

# China urges US to scrap port fee plan

The Chinese government urges the US to cease its proposed port fees on China-built vessels.

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Image: Senate Democrats via Wikimedia Commons

At a regular news briefing the Chinese Foreign Ministry said the planned fee of up to \$1.5 million per call at US ports by Chinese-built vessels would hurt the [US](#) itself and disrupt supply chains.

Last week, the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) proposed new fees on vessels operated by Chinese ship operators or built in China calling on US ports as a means to counter China's dominance in the maritime sector.

Mao Ning, spokesperson of [China's](#) Foreign Ministry stated at a regular press briefing on Monday, "We've stated our position on relevant questions. Such measures as imposing port fees and levying tariffs on cargo handling facilities hurt the US itself as well as others. The move not only hikes global maritime shipping costs and disrupts the stability of global industrial and supply chains, but also increases inflationary pressures in the US and hurts the interests of American consumers and businesses. The practice will ultimately fail to revitalize the US shipbuilding industry."

"We urge the US to respect facts and multilateral rules, and immediately stop its wrongdoings. China will take necessary measures to defend its lawful rights and interests," Mao continued.

This new proposal is a part of White House's action to boost US shipbuilding and maritime industry while reducing China's dominance in maritime, logistics and shipbuilding sectors.

Feedback on the proposal by US related shipping businesses has warned of bankruptcies among maritime players if plans go ahead in their current form.