



Inlandboatmen's Union of the Pacific



MARINE DIVISION -- INTERNATIONAL LONGSHORE & WAREHOUSE UNION
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June 3, 2025

To whom It may concern,

As the National President of the Inlandboatmen's Union of the Pacific, I write in strong advocacy for the continued existence and funding of our National Job Corps institution. The Inlandboatmen's Union has proudly sponsored the Job Corps Maritime Program at Tongue Point in Astoria, Oregon since 1980. This program serves as a critical foundation for cultivating the next generation of skilled maritime professionals essential to our nation's economic vitality and security.

Over the years, our Job Corps school at Tongue Point has demonstrated outstanding success in training young Americans for lucrative careers in America's critically necessary maritime industry. At a time of pressing shortage of U.S. mariners, our students receive comprehensive instruction in vessel operations, navigation, maritime safety, and mechanical systems, preparing them with the technical expertise necessary to thrive in the maritime industry. The program's job placement rates are a testament to its effectiveness, with graduates securing meaningful employment, simultaneously supporting personal growth, critical economic industry, and National Security.

Our Job Corps training seamlessly integrates with the national objective to strengthen America's maritime sector. In particular, it complements President Donald Trump's advocacy for bolstering the domestic maritime industry and shipbuilding. By nurturing a well-trained workforce, the Tongue Point Maritime School directly contributes to the advancement of our shipbuilding capabilities and maritime operations, both cornerstones of our national infrastructure and defense readiness, as prioritized by President Trump.

The loss of our national Job Corps program would jeopardize the futures of countless aspiring mariners while weakening the broader maritime industry, which depends on a steady influx of skilled professionals.

I respectfully urge you to recognize the indispensable value of the Job Corps Maritime Program at Tongue Point as an example of the value present in ALL Job Corps programs across the nation. Your support in securing the continued operation of Job Corps will ensure that we maintain a robust maritime workforce capable of meeting the demands of today and the challenges of tomorrow, as well as helping other critical American industry who benefit from Job Corps graduates.

Thank you for your attention and commitment to the future of America's maritime industry.

Sincerely,

Robert Estrada
National President

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