

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