

September 13, 2021

The Honorable John Garamendi
U.S. House of Representatives
2368 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Dusty Johnson
U.S. House of Representatives
1714 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Garamendi and Johnson,

On behalf of the undersigned companies and trade associations representing U.S. importers, exporters, transportation providers and other supply chain stakeholders, we are writing to express our strong support for the Ocean Shipping Reform Act of 2021 (OSRA21) (HR 4996) which you have introduced. We believe the reforms included in OSRA21 will help address longstanding, systemic supply chain and port disruption issues which have been further exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The ongoing supply chain challenges that face the nation's exporters and importers are having a significant effect on their economic recovery during the pandemic. While the supply chain has been stretched from end-to-end, there are systemic issues that need to be addressed in the maritime cargo sphere. For many years, the issue of detention and demurrage has been a problem leading to significant cost increases for cargo owners and truckers, many times due to issues beyond their control. We certainly welcomed the Interpretive Rule on Detention and Demurrage as published by the Federal Maritime Commission, but we need more than just "guidance" that is not being followed by ocean carriers nor marine terminals, leading to hundreds of millions of dollars in unfair penalties against US shippers and their transportation partners. The legislation will seek to formalize this rule and truly define the parameters for these charges.

Foreign markets are critical to American businesses, particularly US farmers and ranchers, with more than 20% of agricultural production going abroad. Problems obtaining ocean containers of any kind combined with difficulty securing vessel space at fair and reasonable prices, are jeopardizing livelihoods and economic recovery. The attention given these unreasonable practices and the reforms proposed in OSRA21 are critical to reversing those challenges facing not only US exporters but also US businesses that rely on imports.

The legislation will also seek to update key provisions of the Ocean Shipping Reform Act, which hasn't been updated in over two decades. The maritime transportation system has changed significantly during those decades. While some maritime transportation system changes have been a positive for the industry overall, we need to ensure the regulations remain applicable to today's reality. With the creation of the carrier alliances, contraction of the number of carriers in the market, changes to chassis management and others, we believe the time is right for these important reforms.

We thank you for your strong leadership on this issue to ensure that the ongoing supply chain disruption and port congestion issues are addressed. This will help ensure U.S.

competitiveness and continued economic recovery. We look forward to working with you to ensure passage of this important legislation.

Sincerely

Company Signatures

Accustom Brokerage, LLC
Akzo Nobel
Associated Bag
BassTech International
BBT Logistics, Inc.
Best Transportation
Bio-Vet, Inc
Briggs & Riley Travelware, LLC
BubbleBum USA LLC
Byer California
Cap America, Inc
Carbochem Inc
Dalakar Hill LLC
Delka Trucking, Inc.
Delta Cycle Corp
ElliptiGO, Inc.
Epstone Inc. T/A Artistic Tile
Everlast Sports Mfg Inc.
Hapco Inc.
Hatco Corporation
HCS International
Hercules Enterprises LLC
Highline United LLC
ICE Robotics
InUSA Manufacturing LLC
It luggage USA, Ltd.
J Way Company
Ju Ju Be Intl
Kontoor Brands, Inc.
Levatoy, LLC

Loftex Home LLC
Luggage Shop of Lubbock
Luraco Technologies
M.E. Dey & Co. Inc.
Mobile Edge LLC
MTI, INC. PA
Multiax America Inc
Nouryon
Outdoor Gear, Inc.
Regal Lager, Inc
Renfro Brands LLC
Schuster Products, LLC
Setlog Corp.
SGP Inc
Signify North America Corporation
Star Children's Dress Co.
Stork Craft Manufacturing Inc.
Synergies Worldwide Ltd.
T.G.S. Logistics, Inc.
Town & Country Living
Transways Motor Express co., Inc.
Uncommon Carrier, Inc.
United State Luggage, LLC
UPS
Wausau Chemical Corporation
Wenko Inc.
WEST END Express
Xenith
Zero Halliburton, Inc.

Trade Association Signatures

Accessories Council
Agriculture Transportation Coalition
Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration
Institute
ALTI
American Apparel & Footwear Association
American Association of Exporters and
Importers

American Chemistry Council
American Coatings Association
American Home Furnishings Alliance
American Lighting Association
American Pyrotechnics Association
American Seed Trade Association
American Spice Trade Association
American Trucking Associations

Association of Bi-State Motor Carriers
 Association of Food Industries
 Auto Care Association
 Automotive Body Parts Association (ABPA)
 CAWA - Representing the Automotive
 Parts Industry
 Color Pigments Manufacturers Association
 Columbia River Customs Brokers &
 Forwarders Association
 Consumer Brands Association
 Consumer Technology Association
 Council of Fashion Designers of America
 (CFDA)
 Customs Brokers & Forwarders Association of
 Northern California Customs Brokers &
 International
 Freight Forwarders Association of Washington
 State
 Dairy Farmers of America
 Distilled Spirits Council of the U.S.
 Experiential Designers & Producers
 Association
 Footwear Distributors & Retailers of
 America (FDRA)
 Fragrance Creators Association
 Freight Management Association of Canada
 Game Manufacturers Association
 Green Coffee Association
 Greeting Card Association
 Halloween & Costume Association
 Harbor Trucking Association
 Home Fashion Products Association
 Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Inc
 Intermodal Motor Carriers Conference
 International Association of Movers (IAM)
 International Association of Refrigerated
 Warehouses
 International Bottled Water Association
 International Housewares Association
 International Warehouse Logistics Association
 International Wood Products Association
 ISSA - The Worldwide Cleaning Industry
 Association
 Juvenile Products Manufacturers Association
 (JPMA)
 Leather and Hide Council of America
 Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce
 Los Angeles Customs Brokers & Freight
 Forwarders Association
 Meat Import Council of America
 Michigan Chemistry Council
 Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association
 Motorcycle Industry Council
 NASSTRAC
 National Association of Chemical Distributors
 National Association of Music Merchants
 National Electrical Manufacturers Association
 National Fisheries Institute
 National Foreign Trade Council
 National Industrial Transportation League
 National Marine Manufacturers Association
 National Milk Producers Federation
 National Pork Producers Council
 National Retail Federation
 National Ski & Snowboard Retailers Association
 National Sporting Goods Association
 New Jersey Motor Truck Association
 North American Association of Food
 Equipment Manufacturers (NAFEM)
 North American Home Furnishings Association
 North American Meat Institute
 Outdoor Industry Association
 Pacific Coast Council of Customs Brokers and
 Freight Forwarders Assns. Inc.
 Personal Care Products Council
 Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council
 Plumbing Manufacturers International
 Promotional Products Association International (PPAI)
 Recreational Off Highway Vehicle Association
 Retail Industry Leaders Association (RILA)
 San Diego Customs Brokers Association
 Specialty Vehicle Institute of America
 Sports & Fitness Industry Association (SFIA)
 The Can Manufacturers Institute
 The Fertilizer Institute
 The Foreign Trade Association (FTA)
 The Hardwood Federation
 The Toy Association
 Travel Goods Association
 U.S. Dairy Export Council
 U.S. Fashion Industry Association
 United Natural Products Alliance
 Wisconsin Credit Assn

CC: The Honorable Peter DeFazio, Chairman, Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure
Committee
The Honorable Sam Graves, Ranking Member, Committee on Transportation &
Infrastructure Committee
The Honorable Salud O. Carbajal, Chairman, Committee on Transportation &
Infrastructure Committee Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation
The Honorable Bob Gibbs, Ranking Member, Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure
Committee Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation