119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To prohibit reductions in the workforce at public shipyards, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Ms. HASSAN, and Mr. KING) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To prohibit reductions in the workforce at public shipyards, 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 "Protecting Public

5 Naval Shipyards Act of 2025".

6 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON REDUCING THE WORKFORCE AT**

7   **PUBLIC SHIPYARDS.**

8   (a) IN GENERAL.—The workforce at public shipyards

9 and any other positions at a public shipyard not specified

10 in subsection (b) shall be exempt from any hiring freezes

1 or workforce reductions related to spending cuts, re-
2 programming of funds, or the probationary status of em-
3 ployees.

4   (b) WORKFORCE AT PUBLIC SHIPYARDS DEFINED.—
5 In this section, the term "workforce at public shipyards"
6 includes any of the following positions at a public ship-
7 yard:

8   (1) Welders.

9   (2) Pipefitters.

10   (3) Shipfitters.

11   (4) Radiological technicians and engineers.

12   (5) Engineers and engineer technicians.

13   (6) Apprentices.

14   (7) Positions supporting a workforce develop-
15   ment pipeline.

16   (8) Positions supporting nuclear maintenance
17   and refueling.

18   (9) Mechanics.

19   (10) Painters and blasters.

20   (11) Positions supporting maintenance and op-
21   erations of infrastructure.

22   (12) Positions supporting implementation of the
23   Shipyard Infrastructure Optimization Program.

24   (c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
25 tion may be construed to restrict the authority of the Sec-

1 retary of Defense to manage the workforce of the Depart-

2 ment of Defense under existing procedures in cases of mis-

3 conduct or poor performance.