July 26, 2019

Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr.  
Chairman  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC  20515

Honorable Greg Walden  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC  20515

Re:  Energizing American Shipbuilding Act

Dear Chairman Pallone and Ranking Member Walden:

Bold Ocean strongly supports the Energizing American Shipbuilding Act (H.R.3829) and we respectfully request that you schedule the bill for markup in your Committee. This is a bipartisan bill which will reinvigorate U.S. domestic shipbuilding, add desperately needed jobs for U.S. trained and licensed mariners, and provide strategically important export cargo for U.S. built, flagged and crewed vessels. Importantly, this bill also counters laws from other energy export countries like the Russian Federation which announced a Russian-flagged vessel requirement for all arctic oil and gas exports in late 2018.

Bold Ocean is a U.S. citizen-owned company with a diverse fleet operated by Schuyler Line Navigation Company (SLNC) comprised of U.S. flag vessels crewed by United States Merchant Mariners. We are exclusively engaged in international commerce delivering both U.S. Government and military cargo to ports around the world. We participate in the Maritime Security Program and also operate under long term contracts to deliver mission critical cargo to U.S. Department of Defense installations worldwide.

It has been well documented that there is a critical shortage of U.S. mariners. The Energizing American Shipbuilding Act would play a vital role in creating thousands of mariner jobs, shipyard jobs and shoreside operations positions by requiring a percentage of LNG and petroleum produced in the United States to be shipped on U.S. built and U.S. flagged vessels. Of equal importance to the economic benefits of U.S. ship building are the irrefutable benefits of expanding the U.S. flag fleet. A robust U.S. flag fleet is essential to support the Department of Defense in the event of a large scale or sustained sealift operation. Finally, the U.S. flag cargo requirements outlined in the Energizing American Shipbuilding Act will help support and sustain the U.S. flag fleet during peacetime so that our ships and mariners will be available to answer the call during any national emergency.

A healthy U.S. Merchant Marine, a robust U.S. flag fleet and a strong technologically advanced shipbuilding industry are vital to our national security and nation’s economy. This bill will make this a reality for decades to come. We hope you will include H.R.3829 in an upcoming markup and will vocally support this significant new maritime initiative. We are honored to have the opportunity to support you on this crucial landmark maritime legislation.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

Russell Paret  
President  
Bold Ocean LLC/Schuyler Line Navigation Company