

Senate bill may be boost for Fairbanks

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WASHINGTON, D.C. — The U.S. Senate has passed a bill that requires the domestic manufacture of certain shipboard components, including diesel engines, for the Navy's new oiler ship.

The provision could be a positive development for Beloit's Fairbanks Morse Engine, a key supplier of diesel engines to the Navy. The Navy plans to build 17 oiler ships over several years, allowing Fairbanks Morse to compete for significant propulsion work.

“This critical provision will maintain the U.S. Navy's historical and mutually beneficial relationship with the domestic shipbuilding industrial base by continuing policies that have served U.S. national security and the public interest for almost 25 years,” said Wisconsin Sen. Tammy Baldwin, D-Madison, a prime supporter of the bill. “As a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee I was proud to fight on behalf of the hard-working men and women of Wisconsin's ship-building industry.”