

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

R. BRUCE JOSTEN
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TO THE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE:

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the world's largest business federation representing the interests of more than three million businesses of all sizes, sectors, and regions, as well as state and local chambers and industry associations, and dedicated to promoting, protecting and defending America's free enterprise system, urges the Senate to pass H.J. Res. 124, the "Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2015," to ensure the uninterrupted funding of the federal government through December 11, 2014, at spending levels consistent with P.L. 113-67, the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013.

Additionally, the Chamber supports the section extending the charter of the Export Import Bank (Ex-Im). This extension would ensure that U.S. businesses have access to competitive export financing terms in securing overseas sales in the face of other nations' aggressive trade finance programs. During FY 2013, Ex-Im enabled more than \$37 billion in export sales from thousands of U.S. companies, supporting an estimated 205,000 export-related American jobs. The Bank also set a record in its support for small business, approving more than 3,400 small business transactions, nearly 90 percent of all Ex-Im transactions last year. U.S. companies who are looking to do business in emerging export markets need certainty so they will not miss out on opportunities to grow their businesses and hire new workers. The Chamber looks forward to working expeditiously with Leaders, authorizing committee Members, and other Members to pass a separate, multi-year reauthorization of the Ex-Im Bank.

The Chamber urges the Senate to pass H.J. Res. 124 to fund the government and to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank, and then to return to completing work on the unfinished Fiscal Year 2015 appropriations bills. **The Chamber may consider including votes on, or in relation to, H.J. Res. 124 in our annual *How They Voted* scorecard.**

Sincerely,



R. Bruce Josten