

April 28, 2021

The Honorable Roger Wicker
555 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Wicker:

On behalf of the managers and supervisors currently serving our nation in the federal government and whose interests are represented by the Federal Managers Association (FMA), we extend our strongest support for your bill, the Supplying Help to Infrastructure in Ports, Yards, and America's Repair Docks (SHIPYARD) Act of 2021 (S. 1441). The SHIPYARD Act would provide for the critical repair and modernization required for America's four public shipyards.

FMA was founded in 1913 as the Quartermen-Leadingmen Association, with charter chapters in seven naval shipyards. We are proud of our origin and our continuing work at the four public shipyards. They perform prodigious work to maintain the fleet that helps keep our country safe. Unfortunately, as you know, all four of these shipyards are in "poor condition," and are not meeting the Navy's operational needs. GAO Report GAO-17-548,6 released in September 2017, details many of the infrastructure issues. We know the costs of upgrading, restoring and modernizing facilities and infrastructure are significant. However, the costs of not making these investments will undoubtedly be much greater, including higher labor and materials costs for re-work.

As the frontline managers who work in these aging facilities and strive every day to fulfill the Navy's missions, FMA applauds your effort to make necessary investments in facilities and infrastructure at the four public shipyards and across the government. We are grateful for leadership by introducing the bipartisan S. 1441, and urge Congress to consider this vital legislation.

Thank you for your continued support of our federal workforce. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact FMA's Government Affairs Director Greg Stanford at gstanford@fedmanagers.org or (703) 683-8700.

Sincerely,



Craig Carter
National President