

ROBERT MENENDEZ  
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## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3005

May 10, 2019

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The Honorable Elaine Chao  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:


I write in support of Yank Marine Services' (YMS) application for the 2019 Small Shipyard Grant program. This project would allow YMS to revitalize their Dorchester shipyard facility and improve safety by acquiring temporary shelters and installing a robust electrical distribution system.

YMS has been in business since 2005, providing shipbuilding and repair needs to vessels from up and down the East Coast. Commercial fishing, government, passenger, and eco-tourism vessels make up a majority of their customer base.

This project, if funded, will allow YMS to accommodate the large vessels that they are able to haul out with their 900-ton boat hoist. They currently have no building large enough to house these vessels, forcing them to perform work outdoors. This leads to delays during inclement weather. Additionally, the electrical distribution system currently in use not only provides insufficient electrical power, it also requires workarounds that carry increased safety risks.

Along with YMS' sister shipyard, Yank Marine, Inc., which has been in the maritime business for more than 48 years, YMS has provided critical job opportunities and economic vitality to its surrounding communities. I ask that you give all due consideration to this meritorious grant proposal, and thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Robert Menendez  
United States Senator