115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION  

H. R. _____

To authorize the Secretary of Transportation to designate certain entities as centers of excellence for domestic maritime workforce training and education, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. Gene Green of Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on ____________________

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Transportation to designate certain entities as centers of excellence for domestic maritime workforce training and education, and for other purposes.

1  Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
2  tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

3  SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

4  This Act may be cited as the “Domestic Maritime
5  Centers of Excellence Act of 2017”
SEC. 2. DOMESTIC MARITIME CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE.

(a) DESIGNATION AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of Transportation is authorized to designate community and technical colleges with a maritime training program and maritime training centers operated by or under the supervision of a State, if located in the United States along the Gulf of Mexico, Atlantic Ocean, Pacific Ocean, Arctic Ocean, Bering Sea, Gulf of Alaska, or Great Lakes, as centers of excellence for domestic maritime workforce training and education.

(b) ASSISTANCE.—

(1) TYPES.—The Secretary may provide to an entity designated as a center of excellence under subsection (a)—

(A) technical assistance;

(B) surplus Federal equipment and assets;

and

(C) funding.

(2) PURPOSES.—The Secretary may provide assistance under paragraph (1)—

(A) to support a maritime workforce program; and

(B) to assist an entity designated as a center of excellence under subsection (a) to expand the capacity of the entity to train the domestic
maritime workforce of the United States, including by—

(i) admitting additional students;
(ii) recruiting and training faculty;
(iii) expanding facilities;
(iv) creating new maritime career pathways; and
(v) awarding students credit for prior experience, including military service.