

An Affiliate of the Allegheny Conference on Community Development

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April 26, 2016

The Honorable Robert P. Casey, Jr. United States Senate 393 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510-3804

## Senator Casey:

Thank you thank you for your leadership and support of our region's exporters. Most specifically, The Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce greatly appreciates your longstanding support for the Export-Import Bank (Ex-Im).

I would like to ask for your continued support and advocacy to see that the bank's operations are fully functioning. As you may know, the bank's board of directors must approve any loan over \$10 million. Without a quorum, however, the bank cannot make those critical loans. President Obama recently nominated J. Mark McWatters to the board of directors, and because of the critical nature of this board of director, we believe the Senate should proceed with a thorough and speedy confirmation process without delay. Each day that passes without a fully functioning Ex-Im is another day of lost ground for our exporters.

Our region's exporters and their suppliers, big and small, from Westinghouse Electric Company in Cranberry Township, Butler County, to Aquatech in Canonsburg, Washington County, utilize Ex-Im to level the playing field with foreign competitors that benefit from their nation's export financing institutions. A fully operational Ex-Im is vital to our region's continued exports growth.

Again, I appreciate your leadership on this issue and your recent vote to reauthorize the bank. I hope you will maintain your engagement and encourage your Senate colleagues to confirm J. Mark McWatters.

Thank you again for your leadership. Best Regards,

Matt Smith

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President

Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce