



MM&P Notice to Members

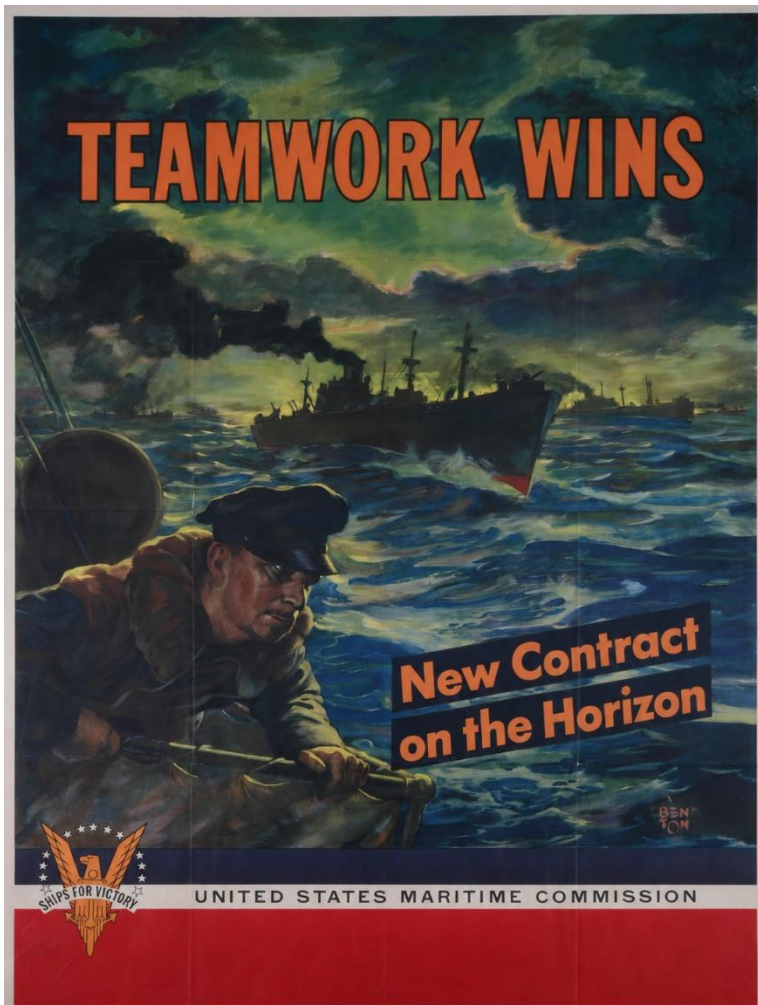
Email: mmpinfo@bridgedeck.org

410-582-7046

OSG FLEET & ATC FLEET NEWSLETTER 163RD EDITION

JUNE 12, 2026

OSG/ATC LDOs Demand First Contract as “Faster Labor Contracts Act” Passes U.S. House



June 12 marks the birth of the United States Merchant Marine. On this day in 1775, local seamen, merchants, fishermen, and ship captains at Machias, Maine came together in a collective effort to capture the British armed schooner *HMS Margaretta*. Their actions became the first wartime service of what would grow into the United States Merchant Marine. For more than 251 years since, merchant mariners have carried our nation's commerce, supported its military, and answered the call in every conflict.

That history reminds us of a simple truth: when mariners stand together, they can accomplish extraordinary things. Two years ago, the Licensed Deck Officers at OSG and ATC delivered their own powerful statement, turning out in overwhelming numbers and voting by majority for union representation. In doing so, they exercised the same principle that has sustained mariners throughout our history—the belief that our collective voice is stronger than any one individual standing alone.

Since then, the road to a first contract has been longer than it should be. Yet throughout repeated legal challenges and delays, the Licensed Deck Officers' decision has been affirmed time and again. The recent passage of the MM&P-backed Faster Labor Contracts Act in the House of Representatives reflects a growing national recognition that workers should not have to wait years for the contracts they voted to



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secure. The legislation seeks to establish reasonable timelines for bargaining and prevent the kinds of delays that have become all too common in first-contract negotiations.

As we recognize 251 years of the United States Merchant Marine, we also recognize the determination of today's mariners. The same spirit of unity that helped launch the Merchant Marine in 1775 continues to guide us today. We remain committed to securing the fair first contract that our Licensed Deck Officers have earned and to ensuring that their collective voice is respected at the bargaining table.

NEXT ALL-LDO Teams Call:

Wednesday, June 24, Noon EST

Legal Updates and Know Your Rights Training

Join the MMP WhatsApp for call info:

<https://rebrand.ly/ATCOSHWHATSAPP>



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SUPPORT UNION LABOR

**NO JONES ACT
WAIVER**

**AS UNION MEMBERS OF A JONES ACT FLEET, WE DEFEND THE
WORKERS, VESSELS, AND INDUSTRIES THAT KEEP AMERICA
MOVING. EXTENDING THE JONES ACT WAIVER HELPS FOREIGN
SHIPPING COMPANIES AT THE EXPENSE OF U.S. MARINERS,
SHIPYARDS, AND THE FLEET OUR MILITARY DEPENDS ON.**

Take Action





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In the News

Hawley Applauds House Passage of Faster Labor Contracts Act

(<https://www.hawley.senate.gov/hawley-applauds-house-passage-of-faster-labor-contracts-act/>)

Tuesday, June 09, 2026

WASHINGTON — Today, U.S. Senator Josh Hawley (R-Mo.) released the following statement celebrating the House of Representatives passing his *Faster Labor Contracts Act* through a discharge petition:

“We need real labor reform that puts workers first. For too long, mega corporations have denied workers’ rights and refused to meet them in good faith at the bargaining table. I’m glad to see the House has done the right thing for working-class Americans. The Senate needs to pass my bill and get this done.”

Earlier this Congress, Senator Hawley led a bipartisan group of colleagues in introducing the new, Teamsters-endorsed legislation to speed up first contracts for new unions. The legislation would ensure that when workers vote to unionize, a labor agreement ultimately becomes a reality. Cosponsors of the legislation include Senators Cory Booker (D-N.J.), Bernie Moreno (R-Ohio), Roger Marshall (R-Kan.), Jeff Merkley (D-Ore.) and Gary Peters (D-Mich.).

The *Faster Labor Contracts Act* would:

- Amend the *National Labor Relations Act* to require that after workers have voted to form a union, employers must begin negotiating with the new union within 10 days.
- Provide that if no agreement is reached within 90 days, the dispute will be referred to mediation.
- Stipulate that if mediation fails within 30 days, or additional periods agreed upon by the parties, the dispute will be referred to binding arbitration to secure an initial contract.



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- Commission a Government Accountability Office report on average workplace time-to-contract one year after enactment.



OSG and ATC LDOs can upgrade to Chief Mate through the MM&P License Advancement Fellowship by applying for MM&P membership via comptroller@bridgedeck.org and mmpinfo@bridgedeck.org for reimbursement. The Fellowship reimburses 50% of non-reimbursed training costs up to \$10,000 per LDO for approved courses. For more information, email mmpinfo@bridgedeck.org.



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OSG and ATC First Contract PROGRESS BAR



MM&P IS HERE TO LISTEN

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU CAN REACH CAPTAIN SHAWN TUCY OR CAPTAIN TOM LARKIN AT
MMPINFO@BRIDGEDECK.ORG OR CALL 410-582-7046

[Looking for more information about MM&P?](#)

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<https://bridgedeck.org/osg-newsletters/>