

118TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION

H. R. 9911

To amend the Railway Labor Act to apply the provisions of such Act to maritime employers and employees in the maritime industry, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 1, 2024

Mrs. Steel introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To amend the Railway Labor Act to apply the provisions of such Act to maritime employers and employees in the maritime industry, and for other purposes.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
- 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
- 3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
- 4 This Act may be cited as the "Safeguarding the Sup-
- 5 ply Chain Act".

1	SEC. 2. APPLICATION OF RAILWAY LABOR ACT TO MARI-
2	TIME EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES IN THE
3	MARITIME INDUSTRY.
4	The Railway Labor Act is amended by adding at the
5	end the following:
6	"TITLE III—COVERAGE OF MARI-
7	TIME EMPLOYEES AND EM-
8	PLOYEES IN THE MARITIME
9	INDUSTRY
10	"SEC. 301. COVERAGE OF MARITIME EMPLOYERS AND EM-
11	PLOYEES.
12	"All of the provisions of title I of this Act, except
13	the provisions of section 3 thereof, are extended to and
14	shall cover every maritime employer and every employee
15	of a maritime employer, subject to its continuing authority
16	to supervise and direct the manner of rendition of the em-
17	ployee's service.
18	"SEC. 302. APPLICATION OF PROVISIONS.
19	"The duties, requirements, penalties, benefits, and
20	privileges prescribed and established by the provisions of
21	title I of this Act, except the provisions of section 3 there-
22	of, shall apply to maritime employers and their employees
23	in the same manner and to the same extent as though
24	such maritime employers and their employees were specifi-
25	cally included within the definition of 'carrier' and 'em-

26 ployee', respectively, in section 1 thereof.

1 "SEC. 303. NATIONAL MEDIATION BOARD.

- 2 "(a) IN GENERAL.—The parties or either party to
- 3 a dispute between an employee or a group of such employ-
- 4 ees and a maritime employer or employers may invoke the
- 5 services of the National Mediation Board and the jurisdic-
- 6 tion of the National Mediation Board is extended to any
- 7 of the following cases:
- 8 "(1) A dispute concerning changes in rates of
- 9 pay, rules, or working conditions not adjusted by the
- parties in conference.
- 11 "(2) Any other dispute not referable to an ad-
- justment board, as described in section 304(b), and
- not adjusted in conference between the parties, or
- where conferences are refused.
- 15 "(b) Labor Emergencies.—The National Medi-
- 16 ation Board may proffer its services in case any labor
- 17 emergency is found by it to exist at any time.
- 18 "(c) Invocation in Disputes.—The services of the
- 19 National Mediation Board may be invoked in a case under
- 20 this title in the same manner and to the same extent as
- 21 are the disputes covered by section 5 of title I of this Act.
- 22 "SEC. 304. BOARDS OF ADJUSTMENT.
- "(a) Treatment of Pending Disputes.—The dis-
- 24 putes between an employee or a group of employees and
- 25 a maritime employer or employers growing out of griev-
- 26 ances, or out of the interpretation or application of agree-

- 1 ments concerning rates of pay, rules, or working condi-
- 2 tions, including cases pending and unadjusted on the date
- 3 of enactment of this title before the National Labor Rela-
- 4 tions Board, shall be handled in the usual manner up to
- 5 and including the chief operating officer of the maritime
- 6 employer designated to handle such disputes; but, failing
- 7 to reach an adjustment in this manner, the disputes may
- 8 be referred by petition of the parties or by either party
- 9 to an appropriate adjustment board, as described in sub-
- 10 section (b), with a full statement of the facts and sup-
- 11 porting data bearing upon the disputes.
- 12 "(b) Establishment of Special Boards of Ad-
- 13 JUSTMENT.—It shall be the duty of every maritime em-
- 14 ployer and its employees, acting through their representa-
- 15 tives, selected in accordance with the provisions of this
- 16 title, to establish a board of adjustment of jurisdiction not
- 17 exceeding the jurisdiction which may be lawfully exercised
- 18 by system, group, or regional boards of adjustment, under
- 19 the authority of section 3.
- 20 "(c) Authority To Establish a Temporary Na-
- 21 TIONAL BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT.—Such boards of adjust-
- 22 ment may be established by agreement between employees
- 23 and maritime employers either on any individual maritime
- 24 employer, or system, or group of maritime employers and
- 25 any class or classes of its or their employees; or pending

- 1 the establishment of a permanent National Board of Ad-
- 2 justment in accordance with this title. Nothing in this Act
- 3 shall prevent such maritime employers, or any class or
- 4 classes of their employees, both acting through their rep-
- 5 resentatives selected in accordance with provisions of this
- 6 title, from mutually agreeing to the establishment of a na-
- 7 tional board of adjustment of temporary duration and of
- 8 similarly limited jurisdiction.

9 "SEC. 305. NATIONAL MARITIME ADJUSTMENT BOARD.

- 10 "(a) Establishment.—When, in the judgment of
- 11 the National Mediation Board, it shall be necessary to
- 12 have a permanent National Board of Adjustment in order
- 13 to provide for the prompt and orderly settlement of dis-
- 14 putes between maritime employers and their employees,
- 15 growing out of grievances or out of the interpretation or
- 16 application of agreements between maritime employers
- 17 and any class or classes of employees, covering rates of
- 18 pay, rules, or working conditions, the National Mediation
- 19 Board is hereby empowered and directed, by its order duly
- 20 made, published, and served, to direct such maritime em-
- 21 ployers and such labor organizations of their employees,
- 22 national in scope, as have been or may be recognized in
- 23 accordance with the provisions of this Act, to select and
- 24 designate four representatives who shall constitute a board

- 1 which shall be known as the 'National Maritime Adjust-
- 2 ment Board'.
- 3 "(b) Selection of Members.—Two members of
- 4 the National Maritime Adjustment Board shall be selected
- 5 by maritime employers and two members by the labor or-
- 6 ganizations of the employees, within thirty days after the
- 7 date of the order of the National Mediation Board, in the
- 8 manner and by the procedure prescribed by title I of this
- 9 Act for the selection and designation of members of the
- 10 National Railroad Adjustment Board.
- 11 "(c) Meetings and Rules for Proceedings.—
- 12 The National Maritime Adjustment Board shall meet
- 13 within forty days after the date of the order of the Na-
- 14 tional Mediation Board directing the selection and des-
- 15 ignation of its members and shall organize and adopt rules
- 16 for conducting its proceedings, in the manner prescribed
- 17 in section 3.
- 18 "(d) Vacancies; Compensation; Hearings.—Va-
- 19 cancies in membership or office shall be filled, members
- 20 shall be appointed in case of failure of the maritime em-
- 21 ployers or of labor organizations of the employees to select
- 22 and designate representatives, members of the National
- 23 Maritime Adjustment Board shall be compensated, hear-
- 24 ings shall be held, findings and awards made, stated,
- 25 served, and enforced, and the number and compensation

- 1 of any necessary assistants shall be determined and the
- 2 compensation of such employees shall be paid, all in the
- 3 same manner and to the same extent as provided with ref-
- 4 erence to the National Railroad Adjustment Board by sec-
- 5 tion 3.
- 6 "(e) Powers and Duties.—The powers and duties
- 7 prescribed and established by the provisions of section 3
- 8 with reference to the National Railroad Adjustment Board
- 9 and the several divisions thereof are hereby conferred upon
- 10 and shall be exercised and performed in like manner and
- 11 to the same extent by the National Maritime Adjustment
- 12 Board, not exceeding, however, the jurisdiction conferred
- 13 upon the National Maritime Adjustment Board by the
- 14 provisions of this title.
- 15 "(f) Transfers of Jurisdiction.—From and after
- 16 the organization of the National Maritime Adjustment
- 17 Board, if any system, group, or regional board of adjust-
- 18 ment established by any maritime employer or employers
- 19 and any class or classes of its or their employees is not
- 20 satisfactory to either party thereto, such party, upon nine-
- 21 ty days' notice to the other party, may elect to come under
- 22 the jurisdiction of the National Maritime Adjustment
- 23 Board.

1	"SEC. 306. CASES PENDING IN THE NATIONAL LABOR RELA-
2	TIONS BOARD.
3	"All cases referred to the National Labor Relations
4	Board, or over which the National Labor Relations Board
5	shall have taken jurisdiction, involving any dispute arising
6	from any cause between any maritime employer engaged
7	in interstate or foreign commerce and employees of such
8	maritime employer or employers, and unsettled on the
9	date of enactment of this title, shall be handled to conclu-
10	sion by the National Mediation Board. The books, records
11	and papers of the National Labor Relations Board perti-
12	nent to such case or cases, whether settled or unsettled
13	shall be transferred to the custody of the National Medi-
14	ation Board.
15	"SEC. 307. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.
16	"There is hereby authorized to be appropriated such
17	sums as may be necessary for expenditure by the Medi-
18	ation Board in carrying out the provisions of this Act.
19	"SEC. 308. DEFINITIONS.
20	"In this title:
21	"(1) The term 'maritime employer' has the
22	meaning given the term 'employer' in section 2(4) of
23	the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation

Act.

24

- 1 "(2) The term 'employee' has the meaning
- 2 given such term in section 2(3) of such Act.".

 \bigcirc