

December 6, 2024

Mr. Harold Daggett
President
International Longshoremen's Association
5000 West Side Ave.
North Bergen, NJ 07047

Mr. David Adam
Chairman and CEO
United States Maritime Alliance, Ltd.
125 Chubb Avenue, Suite 350NC
Lyndhurst, NJ 07071

RE: Resumption of Port Labor Negotiations

Dear Mr. Daggett and Mr. Adam:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations representing American manufacturers, farmers and agribusinesses, wholesalers, retailers, restaurants, importers, exporters, distributors, transportation and logistics providers, and other supply chain stakeholders, we are writing to urge both the International Longshoremen's Association and the United States Maritime Alliance to return to the bargaining table with the goal of reaching a new labor contract before the new Jan. 15 contract expiration date. **It is imperative for the parties to resume negotiations and remain at the table until a new contract is reached.**

We know significant issues remain between the parties. However, we continue to believe the only way to resolve these issues and come to an agreement is to actually stay at the negotiating table. The continuing start and stop of the negotiations leads to further uncertainty in the supply chain, which continues to cause challenges. The three-day strike in October had a significant impact on supply chain stakeholders that rely on the East Coast and Gulf Coast ports. The additional costs from mitigation efforts as well as post-strike resumption are still being felt. Companies have continued to implement mitigation strategies because of the ongoing threat of another strike in mid-January if a new contract is not achieved.

We understand that automation and technology continues to be the biggest issue of disagreement between the parties. We continue to believe there is a path forward for the parties to address this issue. It is critical that our ports and terminals have the ability to modernize their systems and processes in order to remain globally competitive and be able to handle the continuing rise of trade volumes, both imports and exports, through our ports. Modernization can only happen through true partnership between labor and management, as well as the other supply chain stakeholders that rely on these ports. Modernization efforts will benefit all parties and are essential to address current and future throughput issues.

We firmly believe the remaining issues can only be resolved by returning to the negotiating table and remaining until a final deal is complete.

Sincerely,

AdvaMed
Agribusiness Association of Kentucky
Agribusiness Council of Indiana
Agriculture Transportation Coalition

Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute
Airforwarders Association
Alabama Nursery & Landscape Association
Alabama World Trade Association
Alliance for Automotive Innovation

Alliance for Chemical Distribution
 Amcot
 American Apparel & Footwear Association (AAFA)
 American Association of Exporters and Importers (AAEI)
 American Automotive Policy Council (AAPC)
 American Beverage Association
 American Chemistry Council
 American Clean Power Association
 American Coatings Association, Inc.
 American Composites Manufacturers Association
 American Cotton Shippers Association
 American Down and Feather Council
 American Forest & Paper Association
 American Frozen Food Institute
 American Herbal Products Association
 American Home Furnishings Alliance
 American International Automobile Dealers Association
 American Lighting Association
 American Logistics Association
 American Pistachio Growers
 American Pulse Association
 American Pyrotechnics Association
 American Short Line & Regional Railroad Association
 American Soybean Association
 American Spice Trade Association
 American Trucking Associations
 AmericanHort
 Arkansas Soybean Association
 Associated Builders and Contractors
 Associated Equipment Distributors
 Association of American Railroads
 Association of Food Industries
 Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers
 Auto Care Association
 Autos Drive America
 Beer Institute
 Boston Custom Brokers & Freight Forwarders Association
 California Association of Wheat Growers
 California Building Industry Association
 California Chamber of Commerce
 California Citrus Mutual
 California Cotton Ginners and Growers Association
 California League of Food Processors
 California Retailers Association
 California Walnut Commission
 California Warehouse Association
 Can Manufacturers Institute
 CAWA - Representing the Automotive Parts Industry
 Chicago Broker Freight Forwarder Association
 Coalition of New England Companies for Trade
 Color Pigments Manufacturers Association
 Colorado Nursery and Greenhouse Association
 Columbia River Customs Brokers & Forwarders Association
 Consumer Brands Association
 Consumer Technology Association
 Convenience Distribution Association
 Corn Refiners Association
 Cotton Growers Warehouse Association
 Council for Responsible Nutrition
 Council of Fashion Designers of America (CFDA)
 Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals (CSCMP)
 Customs Brokers & Forwarders Association of Northern California
 Customs Brokers & International Freight Forwarders Association of Washington State
 Distilled Spirits Council of the U.S.
 East Harris County Manufacturers Association
 Economic Alliance Houston Port Region
 Florida Retail Federation
 Florida Trucking Association
 FMI - The Food Industry Association
 Footwear Distributors & Retailers of America (FDRA)
 Foreign Trade Association of Southern California
 Gemini Shippers Association
 Georgia Farm Bureau
 Georgia Green Industry Association, Inc.
 Georgia Retailers
 Glass Packaging Institute
 Global Business Alliance
 Global Cold Chain Alliance
 Grain and Feed Association of Illinois
 Green Coffee Association
 Greenabl Shippers
 Growth Energy
 Halloween & Costume Association
 Hardwood Federation
 Health Industry Distributors Association

Heating, Air-conditioning, & Refrigeration
 Distributors International
 Home Fashion Products Association
 Household & Commercial Products
 Association
 Houston Customs Brokers & Freight
 Forwarders Association (HCBFFA)
 Illinois Retail Merchants Association
 Independent Electrical Contractors
 Independent Freight Forwarders & Customs
 Brokers Association of Savannah, Inc.
 Indiana Retail Council
 Institute of Makers of Explosives
 Intermodal Motor Carriers Conference
 International Association of Movers
 International Foodservice Distributors
 Association
 International Franchise Association
 International Freight Forwarders and Customs
 Brokers Association of New Orleans
 International Fresh Produce Association
 International Housewares Association
 International Housewares Shippers Association
 International Shippers Association
 International Warehouse Logistics Association
 (IWLA)
 International Wood Products Association
 Iowa Retail Federation
 Juvenile Products Manufacturers Association
 Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association
 Kansas Chamber
 Kansas Grain and Feed Association
 Kansas Retail Association
 Kansas Soybean Association
 Kentucky Grocers & Convenience Store
 Association
 Kentucky Retail Federation
 Kentucky Soybean Association
 Leather & Hide Council of America
 Los Angeles Customs Brokers & Freight
 Forwarders Association
 Los Angeles Customs Brokers and Freight
 Forwarders Association
 Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association
 Maryland Retailers Alliance
 Meat Import Council of America
 Meat Institute
 MEMA, The Vehicle Suppliers Association
 Michigan Soybean Association
 Mid Valley Customs Brokers Association
 Midwest Dry Bean Coalition
 Missouri Retailers Association
 Missouri Soybean Association
 Montana Equipment Dealers Association
 Montana Restaurant Association
 Montana Retail Association
 Motorcycle Industry Council
 National Aquaculture Association
 National Association of Beverage Importers (NABI)
 National Association of District Export Councils (NADEC)
 National Association of Egg Farmers
 National Association of Wheat Growers
 National Association of Wholesaler-Distributors
 National Chicken Council
 National Christmas Tree Association
 National Coffee Association, USA
 National Confectioners Association
 National Cotton Council
 National Council of Farmer Cooperatives
 National Customs Brokers and Forwarders Association
 of America (NCBFAA)
 National Fisheries Institute
 National Grain and Feed Association
 National Grocers Association
 National Industrial Transportation League
 National Lumber & Building Material Dealers Association
 National Milk Producers Federation
 National Mining Association
 National Oilseed Processors Association
 National Pork Producers Council
 National Potato Council
 National Restaurant Association
 National Retail Federation
 National Roofing Contractors Association
 National Turkey Federation
 National Wooden Pallet & Container Association
 Natural Products Association
 NC Agribusiness Council
 NCBFAA Shippers Association, Inc
 Nebraska Retail Federation
 Nebraska Soybean Association
 Nevada Trucking Association
 New Jersey Motor Truck Association
 New Jersey Retail Merchants Association
 New York New Jersey Foreign Freight
 Forwarders and Brokers Association Inc
 North American Association of Food Equipment
 Manufacturers (NAFEM)

North American Association of Utility Distributors (NAAUD)	South Carolina Retail Association
North American Home Furnishings Association	South Dakota Pulse Crop Council
North American Millers' Association	South Dakota Soybean Association
North American Renderers Association	Soy Transportation Coalition
North Carolina Sweetpotato Commission	Specialty Equipment Market Association (SEMA)
North Dakota Motor Carriers Association	Specialty Soya and Grains Alliance
North Texas Customs Brokers and Freight Forwarding Assoc.	Specialty Vehicle Institute of America
Northarvest Bean Growers Association	Sports & Fitness Industry Association (SFIA)
Northern Border Customs Brokers Association (NBCBA)	Sweetener Users Association
Northern Pulse Growers Association	Tag and Label Manufacturers Institute
Ohio AgriBusiness Association	Tea Association of the U.S.A., Inc.
Ohio Council of Retail Merchants	Texas International Produce Association
Ohio Trucking Association	Texas Poultry Federation
Oregon Association of Nurseries	Texas Retailers Association
Oregon Business & Industry	The American Bakers Association
Oregon Trucking Association	The Business Council of New York State
Outdoor Power Equipment Institute	The Fashion Accessories Shippers Association
Pacific Coast Council of Customs Brokers and Freight Forwarders Assns. Inc.	The Fashion Jewelry and Accessories Trade Association
Peanut and Tree Nut Processors Association (PTNPA)	The Fertilizer Institute
Pennsylvania Retailers Association	The Game Manufacturers Association
Performance Racing Industry (PRI)	The Sulphur Institute
Personal Care Products Council	The Toy Association
Pet Food Institute	Toy Shippers Association Inc
Plumbing Manufacturers International	Transportation Intermediaries Association
Portland Cement Association	Travel Goods Association (TGA)
PRINTING United Alliance	Trucking Association of New York
Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association	U.S. Apple Association
Recycled Materials Association (ReMA)	U.S. Chamber of Commerce
Renewable Fuels Association	U.S. Dairy Export Council
Retail Council of New York State	U.S. Dry Bean Council
Retail Industry Leaders Association	U.S. Fashion Industry Association
Retail Merchants of Hawaii	U.S. Meat Export Federation
Retailers Association of Massachusetts	United States Council for International Business (USCIB)
Rhode Island Trucking Association, Inc.	US Pea & Lentil Trade Association
San Diego Customs Brokers Association	USA Dry Pea & Lentil Council
SC Trucking Association	USA Poultry & Egg Export Council
Shippers Coalition	Utah Food Industry Association
SNAC International	Utah Retail Merchants Association
Society of Chemical Manufacturers & Affiliates (SOCMA)	Vinyl Institute
Solar Energy Industries Association	Virginia Agribusiness Council
South Carolina Chamber of Commerce	Virginia Trucking Association
	Washington Retail Association
	Washington Trucking Associations
	West Virginia Retailers Association
	Western Agricultural Processors Association
	Wine & Spirits Wholesalers of America
	Wine Institute

