

HR 5498

Noncontiguous Shipping Relief Act of 2019

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Transportation and Public Works

Introduced: Dec 19, 2019

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation. (Dec 20, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/5498>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Case, Ed [D-HI-1]

Party: Democratic • **State:** HI • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|---|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Education and Workforce Committee | House | Referred To | Dec 19, 2019 |
| Transportation and Infrastructure Committee | House | Referred to | Dec 20, 2019 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Transportation and Public Works

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Noncontiguous Shipping Relief Act of 2019

This bill revises coastwise laws, commonly known as the Jones Act, that govern domestic transportation of merchandise or passengers by vessels. The Jones Act requires that vessels transporting merchandise or passengers between Puerto Rico and other U.S. ports be built in the United States, be at least 75% owned by U.S. citizens, and be mostly crewed by U.S. citizens.

The bill exempts foreign-flag vessels transporting merchandise on a route in noncontiguous trade from Jones Act requirements.

The bill sets forth other requirements, including (1) labor standards, (2) minimum requirements for vessels engaging in the transportation of cargo or merchandise in domestic coastwise trade, (3) environmental standards, and (4) requirements for certain non-citizens that irregularly engage in domestic coastwise trade.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 20, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation.
- **Dec 19, 2019:** Introduced in House
- **Dec 19, 2019:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR E1628-1629)
- **Dec 19, 2019:** Referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.