

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