

# A Long-Term Funding Solution for Port Maintenance GOOD FOR PORTS, VITAL FOR EXPORTERS NATIONWIDE



## U.S. PORTS: GATEWAYS TO THE WORLD FOR AMERICAN EXPORTS

Every day, American ports send exported products and materials from manufacturing centers and agricultural communities across the U.S. heartland to markets around the world.

Among the goods that reach overseas markets through America's ports are aerospace products and parts, motor vehicles, lime and gypsum, oil and gas, seeds and grains, meat products and agriculture and construction equipment. These products and many more travel through seaports to reach a variety of markets, from South Korea and Oman, to Brazil and the United Kingdom – and support hundreds of thousands of jobs in states such as Kansas, Kentucky, Nebraska and Wyoming.

With more than 95 percent of the world's population and 80 percent of the world's purchasing power outside the United States, it is vital to keep our seaports operating efficiently to maintain U.S. competitiveness abroad while sustaining jobs and local economies here at home.

## FOR U.S. PORTS, MAINTENANCE IS THE HIGHEST PRIORITY

Responsible for over a quarter of United States GDP and more than 23 million American jobs, a well-maintained port system is vital to the manufacturers, exporters and farmers who count on U.S. ports to move their products to market. Committing taxpayer funds for their intended purpose of harbor maintenance is important to ensure a steady flow of U.S. goods to international markets.

## A SOLUTION TO FIX A BROKEN SYSTEM

After years of underutilizing the Harbor Maintenance Tax (HMT), guaranteeing all funds collected are dedicated to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) will result in the long-term sustainability of our nation's harbor maintenance needs.

## ENSURING TAX FAIRNESS

The port industry has agreed on a plan that devotes 100 percent of the tax paid by shippers to our ports, while providing no additional tax burden on the industry or taxpayers. It assures a fair, equitable and reliable way to ensure the health of this critical part of America's transportation infrastructure.

Under this plan, HMT yearly revenues would be guaranteed to the Corps. The plan includes several funding phases to prioritize maintenance, while providing benefits to all ports.



## Top Manufacturing, Mining & Agriculture Exports from Non-Coastal States

- Aerospace Products & Parts
- Motor Vehicles
- Lime & Gypsum
- Oil & Gas
- Seeds & Grains
- Meat Products
- Ag & Construction Machinery

(Source: Business Roundtable)

Support the AAPA plan to restore and fully maintain  
the nation's water highways – with no new taxes!



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