

Administration Issues Statement Opposing House Coast Guard Bill

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On April 17, 2014, the Department of Homeland Security issued a statement broadly opposing the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2014, H.R. 4005 as passed by the House of Representatives. Among other things, the Administration opposes provisions in the House bill which would help reduce regulatory burdens for offshore supply vessels through the increased use of classification societies in lieu of Federal oversight, provide greater public input and transparency with respect to Coast Guard navigability determinations, reform and strengthen cargo preference laws, and make permanent the exemption of discharges incidental to the normal operation of small commercial vessels and fishing vessels. The Administration position letter is aimed at influencing the Democrat-controlled Senate as it develops its own bill and heads into conference.

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