



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

House Resolution No. 9

LCO No. 5937



Referred to Committee on COMMERCE

Introduced by:
(CE)

RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING CONGRESS TO AMEND THE JONES ACT TO IMPROVE ECONOMIC AND TRADE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT AND PUERTO RICO.

Resolved by this House:

- 1 WHEREAS, Section 27 of the Merchant Marine Act of 1920, more
2 commonly referred to as the Jones Act, requires that any vessel
3 transporting cargo shipped from one United States port to another be
4 built in the United States, owned by United States citizens and be
5 crewed predominately by United States citizens;
- 6 WHEREAS, Congress enacted the Jones Act to support military
7 readiness and to support the shipbuilding and seafaring industries;
- 8 WHEREAS, Although the Jones Act is well-intentioned, the act has
9 had unintended consequences on Puerto Rico;
- 10 WHEREAS, The higher shipping costs imposed by the Jones Act
11 increases the prices for imports and exports in Puerto Rico, contributing
12 to an increase in the cost of living in Puerto Rico and discouraging trade
13 between Puerto Rico and the mainland United States;
- 14 WHEREAS, The Jones Act costs Puerto Rico approximately \$1.4

15 billion a year;

16 WHEREAS, Not all territories within the United States are required
17 to abide by the Jones Act. The United States Virgin Islands, American
18 Samoa and the commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands are exempt;

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Connecticut General
20 Assembly calls upon the Congress of the United States to pass
21 legislation to exempt Puerto Rico from the Jones Act; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the clerk of the House of
23 Representatives cause a copy of this resolution be sent to each member
24 of the Connecticut congressional delegation.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. ROSARIO, 128th Dist.; REP. HUGHES, 135th Dist.
REP. REYES, 75th Dist.; REP. SANCHEZ J., 6th Dist.

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