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(Original Signature of Member)

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend the Labor Management Relations Act, 1947, to provide for the mandatory appointment of a board of inquiry into slow-downs, strikes, or lock-outs when certain specified events occur.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. NEWHOUSE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend the Labor Management Relations Act, 1947, to provide for the mandatory appointment of a board of inquiry into slow-downs, strikes, or lock-outs when certain specified events occur.

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 “Ensuring Continued
5 Operations and No Other Major Incidents, Closures, or
6 Slowdowns Act” or the “ECONOMICS Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. CONDITIONS REQUIRING APPOINTMENT OF BOARD**
2 **OF INQUIRY.**

3 Section 206 of the Labor Management Relations Act,
4 1947 (29 U.S.C. 176) is amended—

5 (1) by striking “Whenever in the opinion” and
6 inserting “(a) Whenever in the opinion”;

7 (2) by striking “a threatened or actual strike”
8 and inserting “a slow-down, or a threatened or ac-
9 tual strike”; and

10 (3) by adding at the end the following:

11 “(b) The President shall appoint a board of inquiry
12 described in subsection (a) not later than 10 days after
13 any of the following events occur:

14 “(1) The U.S. Census Bureau reports that the
15 monthly Total U.S. Export Vessel Shipping Weight
16 or Total U.S. Export Vessel Value decreased by 15
17 percent or more in any one month from the previous
18 month or decreased by 5 percent or more in any two
19 consecutive months.

20 “(2) A slow-down, or a threatened or an actual
21 strike or lock-out takes place at four or more port
22 facilities.

23 “(3) A slow-down, or a threatened or an actual
24 strike or lock-out occurs in which the total number
25 of employees actively striking, locked-out, or slowing-

1 down at the affected port facilities is 6,000 or great-
2 er.

3 “(c) Whenever a board of inquiry is appointed as re-
4 quired by the occurrence of any of the events described
5 in subsection (b), such board shall submit a written report
6 to the President not later than 10 days after its appoint-
7 ment. If a board of inquiry is appointed as required due
8 to the occurrence of the event described in paragraph (1)
9 of such subsection, such board shall include in its report
10 an assessment as to whether a slow-down, or a threatened
11 or an actual strike or lock-out contributed to the occur-
12 rence of such an event resulting in the board’s appoint-
13 ment. If the board determines that a slow-down, or a
14 threatened or an actual strike or lock-out did contribute
15 to the occurrence of such an event, the board shall also
16 include in its report the additional criteria established in
17 subsection (a). The President shall file a copy of such re-
18 port with the Service and shall make its contents available
19 to the public.”.

20 **SEC. 3. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

21 Section 208(a) of the Labor Management Relations
22 Act, 1947 (29 U.S.C. 178(a)) is amended—

23 (1) by striking “such strike or lock-out” and in-
24 serting “such slow-down, strike, or lock-out”; and

1 (2) by striking “such threatened or actual
2 strike” and inserting “such slow-down, or threatened
3 or actual strike”.