



May 14, 2012

RE: **VOTE YES on Cloture and VOTE YES on Final Passage of
H.R. 2072 - Securing American Jobs Through Exports Act of 2011**

Dear Senator:

The undersigned organizations write in strong support of H.R. 2072 – *Securing American Jobs Through Exports Act of 2011*. In addition to re-authorizing the Export-Import Bank (Bank), the legislation contains provisions that will create important new avenues of financing for the textile and apparel global supply chain.

The Bank performs an important function for U.S. companies seeking markets for U.S.-made products. The Bank enables U.S. companies to turn export opportunities into real sales by providing export-financing products that fill gaps in trade financing and does not compete with private sector lenders. However, the Bank today does not offer meaningful Supply Chain Financing to the global textile and apparel industry supply chain.

This legislation includes key provisions that support the textile and apparel global supply chain by adding textile industry representation on the Bank's Advisory Committee and through the execution of two reports to Congress. First, the Advisory Committee will be required to consider ways to promote the financing of Bank transactions for the textile industry and determine ways to increase Bank support for exports of textile components or inputs. These findings will be included in the Bank's Annual Report to Congress. Second, the Bank will be required to conduct a separate analysis of the textile and apparel industry's use of current Bank products and the impediments to use of those products. The analysis will include proposals for how the Bank could provide more financing as well as proposals for new products.

We strongly believe that this language takes an important step in establishing sound financing options for the textile and apparel global supply chain by creating sorely needed liquidity for the textile and apparel supply chain in the Western Hemisphere, which has become an important export market for U.S. textile companies and an important sourcing location for major apparel brands and retailers.

We again urge you to **VOTE YES** on cloture and to **VOTE YES** on final passage of H.R. 2072 - *Securing American Jobs Through Exports Act of 2011*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Cass Johnson'.

Cass Johnson
National Council of Textile Organizations (NCTO)

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kevin M. Burke'.

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