

**MARITIME  
CABOTAGE**



## News Release

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### **Maritime Cabotage Task Force Responds To Today's Jobs Report**

*The following is a statement from the Maritime Cabotage Task Force regarding today's Bureau of Labor Statistics announcement that the unemployment rate was unchanged at 9.6 percent in September compared to 9.6 percent in August.*

WASHINGTON – “Today's announced unemployment rate of 9.6 percent shows the U.S. economy is still recovering, especially in terms of growing jobs. While it is important to pursue policies that encourage growth, it is equally essential to ensure that policies that have already been successful in creating jobs remain uninhibited during these challenging economic times.

“The Jones Act, a longstanding U.S. maritime law, boosts our economy by maintaining the efficient and economical flow of domestic waterborne commerce, providing good, family-wage jobs for Americans. For example, every job created in an American shipyard spawns four jobs elsewhere in the U.S. economy. Overall, the Jones Act maritime industry supports 500,000 jobs.

“Though the law's economic benefits are clear, there has been discussion in Congress of repealing the Jones Act. Any efforts to repeal or broadly waive the Act would remove a law that has proven to create jobs at a time millions of Americans are longing to get back to work.”

*Maritime Cabotage Task Force was founded in 1995 to promote the U.S.-flag fleet engaged in domestic waterborne commerce. With more than 400 members, MCTF is the largest coalition ever assembled to represent the domestic segment of the U.S. Merchant Marine. Nationwide, there are more than 39,000 vessels engaged in Jones Act commerce and they annually move more than 1 billion tons of cargo and 100 million passengers. The Act has been broadly supported by every Congress and Administration since its passage in 1920 and is considered a key element in the nation's defense capabilities. For additional information on the U.S. Maritime Cabotage Task Force, please visit <http://www.mctf.com>.*

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