

April 20, 2022

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
Chairman
Senate Committee on Commerce,
Science and Transportation
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Roger Wicker
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Commerce
Science and Transportation
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Peter DeFazio
Chairman
House Committee on Transportation
and Infrastructure
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Sam Graves
Ranking Member
House Committee on Transportation
and Infrastructure
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cantwell, Ranking Member Wicker, Chairman DeFazio and Ranking Member Graves,

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 thank you for your leadership on passage of the Ocean Shipping Reform Act (S. 3580/H.R. 4996) in both chambers. The bills have passed with overwhelming bipartisan support. We now encourage you and your colleagues to come together to conference the differences between the two bills. We believe these differences can be easily resolved through a conference negotiation.

As you know, the reforms included in both versions of the OSRA will help address the longstanding, systemic supply chain and port disruption issues which have been further exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. While we know that the supply chain disruptions will continue through 2022 and perhaps into 2023, it is time to finalize the OSRA so that industry can begin to make the necessary changes to help address some of the unreasonable business practices the bill targets, especially strengthening the role of the Federal Maritime Commission (FMC).

The two bills, as passed, are very complementary. However, we believe there are a few provisions that need to be discussed and reconciled as part of a conference negotiation. These provisions, which the undersigned support, include:

- A requirement for ocean carriers to adhere to minimum service standards that meet the “public interest.”
- A certification requirement for a demurrage and detention charge.
- An explicit prohibition of carriers from declining export booking.
- A provision 1) prohibiting carriers from failing to furnish or 2) causing a contractor to fail to furnish the facilities and instrumentalities needed to perform the transportation services.
- A provision allowing third parties to intervene in FMC action against ocean carriers alleging anticompetitive conduct.

We again thank you for your strong leadership on this bill to address long standing maritime shipping issues. Promptly reaching a final OSRA bill, followed by swift final Congressional passage and the president’s signature, will help ensure U.S. competitiveness and

continued economic recovery. We look forward to working with you on a final conference product.

Sincerely

Accessories Council	Foreign Trade Association
Agricultural Retailers Association	Fragrance Creators Association
Agriculture and Food Transporters Conference	Gemini Shippers
Agriculture Transportation Coalition (AgTC)	Glass Packaging Institute (GPI)
Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute	Global Cold Chain Alliance
American Apparel & Footwear Association (AAFA)	Green Coffee Association
American Association of Exporters and Importers	Greeting Card Association
American Automotive Policy Council	Halloween Industry Association
American Bakers Association	Harbor Trucking Association
American Bridal and Prom Industry Association (ABPIA)	Hardwood Federation
American Chemistry Council	Health Industry Distributors Association (HIDA)
American Down and Feather Council	Healthcare Distribution Alliance
American Forest & Paper Association	Home Fashion Products Association
American Foundry Society	Institute for Scrap Recycling Industries (ISRI)
American Home Furnishings Alliance	International Association of Movers (IAM)
American Lighting Association	International Bottled Water Association (IBWA)
American Pyrotechnics Association	International Housewares Association
American Seed Trade Association	International Warehouse Logistics Association (IWLA)
American Trucking Associations	Intermodal Motor Carriers Conference
Association of Bi-State Motor Carriers	Juvenile Products Manufacturers Association ~ JPMA
Association of Food Industries	Leather and Hide Council of America
Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers	Meat Import Council of America
Auto Care Association	Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association (MEMA)
Autos Drive America	Motorcycle Industry Council
Can Manufacturers Institute	National Association of Chemical Distributors (NACD)
CAWA – Representing the Automotive Parts Industry	National Association of Manufacturers
Color Pigments Manufacturers Association	National Association of Music Merchants
Consumer Technology Association	National Confectioners Association
Council of Fashion Designers of America (CFDA)	National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)
Distilled Spirits Council of the United States	National Fisheries Institute (NFI)
Experiential Designers & Producers Association	National Industrial Transportation League (NITLeague)
Fashion Accessories Shippers Association	National Milk Producers Federation
Fashion Jewelry & Accessories Trade Association	National Pork Producers Council
Footwear Distributors & Retailers of America (FDRA)	National Restaurant Association
	National Retail Federation
	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
	Personal Care Products Council

Pet Advocacy Network
Plumbing Manufacturers International
Promotional Products Association International
(PPAI)
Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association
Retail Industry Leaders Association (RILA)
Society of Chemical Manufacturers &
Affiliates (SOCMA)
Specialty Equipment Market Association
(SEMA)

Specialty Vehicle Institute of America
Sports & Fitness Industry Association
The Fertilizer Institute
Toy Association
Travel Goods Association (TGA)
U.S. Dairy Export Council
United States Fashion Industry Association
Vinyl Institute

CC: Chairman Gary Peters, Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation
Subcommittee on Surface Transportation, Maritime, Freight, and Ports
Ranking Member Deb Fischer, Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation
Subcommittee on Surface Transportation, Maritime, Freight, and Ports
Chairman Salud O. Carbajal, House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation
Ranking Member Bob Gibbs, House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation