To permit the use of NATO and major non-NATO ally dredge ships in the United States.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Allied Partnership and Port Modernization Act”.

SEC. 2. DREDGING; DREDGED MATERIAL.

(a) DREDGING.—Section 55109 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by inserting “or (c)” after “subsection (b)”;

________________________________________________________________________

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. Lee introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on ____________________
(2) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d); and

(3) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

“(c) DREDGING BY NATO-AFFILIATED VESSELS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A vessel described in paragraph (2) may engage in dredging in the navigable waters of the United States.

“(2) VESSELS.—A vessel described in this paragraph is a vessel—

“(A) documented under the laws of a country that is a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization;

“(B) built by a country that is a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization or a major non-NATO ally (as defined in section 2350a(i) of title 10); and

“(C) for which a majority of the owners and operators of the vessel are entities incorporated in a country that is a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.”.

(b) EXCLUDING DREDGED MATERIAL FROM TRANSPORTATION REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 55110 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—
(A) in the section heading, by striking “OR DREDGED MATERIAL” and inserting “(EXCLUDING DREDGED MATERIAL)”; and

(B) by striking “or dredged material” and inserting “(excluding dredged material)”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 551 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to section 55110 and inserting the following:

“Sec. 55110. Transportation of valueless material (excluding dredged material).”.