

Reauthorize Ex-Im For Pennsylvania Jobs

Last June, a few Members of Congress used their power to block a reauthorization vote on the Export-Import (Ex-Im) Bank. At a time when American companies are facing increased competition at home and abroad, this is the last thing we need.

As the International Sales Manager of Hormann Flexon, I have traveled throughout the Western Hemisphere and have seen European companies aggressively expanding into new markets. These could and should be opportunities for U.S. firms, but because Ex-Im has lapsed, we are forced to compete against other firms with one hand tied behind our back.

Since Hormann Flexon began using Ex-Im, we have been able to export with confidence. We have expanded our customer base globally, and the rise in exports has led us to create jobs at home.

Though Congress may have decided to handicap U.S. businesses, the governments of our 80+ foreign competitors with export credit agencies have done nothing of the sort. Countries like China are actually celebrating the closure of Ex-Im – in fact, a Chinese government official recently said the loss of U.S. Ex-Im is a “good thing” for China.

Ex-Im allows U.S. businesses like mine to enter the ring to compete for an overseas contract. Once I am in, I win the deals myself.

There are nearly 300 other Pennsylvania companies that benefit from Ex-Im support. Without it, we all stand to lose a competitive edge abroad.

Next week, Congress will hold a pivotal vote on Ex-Im. I urge representatives like Tim Murphy to remember the businesses and workers they represent and vote for reauthorization. Pennsylvania jobs depend on it.

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