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MADISON - State Senator Dave Hansen (D-Green Bay) praised successful efforts by U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin (D-Wisconsin) to get funding appropriated for three littoral combat ships in FY 2015 and \$80 million to fund advanced procurement of items for the fourth ship to be built the following year. The funding was approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee.

"Senator Baldwin's efforts to continue the LCS program are greatly appreciated by the workers at Marinette Marine, the citizens of Wisconsin and anyone who supports a strong national defense," said Hansen who has been a strong advocate for the LCS program and Marinette Marine.

The U.S House of Representatives so far has approved funding for only one new ship.



"While I am appreciative of Congressman Ribble's efforts and support for the LCS program, more work needs to be done to bring the House leadership around to the Senate position on funding for the LCS. There is too much at stake in terms of jobs, our economy and our national security in terms of the LCS program and a stronger case needs to be made in the House if we are to keep this valuable program on track."

Marinette Marine, one of the foremost shipbuilders in the country, employs nearly 1,000 workers building littoral combat ships for the U.S. Navy.

"Marinette Marine, its workers, the City of Marinette and the state have all made significant investments in order to accommodate the needs of the Navy with respect to the LCS program. The House needs to follow the Senate's lead and keep its commitment to this vital part of our national defense."