



Erik G. Milito
President

**NATIONAL
OCEAN
INDUSTRIES
ASSOCIATION**

June 24, 2026

The Honorable Andrew Garbarino
Chairman
Committee on Homeland Security
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Bennie G. Thompson
Ranking Member
Committee on Homeland Security
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

1201 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Suite 530
Washington, D.C. 20004
202-347-6900
www.noia.org

Re: Support for H.R. 5109, the TWIC Efficiency (TWICE) Act

Chairman Garbarino and Ranking Member Thompson,

The National Ocean Industries Association (NOIA) strongly supports H.R. 5109, the TWIC Efficiency (TWICE) Act. We commend Representatives Troy Carter and Clay Higgins for their bipartisan leadership on this important issue.

NOIA represents the full spectrum of the offshore energy industry, with a membership that spans offshore oil and natural gas, offshore wind, ocean minerals, offshore carbon capture and sequestration, and the service and supply companies that support them. Our members operate the vessels, supply bases, fabrication yards, and port facilities that power the nation's offshore energy production, facilities where workforce access stands to benefit considerably from this legislation.

The Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) is the threshold requirement for unescorted access to those facilities. For our members and the marine service companies that support them, a TWIC card is not a convenience; it is a prerequisite for employment. Yet the offshore energy workforce along the Gulf Coast faces persistent labor shortages just as demand for skilled maritime and energy workers continues to rise. The TWICE Act directly addresses one avoidable bottleneck in that pipeline.

The TWICE Act broadens the pool of eligible workers without changing security standards. It directs the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) to develop guidelines allowing eligible individuals to begin the TWIC application process before reentry, and to clarify the path for appeals and waivers following a preliminary determination of ineligibility. Together, these changes preserve the program's existing vetting while removing the procedural friction that currently keeps qualified workers from filling jobs our industry urgently needs.

The result is a workforce development measure that serves both economic and public safety goals. It supports successful reentry, reduces recidivism, and strengthens the maritime and energy supply chains that move and produce American energy. For coastal communities throughout the Gulf Coast, it turns a largely untapped but capable talent pool into a source of reliable employees and good-paying careers.

Our members consistently find that workers given a second chance through programs like this can become some of their most committed and dependable employees, bringing a strong work ethic, loyalty, and determination to the demanding maritime and offshore jobs our industry relies on. By removing one unnecessary obstacle from their path, the TWICE Act would connect even more of these capable workers to the careers our industry needs to fill. NOIA thanks the Committee for its consideration of this legislation and urges your full support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Erik Milito". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "E" and a long, sweeping underline.

Erik Milito,
NOIA President