

Headlines:

White House – Defense Authorization Act and superyachts;
St. Lawrence Seaway – proceeding to final mooring position;
House – bill introduced re oil spills;
House – bill introduced to amend OCSLA; and
Suffolk County, NY – propeller guards.

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Bryant's Maritime News

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White House – Defense Authorization Act and superyachts



The [John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019](#) (H.R. 5515) has been signed into law. While not appropriating new monies, it does provide direction on how funds should be expended. Among other things, it directs the Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating to issue large recreational vessel regulations applicable to recreational vessels over 300 gross tons that do not carry any cargo or passengers for hire. The regulations are to be comparable to the UK's Large Commercial Yacht Code (LY3) or an equivalent code, regulation, or standard acceptable to the Secretary. (8/13/18) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-115hr5515enr/pdf/BILLS-115hr5515enr.pdf>]. *Note: This item was first brought to my attention by my good friend Mark Buhler of the [Buhler Law Firm PA](#).*

St. Lawrence Seaway – proceeding to final mooring position



The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway System issued a notice regarding use of engines to proceed to a vessel's final mooring position. [Seaway Notice 11-2018](#) (8/17/18) [<http://www.greatlakes-seaway.com/en/pdf/navigation/notice20180817.pdf>].

House – bill introduced re oil spills



Representative Engel (D-NY) introduced the **Offending Oil Polluters Act** (H.R. 6658) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to deny certain tax benefits to persons responsible for the discharge of oil or other hazardous substances into navigable waters of the United States. (8/7/18) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-115hr6658ih/pdf/BILLS-115hr6658ih.pdf>].

House – bill introduced to amend OCSLA



Delegate Bordallo (D-GU) introduced the **Offshore Wind for Territories Act** (H.R. 6665) to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to apply to territories of the United States, to establish offshore wind lease sale requirements, to provide dedicated funding for coral reef conservation, and for other purposes. (8/10/18) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-115hr6665ih/pdf/BILLS-115hr6665ih.pdf>].

Suffolk County, NY – propeller guards



The Suffolk County, NY Legislature adopted a resolution requiring that instructional vessels install and maintain propeller guards when operating in Suffolk County waterways. **Res. No. 1402-2018** (7/13/18) [<https://www.scnylegislature.us/DocumentCenter/View/45044/Introductory-Resolution-1402-18-PDF?bidId=>]. *Note 1: This resolution, however well intended, appears to conflict with federal policy. Note 2: This item was brought to my attention by my good friend Matt Marion of **Marion Law LLC**.*

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