

September 25, 2024

The President  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Our members represent a broad collection of the agricultural and food supply chains that would be negatively impacted if the International Longshoremen's Association and the United States Maritime Alliance are unable to reach an agreement before the labor agreement expires on September 30<sup>th</sup>.

If port operations are stopped, the impact on the ag supply chain will quickly reverberate throughout agriculture and not only slow or shutdown operations, but also potentially lower farmgate prices. To prevent a disruption to port operations along the East and Gulf Coasts, we request for your administration to act before a lockout or strike occurs to prevent damage to U.S. agriculture and the economy.

Approximately 40 percent of U.S. containerized agricultural exports move through East and Gulf Coast ports, and we believe the time has come for the U.S. government to intervene and ensure port operations do not stop.

We thank you for your responsiveness to this imminent threat to the North American supply chains.

Sincerely,

Agricultural and Food Transporters Conference  
Agricultural Retailers Association  
Agriculture Transportation Coalition - AgTC  
Amcot  
American Chemistry Council  
American Cotton Shippers Association  
American Farm Bureau Federation  
American Feed Industry Association  
AmericanHort  
American Malting Barley Association  
American Pulse Association  
American Sheep Industry Association  
American Soybean Association  
California Walnut Commission  
Consumer Brands Association  
Corn Refiners Association  
Cotton Growers Warehouse Association  
Forest Resources Association

Growth Energy  
Hardwood Federation  
International Dairy Foods Association  
International Fresh Produce Association  
Meat Institute  
National Aquaculture Association  
National Association of Wheat Growers  
National Cattlemen's Beef Association  
National Chicken Council  
National Christmas Tree Association  
National Corn Growers Association  
National Cotton Council  
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives  
National Grain and Feed Association  
National Milk Producers Federation  
National Oilseed Processors Association  
National Pork Producers Council  
National Turkey Federation  
North American Renderers Association  
Pet Food Institute  
Renewable Fuels Association  
SNAC International  
Soy Transportation Coalition  
Specialty Soya and Grain Alliance  
The Fertilizer Institute  
Turfgrass Producers International  
USA Dry Pea & Lentil Council  
USA Poultry & Egg Export Council  
USA Rice  
U.S. Dairy Export Council  
US Dry Bean Council  
U.S. Grains Council  
U.S. Meat Export Federation  
U.S. Pea & Lentil Trade Association  
U.S. Poultry & Egg Association  
US Rice Producers Association  
US Wheat Associates  
Western Growers

CC:

The Honorable Tom Vilsack, Secretary, Department of Agriculture  
The Honorable Julie Su, Acting Secretary, Department of Labor  
The Honorable Pete Buttigieg, Secretary, Department of Transportation