

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

November 12, 2014

Mr. Robert McEllrath
President
International Longshore Warehouse Union
1188 Franklin Street, Fourth Floor
San Francisco, California 94109

Mr. James McKenna
Chairman and CEO
Pacific Maritime Association
555 Market Street, Third Floor
San Francisco, California 94105

Dear Mr. McEllrath and Mr. McKenna,

As representatives of communities which depend on strong and thriving ports, we strongly urge a swift resolution to the current contract negotiations. With exports and imports comprising thirty percent of our nation's gross domestic product, a swift resolution is vital for the economy of the Pacific Northwest and our country as a whole.

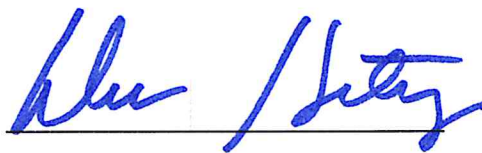
As you know, in the economy of the Pacific Northwest, specialty crop producers play a significant role. As such, they rely on ports to export their products to countries around the world where they have built reputations as reliable providers. Any interruption in terminal operations negatively impacts their customer relationships, export sales, and packing operations. And the exports are significant. Last year, over nineteen billion dollars' worth of agricultural goods went through Washington's ports. This statistic highlights the importance of trade to our economy and emphasizes how heavily we rely on our ports, which serve as a gateway to Asia. Because of this proximity to Asia, our ports support and drive economic activity far beyond our immediate borders.

We recognize the challenges before you and urge you to come to a swift resolution, because our workers, farmers, consumers, businesses and families all depend on it.

Sincerely,



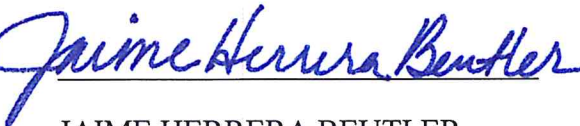
DAVE REICHERT
Member of Congress



DOC HASTINGS
Member of Congress



CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS
Member of Congress



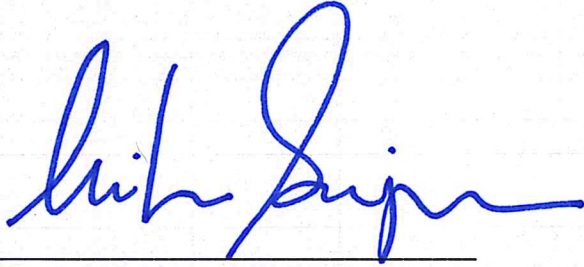
JAIME HERRERA BEUTLER
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KURT SCHRADER
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GREG WALDEN
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MIKE SIMPSON
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