



# Lake Carriers' Association

*The Greatest Ships on the Great Lakes*

Helping the U.S. fleet navigate the Great Lakes since 1880

James H.I. Weakley, President

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**Members:**

**American Steamship  
Company**  
Williamsville, New York

**Andrie, Inc.**  
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**Lake Michigan Carferry  
Service, Inc.**  
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**Pere Marquette Shipping  
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**Soo Marine Supply, Inc.**  
Sault Ste. Marie,  
Michigan

**VanEnkevort Tug &  
Barge, Inc.**  
Escanaba, Michigan

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July 14, 2020

The House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

**SUPPORT FOR THE WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2020**

Dear Mr. Chairman,

Please accept my sincere appreciation and support for the Committee's introduction of the Water Resources Development Act of 2020 (WRDA 2020). Since 1880, Lake Carriers' Association has represented the U.S.-flag Great Lakes fleet, which today can move more than 90 million tons annually of cargoes that are the foundation of American industry, infrastructure, and power: iron ore, stone, coal, cement, and other dry bulk materials such as grain, salt, and sand.

Specific to this bill, I call out the importance the Committee placed on the Great Lakes Navigation System (GLNS) and the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund (HMTF). Ensuring full use of the HMTF is critical to maintaining the GLNS infrastructure of waterways, ports, and navigational locks. I was delighted to see that WRDA 2020 would facilitate the expenditure of both annual HMTF revenue and the \$10 billion HMTF balance and would allocate 12 percent of HMTF spending to the Great Lakes, a most vital maritime system to the nation's economic security.

Lake Carriers' Association strongly supports Committee adoption and House passage of WRDA 2020.

Very Respectfully,

James H. I. Weakley  
President