



March 15, 2012

RE: Export Import Bank Reauthorization – **VOTE YES on Cantwell/Graham Amendment**

Dear Senator:

The undersigned organizations write in strong support of Export Import Bank (Bank) Reauthorization legislation that is expected to be considered this week as an amendment to the Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act or JOBS Act. Specifically, we strongly support the Cantwell/Graham Amendment that includes important legislative text, Section 808, which would create additional avenues of financing for the textile and apparel global supply chain.

While the Ex-Im Bank performs important functions there is an area in which the Bank has not kept up with the global business environment. The Bank does not offer meaningful Supply Chain Financing to the textile and apparel industry's global supply chain. Senator Kay Hagan (D-NC) authored a provision in the amendment to address this gap in financing for the textile and apparel industry. We applaud Senator Hagan's leadership and thank Senator Lindsey Graham (R-SC) for cosponsoring this U.S. jobs creating amendment.

This important provision supports the textile and apparel global supply chain by adding textile industry representation on the Bank's Advisory Committee and through the execution of an annual report to Congress. The Bank will be required to conduct an analysis of the Bank's efforts to provide financing to textile and apparel industries and the amount of support the Bank provided to industry exports over the preceding three years.

We strongly believe that this language takes an important step in establishing sound financing options for the textile and apparel global supply chain and urge you to vote Yes on the Cantwell/Graham Ex-Im Reauthorization Amendment when brought to a vote in the Senate.

Sincerely,

A. John Maguire
Senior Vice President, National Cotton Council (NCC)

Cass Johnson
President, National Council of Textile Organizations (NCTO)

Kevin Burke
President & CEO, American Apparel & Footwear Association (AAFA)