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Governor Nikki Haley
Office of the Governor
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Gov. Nikki Haley:

As your constituent and a Boeing employee, I am writing to thank you for supporting a long-term reauthorization of the U.S. Export-Import Bank (Ex-Im). Ex-Im is a critical tool for expanding U.S. exports and jobs in a competitive global economy and it is an important alternative for our customers when they are unable to secure competitive financing in the commercial market.

Not having Ex-Im Bank has put Boeing and the entire U.S. aerospace sector at a severe disadvantage to our foreign competitors. According to a recent report from the National Association of Manufacturers, there are more than 80 foreign export credit agencies just like the Ex-Im Bank, and they continued to close on deals worth tens of billions of dollars at the expense of U.S. exporters. For Boeing, our customers' inability to access Ex-Im financing resulted in the loss of two commercial satellite deals, and several Boeing Commercial Airplanes customers told us they were concerned about their ability to take delivery on or make future purchases of our airplanes. These losses put the jobs of Boeing employees, as well as our nationwide supply chain, at risk.

With more than 90 percent of Boeing's workforce based here in the U.S., and close to 15,000 companies of all sizes in Boeing's domestic supply chain, our ability to sell airplanes overseas directly impacts our growth here at home. This long-term reauthorization ensures our ability to compete on a level playing field in markets all around the world. It also provides our customers with the certainty needed to make decisions about new commercial aircraft purchases in the future.

Ex-Im reauthorization was also critical to the well-being of small business exporters across the country who use Ex-Im financing to grow new opportunities in foreign markets, which in turn grows their workforces at home. These businesses are in communities nationwide, and many of them lost sales, jobs, and opportunities while the Bank was shuttered.

Thank you for standing up against special interests in Washington and representing American workers like me in Congress. Your support for a long-term Ex-Im reauthorization ensures U.S. exporters of all shapes and sizes can access this critical tool to support new sales overseas, which will in turn drive job creation and opportunity here at home.

Sincerely,

Mike Defoe
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Charleston, SC 29414
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