

March 26, 2015

The Honorable John A. Boehner
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232, Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
H-204, Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
S-230, Capitol building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Harry Reid
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
S-221 Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20510

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

On behalf of the officers of The Council of State Governments (CSG) and the State International Development Organizations (SIDO), we write to support the reauthorization of the U.S. Export-Import Bank (Ex-Im) which is scheduled to expire on June 30, 2015. Ex-Im provides small businesses the tools and resources needed to export their goods and services abroad at no cost to the American taxpayer.

CSG is the nation's only organization serving all three branches of state government, and SIDO is the premiere U.S. organization dedicated to supporting state international trade agencies. We are working together with the federal trade promotion agencies to ensure that small businesses have the tools to compete in today's global economy.

In 2014, Ex-Im helped 3,800 companies export more than \$27.5 billion in export sales, which supported more than 164,000 American jobs. Moreover, 90 percent of Ex-Im transactions directly benefit small businesses and suppliers across all fifty states. Ex-Im also provides access to capital to small businesses in rural areas that may lack established financial centers. As a "lender of last resort," Ex-Im is well positioned to fill market gaps left by private sector lenders.

With our economic recovery still moving at a slow pace, exports serve as a catalyst for increased growth and job creation. We urge Congress to support Ex-Im Bank reauthorization, and we stand ready to work with you to expand American exports.

Sincerely,



David Adkins
Executive Director, CSG



Ann Pardalos
President, SIDO

The Council of State Governments National Headquarters

2760 Research Park Drive ■ Lexington, KY 40511-8482 ■ (859) 244-8000 ■ Fax (859) 244-8001 ■ www.csg.org

Eastern Office
New York
(212) 482-2320
www.csgeast.org

Midwestern Office
Lombard, Ill.
(630) 925-1922
www.csgmidwest.org

Southern Office
Atlanta
(404) 633-1866
www.sicatlanta.org

Western Office
Sacramento, Calif.
(916) 553-4423
www.csgwest.org

Washington Office
Washington, D.C.
(202) 624-5460
www.csg.org