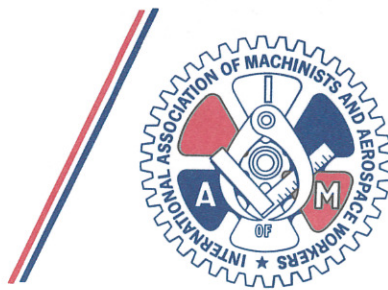


**International
Association of
Machinists and
Aerospace Workers**



9000 Machinists Place
Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772-2687

Area Code 301
967-4500



OFFICE OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

January 15, 2015

Dear Senator,

I write to strongly urge you to reject an amendment proposed by Senator McCain to the Keystone XL Pipeline bill, S. 1, which would end the U.S. ship building requirement of the Jones Act. While the IAM has not taken a position on the Keystone XL Pipeline legislation, we are deeply concerned about Senator McCain's totally unrelated and short sighted amendment.

The Jones Act performs a critical function in maintaining the shipbuilding capabilities of our nation's defense industrial base. Consequently, the Jones Act has the strong support of the U.S. Navy and the Department of Defense. Passage of Senator McCain's amendment would result in the outsourcing of U.S. shipbuilding to foreign nations, which will not only severely damage our defense capabilities, but will also devastate U.S. commercial ship building and lead to a loss of good paying American jobs.

IAM members are proud of the critical role that they perform for the U.S. ship building industry at locations across America; Bath Iron Works, Electric Boat, Newport News Shipbuilding, Ingalls Shipbuilding, NASSCO, as well as at companies throughout the supply chain for these shipyards. Our members know that our national and economic security depends upon their vital work. We must not undermine these capabilities; reject Senator McCain's amendment.

If you have any questions, please contact Legislative Director Hasan Solomon at (301) 967-4575.

Sincerely,

R. Thomas Buffenbarger
International President