

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

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

