



December 7, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Republican Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leader McCarthy:

On behalf of the American Chemistry Council, I am writing to urge you to vote YES on H.R. 4996, the *Ocean Shipping Reform Act of 2021* (OSRA21) when it comes up on the Suspension Calendar this week. As a result of the current supply chain disruptions, the chemical industry is increasingly concerned about the growing negative impact that unprecedented gridlock in freight transportation is having on their manufacturing operations.

Materials, innovations and technologies made possible by chemistry are used to make nearly all of the products we use and count on every day. The impact on our industry and the broader economy grows more profound as we continue to witness how the demand for both inputs to production and finished goods push our transportation supply chains past their breaking points.

The Ocean Shipping Reform Act of 2021 (H.R. 4996) would put in place common sense reforms to address long-standing issues in the maritime shipping industry, which have been further highlighted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite the significant changes and challenges in how goods are moved, the Shipping Act has not been updated in more than twenty years. The law needs to be updated to reflect 21st century global maritime trade. While we realize this legislation will not solve current supply chain disruption issues, it will go a long way to address some of the core issues.

We strongly encourage you support H.R. 4996 on the House floor to help address our ongoing challenges. If you have any questions, please contact Jill Brubaker, Director of Federal Government Affairs at (202) 249-6208. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ross Eisenberg".

Ross Eisenberg
Vice President, Government Affairs

