



March 10, 2015

The Honorable John A. Boehner
Speaker of the House of Representatives
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Harry Reid
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Boehner, Leader McConnell, Leader Pelosi and Leader Reid:

On behalf of the nation's 3069 counties, we urge you to support legislation that provides for the long-term reauthorization of the U.S. Export-Import Bank (Ex-Im Bank) before its charter expires on June 30, 2015. The Ex-Im Bank helps American businesses of all sizes export their goods and services abroad to compete in the global market, stimulate job creation and contribute to the growth of local and state economies.

As the official export credit agency of the United States, the Ex-Im Bank supports U.S. jobs by financing credit and loan guarantees to U.S. businesses that many private sector lenders or foreign banks refuse or not able to provide. Without the services of the Ex-Im Bank, U.S. firms would lose many sales to overseas competitors. The Ex-Im Bank ensures that U.S. businesses can compete in a fierce global market.

The Ex-Im Bank has a great record in supporting U.S. exports and jobs. In fiscal year 2014, the Ex-Im Bank supplied more than \$20 billion in financing to support approximately \$27 billion in exports. There are 1,125 counties with businesses that have received financing through the U.S. Export-Import Bank. In fiscal year 2014, the Ex-Im Bank supported more than 164,000 American jobs. The overwhelming majority of the Ex-Im Bank's transactions – nearly 90 percent – assisted small businesses.

The Ex-Im Bank is financially self-sustaining and operates at no cost to American taxpayers. In fiscal year 2014, the Ex-Im Bank returned approximately \$675 million to the U.S. Treasury Department through fees charged for its services.

Last year, NACo passed a policy resolution that urged Congress to reauthorize the Ex-Im Bank. While we appreciate that Congress extended the Bank's charter until June 30, 2015, the nation's counties urge you to pass a long-term, multi-year reauthorization, before that deadline.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Matthew D. Chase". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Matthew" being the most prominent part.

Matthew D. Chase
Executive Director
National Association of Counties

