



NAVY LEAGUE

of the United States



August 25, 2015

Congressman John Boehner
Speaker of the House
1011 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi
House Minority Leader
235 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Congressman Kevin McCarthy
Majority Leader
2421 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Congressman Steny Hoyer
Minority Whip
1705 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Congressman Steve Scalise
Majority Whip
2338 Rayburn House Office Building

Dear Speaker Boehner, Minority Leader Pelosi, Majority Leader McCarthy, Congressman Hoyer, and Congressman Scalise:

On behalf of our 40,000 members, the Navy League of the United States strongly urges you to support the reauthorization of the Export-Import Bank. The Navy League of the United States is a civilian nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to informing the American people and their government that the United States of America is a maritime nation, and that its national defense and economic wellbeing are dependent upon strong sea services - U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Coast Guard and U.S.-flag Merchant Marine. The strength of the U.S.-flag Merchant Marine depends on Export-Import Bank and we urge Congress to reauthorize it.

The Export-Import Bank has promoted economic growth, created and sustained U.S. jobs, including mariner jobs and those tied to our national and economic security. Cargoes generated through the bank's loan guarantee program must be shipped on U.S.-flagged ships, creating a cargo-preference incentive for U.S.-flag ships. The guarantee of such cargoes are essential to maintaining our U.S.-flag national defense sealift capacity, and are needed to keep ships under U.S.-flag. The Department of Defense depends on the Merchant Marine for over 95% of our national defense sealift needs in times of war or national emergency. Replacing this sealift capacity would cost the Department of Defense billions of dollars.

Our national framework of maritime cargo preference programs and policies, including the Export-Import Bank, should be viewed for their value as a means to grow and maintain a viable U.S.-flag merchant marine and also for their cost effectiveness as they allow the Department of Defense to forego the need to spend billions to replicate the vessels, intermodal systems, crews, and vessel services the Merchant Marine provides. Export-Import projects are generally carried on the most militarily useful vessels.

The Navy League urges you to reauthorize the bank and preserve our national sealift capability, necessary for our national security and defense.

Thank you,

Bruce Butler
National Executive Director
Navy League of the United States