

United States Senate

October 27, 2015

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
The Capitol, Room S-230
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Majority Leader McConnell,

Earlier this year, we sat down to discuss our shared desire to pass commonsense, bipartisan legislation to strengthen our recovering economy and support American families. Despite our differences, we have demonstrated that with tough negotiations and reasonable compromise, we can work together to advance important bills on issues like early childhood education, human trafficking, and our national defense policy.

We also share a belief that Congress can play an important role in helping our economy—even if that role is simply to not make things worse. Unfortunately, that is exactly what Congress has done by allowing the charter of Export-Import (Ex-Im) Bank of the United States to expire.

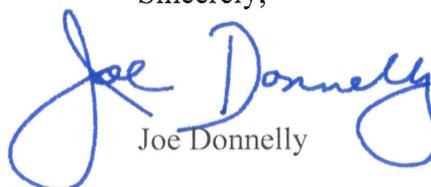
As you know, the Ex-Im Bank helps to level the playing field for American companies, routinely returns money to the U.S. Treasury, and protects and creates jobs here at home. By allowing the charter to expire, however, we have made it harder—if not impossible—for some American manufacturers to export their products and keep Americans working. In fact, we have recently seen a growing number of American businesses reducing or shutting down their operations and shifting jobs overseas.

Now that the House has voted to pass a long-term reauthorization of the Ex-Im Bank, I encourage you to demonstrate leadership by ending the gridlock and allowing a stand-alone vote in the Senate on a common sense reauthorization that has the support of a bipartisan majority in both chambers, including nearly 70 members of the Senate from both sides of the aisle.

American manufacturers—the products they manufacture and the jobs they support—are critical to-strengthening our economy. Certainly, we should not sacrifice American jobs because of the uncompromising ideology of a few.

I know you want to see the Senate work in a bipartisan, pragmatic manner, and I can think of no better way to demonstrate our shared commitment to strengthening our economy than by scheduling a Senate vote on the House-passed Ex-Im reauthorization bill.

Sincerely,



Joe Donnelly