



Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-4302

November 29, 2012

John Fageaux, Jr.  
President  
Local 63-Office Clerical Unit  
International Longshore and Warehouse  
Union  
6615 East Pacific Coast Highway, #250  
Long Beach, CA 90803

Stephen L. Berry, Esq.  
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Association  
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Dear Mr. Fageaux and Mr. Berry:

For the first time in history, Democrats and Republicans in Congress have come together to form the Congressional PORTS Caucus. We created the PORTS caucus in recognition of the fact that ports impact every region of the country. We are very concerned with the news we are hearing from the West Coast.

It is crucial that both sides come back together and settle this dispute for the good of the workers, the employers and our national economy. Whether it is a lockout or a strike, our economy will suffer unless both sides can reach a compromise. As you know, during the West Coast port lockout in the fall of 2002, it was estimated that a 10-day shutdown of port facilities cost the U.S. economy \$1.94 billion per day. We urge all parties to come back to the bargaining table to prevent this kind of serious economic damage during these negotiations.

There are already several ships sitting at berth or at anchor and every minute that terminals sit idle is a loss to workers, employers and our economy. We urge you both to move quickly to minimize the economic impact of this dispute. This country is depending on you to come back to the table and try again. We have faith that you can work to bring both sides together for a fair resolution so that our ports and our economy continues to move forward.

Sincerely,