

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 125

BY SENATOR ALLAIN

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the United States Navy to expeditiously execute a transparent and competitive Medium Unmanned Surface Vessel (MUSV) acquisition strategy to protect the maritime workforce at Conrad Shipyard in Morgan City, Louisiana, to safeguard vital private industrial investments, and to ensure the continued growth of a high-tech autonomous manufacturing ecosystem within the state.

WHEREAS, Louisiana has become a critical hub for the development of the U.S. Navy's Modular Attack Surface Craft (MASC) and the subsequent MUSV program; and

WHEREAS, private capital has already deployed more than \$30 million to date, with an additional \$80 million on track for investment in 2026 to fund production of these advanced vessels in Morgan City; and

WHEREAS, the United States Navy's program reset from MASC to MUSV has introduced significant delays, shifting projected contract awards from the original December 2025 schedule to summer 2026, creating severe market uncertainty; and

WHEREAS, the Navy has requested significant mid-construction requirement changes which necessitates costly engineering rework and threatens to halt active production; and

WHEREAS, despite a \$2.1 billion appropriation specifically for medium unmanned surface vessels in July 2025, the lack of a clear demand signal and delayed spending puts Louisiana's shipbuilding industrial base at a disadvantage; and

WHEREAS, the workforce at Conrad Shipyard is currently building these vessels "at risk" to maintain the delivery schedule, supporting an estimated one hundred eight direct jobs and nearly four hundred total jobs across the Louisiana supply chain this year; and

WHEREAS, currently four hundred direct and indirect jobs are at work, with a full production rate of twenty vessels per year, the program is projected to sustain approximately one thousand direct jobs and four thousand indirect jobs, contributing up to \$700 million in direct annual shipbuilding work to the Louisiana economy; and

WHEREAS, these high-tech jobs bring essential expertise in robotics, software development, and advanced engineering to the region, creating a human capital ecosystem that will complement and benefit Louisiana's maritime industry for decades.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the United States Navy expeditiously execute a transparent and competitive MUSV acquisition strategy to provide a stable production forecast to prevent the loss of high-tech talent and industrial capacity.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Navy is requested to minimize further delays and requirement shifts that leave the Louisiana shipbuilding workforce and private research and development investments at unnecessary risk.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the United States Secretary of the Navy, the Chief of Naval Operations, and the members of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE