportioned according to each state's population elected for two-year terms. The U.S. Senate has two "Senators" elected from each state with six-year terms of office.

### Congressional Representation

Each individual in the United States is "represented" by one "Representative" (often called "Congressman") and two U.S. Senators. If you experience a problem with any federal agency you may want to check with the Representative in your Congressional District or one of your two Senators. Each Representative or Senator has a local office that is staffed to handle your complaints as long as that complaint deals with a "federal" issue. You will find the address and phone number of your Representative and two Senators listed in your local phone book under U.S. Government.

If you divide the nation's population of about 305,000,000 by its 435 Representatives, you will find that each Representative serves slightly less than 700,000 people. Nevertheless, your Senator or Representative maintains an office in Washington as well as one or more local offices and staff to reply to your complaints.

How important are the nation's mariners? Well, the Coast Guard says that there are about 210,000 credentialed mariners (i.e., with "licenses", "Merchant Mariner Documents" (called MMDs or Z-cards) or "Certificates of Registry" in the country. So, even if every credentialed mariner lived in exactly the same Congressional District, we would not be in the majority in even that district. So much for affecting legislation (i.e., law-making) by size alone.

### Dividing the Workload

Congress works by Committee. One of the important committees that deals with the Merchant Marine is the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. In the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress, this committee is composed of 45 Democrats and 30 Republicans with its Chairman **Representative James L. Oberstar (D-MN)** and **Representative John Mica (R-FL)** as its Ranking Member.

A 75-person committee is unwieldy to work with and is divided into six Subcommittees. Of these subcommittees, the one of most concern to our mariners is the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Sub-Committee. This subcommittee is part of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. The Sub-committee Chairman is Representative **Frank LoBiondo (R-NJ)** and its Ranking Member is Representative **Bob Filner (D-CA)**. The members of this committee include both Rep. Oberstar and Mica who serve "ex-officio" on the sub-committee as each

serves on the full Committee.

In the U.S. Senate, the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee composed of 14 Democrats and 11 Republicans and is divided into seven (7) sub-committees of which the Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety and Security Subcommittee with Senator Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ) as Chairman and Senator John Thune (R-SD) as Ranking Member deal with many of our issues as does the Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries and Coast Guard Sub-committee with Senator Maria Cantwell (D-WA) as Chairman and Senator Olympia Snowe (R-ME) as Ranking Member.

Each Committee has Staff Members who carry out the tasks assigned by their Committee or Subcommittee.

The following pages list the mailing addresses (i.e., snail mail) for the Washington, DC office of each of these committee members. To find the telephone, fax, or e-mail address of ANY Representative or Senator, use the internet address <http://Thomas.loc.gov/> or call the local office of your U.S. Representative or U.S. Senator. If you are an NMA member, call us for this type of information and suggestions.

The following pages are set up to print on a 1 in. x 2 5/8 in. label Compare to Avery #5960.

HOUSE TRANSPORTATION &  
INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE  
111<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS  
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Rep. Howard Coble  
CG & Maritime Transportation Subcommittee  
2468 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Dina Titus  
319 Cannon House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. James L. Oberstar, Chairman  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
2365 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Harry Teague  
1007 Longworth House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Frank A. LoBiondo  
CG & Maritime Transportation Subcommittee  
2427 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Corrine Brown  
CG & Maritime Transportation Subcommittee  
2336 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Don Young  
CG & Maritime Transportation  
Subcommittee  
2111 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Gene Taylor  
CG & Maritime Transportation Subcommittee  
2269 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Laura Richardson  
CG & Maritime Transportation Subcommittee  
1722 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-0537

Rep. Elijah Cummings, Chairman  
CG & Maritime Transportation Subcommittee  
2235 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Brian Baird  
CG & Maritime Transportation Subcommittee  
2350 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Tim Bishop  
CG & Maritime Transportation Subcommittee  
306 Cannon House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Vernon Ehlers  
CG & Maritime Transportation Subcommittee  
2182 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Timothy J. Walz  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
1722 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Solomon Ortiz  
2110 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. John Mica  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
2313 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Jim Gerlach  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
308 Cannon House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Jerry Moran  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
2443 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Gary G. Miller  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
2349 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. John Boozman  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
1519 Longworth House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Henry E. Brown, Jr.  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
103 Cannon House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Timothy V. Johnson  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
1207 Longworth House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Todd R. Platts  
CG & Maritime Transportation  
Subcommittee  
2455 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
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Rep. Sam Graves  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
1415 Longworth House Office Bldg.  
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Rep. Bill Shuster  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
204 Cannon House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Michael McMahon  
CG & Maritime Transportation Subcommittee  
323 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Steve Kagen  
CG & Maritime Transportation Subcommittee  
1232 Longworth House Office Bldg.  
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Rep. Rick Larsen  
CG & Maritime Transportation Subcommittee  
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HOUSE TRANSPORTATION &  
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111<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS  
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Rep. Shelley Capito  
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Rep. Thomas Petri  
2462 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
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Rep. Michael Capuano  
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Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Candice S. Miller  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
228 Cannon House Office Bldg  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Connie Mack  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
115 Cannon House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep Charles Dent  
1009 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Bob Latta  
1531 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Lynn A. Westmoreland  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
1213 Longworth House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Mark Schauer  
1408 Longworth House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
1511 Longworth House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Nick J. Rahall  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
2307 Rayburn House Office Bldg  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Peter A. DeFazio  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
2134 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Jerry F. Costello  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
2408 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Leonard L. Boswell  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
1427 Longworth House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Jerrold Nadler  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
2334 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Ellen O. Tauscher  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
2459 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Tim Holden  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
2417 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Michael M. Michaud  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
1724 Longworth House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Vern Buchanan  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
218 Cannon House Office Bldg.  
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Rep. John J. Hall  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
1217 Longworth House Office Bldg.  
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Rep. Anh Joseph Cao  
2113 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Tom Periello  
1520 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Brett Guthrie  
510 Canon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. John J. Duncan  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
2207 Rayburn House Office Bldg  
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Rep. Mary Fallin  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
1432 Longworth House Office Bldg.  
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Rep. Jason Altmire  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
332 Cannon House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Michael Arcuri  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
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Rep. Russ Carnahan  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
1710 Longworth House Office Bldg.  
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**HOUSE TRANSPORTATION &  
INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE  
111<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS  
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Rep. Steve Cohen  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
1005 Longworth House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Christopher P. Carney  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
416 Cannon House Office Bldg  
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Rep. Mazie K. Hirono  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
1524 Longworth House Office Bldg.  
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Rep. Heath Shuler  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
422 Cannon House Office Bldg  
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Rep. Grace Napolitano  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
1610 Longworth House Office Bldg.  
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Rep. Daniel Lipinski  
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Rep. Pete Olson  
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Rep. Aaron Schock  
509 Cannon House Office Building  
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Rep. Jean Schmidt  
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Rep. Gary G. Miller  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
2349 Rayburn House Office Bldg  
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Hon. Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Trans. & Infrastructure Committee  
2136 Rayburn House Office Bldg..  
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Mr. David Heymsfeld  
2165 Rayburn House Office Building  
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Mr. John Rayfield  
CG & Maritime Transportation  
Subcommittee  
505 Ford House Office Building  
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Mr. John Cullather  
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507 Ford House Office Building  
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Mr. Lloyd Jones  
2163 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
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Rep. Donna Edwards  
318 Cannon House Office Building  
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1229 Longworth House Office Building  
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Rep Stephen Cohen  
1005 Longworth House Office Building  
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Rep. Albio Sires  
1024 Longworth House Office Building  
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428 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. John Socciari  
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**111<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS**  
**SENATE COMMERCE, SCIENCE**  
**& TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE.**  
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Senator Mark Begich  
825-C Hart Senate Office Building  
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B-40-C Dirksen Senate Office Building  
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Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison  
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Senator Tom Udall  
B-40-D Dirksen Senate Office Building  
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Senator Johnny Isakson  
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Senator Barbara Boxer  
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Senator Bill Nelson  
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