Dear Senator XXXX or Congressman XXXX,

I am writing to ask for your help with the crisis at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy. USMMA is in serious peril and the Academy and Midshipmen need your assistance. I am requesting that you read the letters to DOT Secretary Foxx, Maritime Administrator Jaenichen, and Superintendent Helis from the many members of congress and the presidents of the four major maritime unions. I am respectfully requesting that you join their efforts in holding DOT, MARAD, and Academy leadership responsible for the failed re-accreditation of a federal academy and the unsubstantiated suspension of core curricula. Please contact Congressman Peter King, the Chair of the USMMA Board of Visitors, to offer your assistance to resolve the leadership and governance issues currently plaguing the US Merchant Marine Academy.

Copies of all the letters to Secretary Foxx and MARAD can be found on [Kingspointsentry.com](http://kingspointsentry.com/) under "important documents." The Middle States (MSCHE) Accreditation report siting five of fourteen failed standards placing the Academy on "Warning" status and other pertinent information can also be found here. To date, DOT and MARAD have yet to respond to congress or the maritime unions. It should be noted that Sea Year is mentioned 18 times in the MSCHE report, and not once in connection with SA/SH. It should also be noted that USMMA is the only institution on the MSCHE list of "warning" institutions that failed more than one or two standards.

Many midshipmen have been told they will not be able to graduate on time and there are more facing the same fate. These midshipmen were promised a year at sea aboard commercial vessels as part of their education, and the Academy is not fulfilling that promise. They were also promised a degree from an accredited institution and that is in serious doubt with continued failed leadership. The Sea Year Suspension is negatively impacting the quality of the midshipmen education and effectively eliminating one of the key pillars of a Kings Point education, sea year aboard commercial vessels. Today is day 101 of the Sea Year suspension with no end in sight; time is of the essence in returning the midshipmen to sea. I trust you have already heard from many midshipmen and parents with these concerns. As a graduate of this fine institution, I am also expressing my deep concern for USMMA.

Thank you for your interest and action on this issue. Please keep me updated with your progress.