

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1804

September 9, 2014

The Honorable Harry Reid  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
U.S. Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
U.S. Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Boehner  
Speaker  
United States House of Representatives  
U.S. Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Democratic Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
U.S. Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader Reid, Minority Leader McConnell, Speaker Boehner, and Democratic Leader Pelosi:

As the official credit export agency of the United States, the Export-Import (Ex-Im) Bank helps finance the export of U.S. goods and services, opening up our companies to foreign markets to boost the economy and create jobs in communities across the country. As you know, the Ex-Im Bank's charter is set to expire at the end of this month. Reauthorization of Ex-Im Bank must be a priority before the end of this work period, and I urge you to take up this matter on the floor as soon as possible.

The nation's almost 28 million small businesses, including nearly 415,000 in Louisiana, are the backbone of America's economy. However, these job creators often face obstacles to exporting their goods in today's global marketplace. The Ex-Im Bank helps entrepreneurs break through these barriers to international markets, allowing them to grow their business, create jobs and drive our nation's economy. Since 2007, the Ex-Im Bank has provided \$116 billion in export financing, which in turn supported about \$236 billion in U.S. exports and more than 1.2 million U.S. jobs. In Louisiana, the United States' sixth-largest exporter, the Ex-Im Bank directly supports more than 150 businesses and thousands of jobs. Furthermore, the bank has a clear and positive impact across the supply chain, indirectly supporting hundreds more businesses throughout the state. We must not let partisan politics get in the way of protecting these businesses and jobs.

As Congress debates whether or not to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank, we have a stark choice. We can either export goods and service and import jobs, or we can export jobs and import goods and service. In the past, Republicans and Democrats were able to work together to reauthorize this critical agency, and I see no reason for further delay this time around. I urge you in the strongest terms to bring the Ex-Im Reauthorization to the floor before its charter expires.

America's small businesses are counting on us to support them and help them stay competitive in the foreign marketplace.

With kindest regards, I am,

Sincerely,



Mary L. Landrieu  
U.S. Senator