

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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TO THE MEMBERS OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

As the House continues to consider H.R. 22, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce reiterates our strong opposition to all amendments to the U.S. Export-Import Bank provisions of the bill. Despite the assertions of sponsors, these amendments are poison pills intended to derail reauthorization of the Bank. **The Chamber will include votes related to reauthorization of the Ex-Im in our *How They Voted* scorecard.**

Of note, the Royce Amendment appears to be causing particular confusion. This amendment purports to prohibit Ex-Im assistance to state sponsors of terrorism. At present, Iran, Sudan, and Syria are subject to this designation. **However, Ex-Im support for exports to these countries is already prohibited by section 620A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.** It is worth noting that the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) with Iran did nothing to alter the explicit prohibition on Ex-Im financing for sales to that country.

Further, Section 7007 of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act of 2015 additionally **prohibits** the use of appropriated funds to finance directly any assistance or reparations for the governments of Cuba, North Korea, Iran or Syria. **This prohibition explicitly includes Ex-Im financing.**

The Royce amendment cannot enhance the explicit legal prohibition on Ex-Im support for exports to state sponsors of terrorism because this prohibition is already clear and strong. Rather, the intention of the amendment appears to be to derail Ex-Im's reauthorization.

The Chamber strongly opposes all amendments related to Ex Im. **The Chamber will include votes on, or in relation to, this legislation related to Ex-Im in our annual *How They Voted* scorecard.**

Sincerely,



R. Bruce Josten