A Bill to Reinvigorate American Waterway Networks

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. $1.5 Billion Dollars will be provided to repair American waterway transportation networks, such as river harbors and dams. These shall shall be dubbed “Waterway Focal Points”

SECTION 2. Waterway Focal Points shall be defined as areas of infrastructural importance to American waterway networks, such as dams, locks, deep channels, river harbors, and refueling points.

SECTION 3. The Department of Transportation will manage the funds, and the US Army Corps of Engineers will be responsible for implementation.

A. The Department of Transportation will be provided with the $1.5 Billion Dollars as part of their Fiscal Year 2030 funding. A committee will be formed to oversee the distribution of funds and will be made up of one official from the Department of Transportation, one from the Maritime Administration, one from the U.S Coast Guard, and one from the US Army Corps of Engineers. This committee will review funding requests from the Corps of Engineers, and will have the power to deny, approve and alter requests, and will distribute funding based on these decisions.

B. The US Army Corp of Engineers will be responsible for accumulating a list of all Waterway Focal Points in need of funding, prioritizing them based on need, and then preparing requests for this funding. They will have until Fiscal Year 2030 to do so. When Fiscal Year 2030 begins, they will be able to request funding, implement construction, and do so until the money runs out.

C. The funding shall be raised by raising taxes on gasoline, diesel and jet fuel in accordance with the recommendations of the United States Department of the Treasury.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect after passing, with funding distributed as a part of the Department of Transportation 2030 budget. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate Dilworth-Glynon-Felton High School