

House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representatives:

NSBA and its international trade arm—the Small Business Exporters Association—has been outspoken advocates for a long-term reauthorization and increased exposure cap for the U.S. Export-Import (Ex-Im) Bank. On behalf of the small-businesses that rely on Ex-Im for much-needed financing and credit insurance, I urge members to support the bi-partisan bill, *H.R. 2072*, the *Securing American Jobs Through Exports Act of 2011*, when it is considered under the suspension calendar later this week.

Ex-Im Bank is an independent federal agency that helps create and maintain U.S. jobs by filling gaps in private export financing at no cost to American taxpayers. The Bank provides a variety of financing mechanisms, including working capital financing, export-credit insurance and financial guarantees to help foreign buyers purchase U.S. goods and services.

We applaud House Majority Leader Eric Cantor and House Minority Whip Steny Hoyer for their dedication and bipartisan efforts to settle on a compromise to reauthorize Ex-Im's charter to 2014 and raise its loan exposure cap incrementally to \$140 billion. The three-year extension cap gradually increases from \$120 billion for the remainder of 2012, to \$130 billion in 2013 and ultimately reaches \$140 billion for 2014, provided certain default requirements are met.

Ex-Im Bank remains a catalyst for the expansion of small-business exports while continuing to support businesses confronting aggressive foreign competition. In fact, for FY 2011, Ex-Im Bank set a record in its support of small business at \$6 billion—an increase of more than 20 percent since 2010. Furthermore, in 2011 alone, Ex-Im Bank supported 290,000 jobs and \$41 billion in exports.

Absent Congressional action, the Bank's authorization will not only expire at the end of this month but it will have bumped up against its \$100 billion cap and be unable to take on further transactions in the pipeline. Any uncertainty could have a devastating effect on small businesses ability to follow through on sales even though there are buyers who want their products.

Ex-Im Bank enables U.S. companies—large and small—to turn export opportunities into real sales, thus maintaining and creating U.S. jobs and contributing to a stronger national economy. We strongly urge you to support H.R. 2072 and approve this compromise legislation without further delay.

Sincerely,



Todd McCracken
President and CEO