

# MAINTAINING FEDERAL HARBORS & WATERWAYS CREATES JOBS & IMPROVES ACCESS & SAFETY FOR RECREATIONAL BOATING

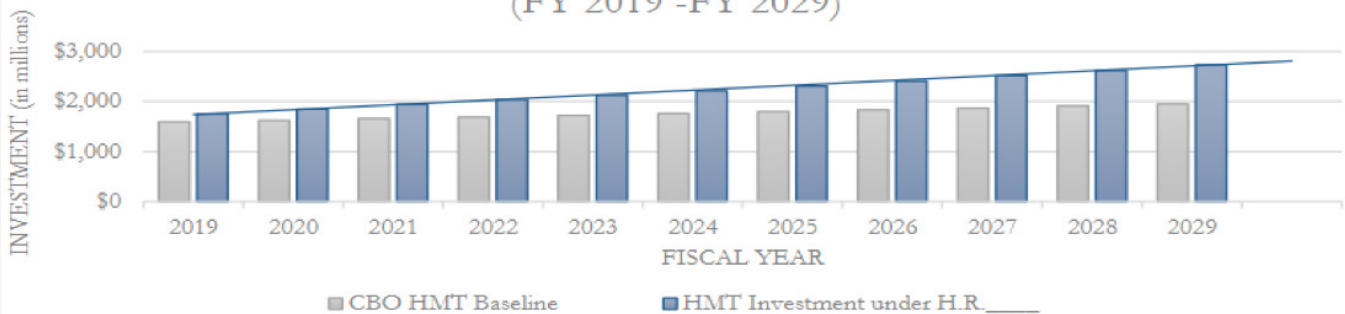
Congress created the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund (HMTF) in 1985 to pay for operations and maintenance costs of all federal ports and harbors, yet Congress has repeatedly misdirected portions of HMTF revenue to pay for unrelated projects.



- ▶ HMTF revenue comes from a 0.125% tax on imported cargo moving through federal ports and harbors.
- ▶ To date, \$9 billion of collected HMTF revenue has been directed away from harbor maintenance, our nation's federal ports, harbors, and waterways, and thousands of American jobs.
- ▶ As a result, the 59 busiest ports are available less than 35% of the time, and conditions at mid-size and emerging harbors are far worse.

The Full Utilization of the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund Act (H.R. 2440) would ensure all revenue collected for harbor maintenance is spent on harbor maintenance.

Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund Investments (FY 2019 -FY 2029)



**\$170 billion**

Annual economic activity generated by recreational boating.

**\$20.5 billion**

The total cost to dredge and maintain all federal navigation projects over the next decade.



Dredging isn't just a budget line item – it keeps harbor entrances and waterways open, creates jobs, supports countless local communities, and protects environmental stability.