



# INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL & TECHNICAL ENGINEERS AFL-CIO & CLC

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Dear Representative,

As President of the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers (IFPTE), I am writing in support of the reauthorization of the Export-Import Bank. As a member of the House Financial Services Committee, and in anticipation of Wednesday's hearing on this matter, IFPTE felt it important to weigh-in with you directly regarding the importance of this issue to American workers.

As a union representing over 24,000 engineering and technical workers employed in the aerospace industry, IFPTE is keenly aware of the Export-Import Bank's simple and explicit mission: to support American jobs through increased exports. The mission of the bank ensures American workers, along with American industries, benefit from Export-Import Bank investments. In this day and age of offshoring American work across the globe to the cheapest bidder, it is important now more than ever to support a clean reauthorization that will actually help keep and grow jobs here in the United States. To add icing to the cake, it will not cost American taxpayers a penny because it is a fully self-sustaining entity.

The Export-Import Bank will help in opening the door to increased domestic exports, including American made airplanes built by Boeing workers. This is obviously essential in sustaining America's number one export, commercial aircraft, while bolstering good paying and highly skilled U.S. jobs here at home. In addition to aerospace manufacturing many other American industries will also benefit from this reauthorization. In fact, the Export-Import Bank has responded to concerns previously expressed by legislators by working aggressively to extend its services to small and medium sized businesses, and through reviews and audits by the Government Accountability Office (GAO), internal and external auditors.

It is our understanding that there is an effort by some in the domestic airline industry to limit the Bank's underwriting authority. For example, Delta Airlines – an opponent of a clean reauthorization - receives export assistance from other countries for some of its airplanes. IFPTE cautions Congress to be dubious of such efforts. If Delta wants the United States to reduce export assistance, perhaps they should lead by example with respect to their own purchasing decisions. Simply stated, limiting the Export-Import Bank would frustrate foreign industry's attempts to purchase American made goods and result in significant job losses for American manufacturing workers.

Extending the lending authority of the Export-Import Bank is a responsible and sound reinvestment in the American workforce, and IFPTE urges the House Financial Services Committee to move quickly in passing a responsible reauthorization bill similar to that being sponsored by Washington Congressman, Denny Heck.

Thank you for your consideration. Should you have any questions please contact IFPTE Legislative Director, Matt Biggs, at (202) 239-4880.

Sincerely,

Gregory J. Junemann,  
President