



United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0905

BILL NELSON
FLORIDA

June 29, 2016

Mr. Fred Jones
Office of Marine Highway and Passenger Services, W21-311
U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, Southeast
Washington, District of Columbia 20590-0001

RE: Canaveral Port Authority - MARAD - America's Marine Highway Program

Dear Mr. Jones:

I am pleased to provide this letter in support of the Canaveral Port Authority's efforts to obtain a federal designation. The goal of their proposed project, is to develop a containerized tug barge service between Philadelphia and Canaveral with direct service along the M-95 Marine Highway Corridor. I respectfully request your consideration of this organization's application for federal designation.

The Port of Canaveral is partnering with the Port of Philadelphia in an effort to improve short sea shipping services between their two ports. If designated, they will create more cost effective and more sustainable freight transportation, encouraging the use of and investment in our waterways as a transportation resource. A marine highway service between Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Canaveral, Florida takes advantage of these waterways and each port's available waterfront facilities to provide environmentally sustainable and material benefits to the communities and citizens located along the I-95 corridor.

Again, I encourage your consideration of this worthy cause. If I can be of further assistance in this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at the address below.

Sincerely,

BN/jm

CC: Ms. Barbara Arthur, Regional Director, U. S. Senator Bill Nelson