

Senate Committee Approves Maritime Security Bill

June 24, 2004

In April, the Senate Commerce Committee approved two measures aimed at increasing federal funding for maritime security efforts. The Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2004 (S. 2279) would provide \$2 billion over five years to increase security efforts at the nation's ports, such as increased tracking of intermodal cargo, increased research on blast-resistant vessels, and infrastructure improvement. As introduced, the legislation included a user fee assessed on port users to finance increased security spending. However, an amendment by Sen. Trent Lott (R-MS) to strike the user fee provision was approved by the committee. For more information, visit the committee's website at <http://commerce.senate.gov/> or visit THOMAS at <http://thomas.loc.gov/> to obtain copies of the bills.

This weekly report is written by the American Society of Civil Engineers' [Government Relations staff](#). If you have any questions or comments about any items in this report please email govwash@asce.org.