

KEY VOTE *ALERT!*



Congressional & Public Affairs
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TO THE MEMBERS OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce strongly opposes several amendments that would weaken important policy provisions included in H.R. 1, the “Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2011,” and strongly supports several amendments that would build upon the existing policy-related provisions of H.R. 1. This letter expands upon issues included in correspondence regarding H.R. 1 sent to the House earlier in the week, and which is attached.

Specifically, the Chamber strongly opposes several amendments related to:

- **Cross Border Trucking:** Amendments #121 and #122, offered by Rep. Lipinski, would ensure that U.S. industry and agriculture continue to be harmed by punishing retaliatory tariffs established by Mexico because of the failure of the United States to meet its commitment regarding cross border cargo shipments from Mexico. Such amendments would negate the Administration’s important efforts to resolve the underlying dispute over cross-border trucking, subject additional U.S. industries to punitive tariffs, and harm U.S. jobs.
- **Multilateral Assistance Funds:** Amendment #29, offered by Rep. Heller, would eliminate U.S. contributions of multilateral assistance funds and significantly impair opportunities for expanded access for U.S. companies in developing markets. Such funds play a vital role in helping developing countries become reliable trading partners, and approximately half of all U.S. exports go to developing countries. Such programs also fund important anti-corruption efforts, trade capacity building reforms, and support important activities in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Sudan, Haiti, and other countries with U.S. national security interests. Eliminating these programs would undermine U.S. companies’ ability to expand and compete in the global marketplace.
- **Energy:** The Chamber strongly opposes amendments that would limit domestic energy production, including amendments that would levy new punitive taxes and new fees on energy production. History has proven such legislation increases energy and transportation costs, and leads to greater reliance on foreign energy sources.
- **Intellectual Property:** Amendment # 439 offered by Rep. Doyle would require all federal agencies exceeding \$100 million in extramural research

to make final manuscripts of peer-reviewed, private-sector journal articles that report on federally-funded research freely available on the Internet. The Chamber believes that such a requirement would undermine incentives for journal publishers to invest in the peer review, editing, publishing, dissemination, and archiving of scientific journal articles. While the Chamber strongly supports public access to the raw data resulting from federally-funded research, the federal government should not undermine the fundamental intellectual property rights for research works that reflect meaningful value-added by publishers.

The Chamber strongly supports amendments related to several important policy issues:

- **Energy:** Several amendments would enable America to maximize all domestic energy resources. The Chamber strongly supports expanding access for on shore energy production on federal lands and off shore production in the Gulf of Mexico and the Arctic. In all of these areas, regulatory barriers threaten tens of thousands of jobs, as well as economic growth and energy security.
- **Environment:** Several amendments would check the Environmental Protection Agency's regulatory overreach and ensure accountability. Generally, these amendments would prohibit certain rulemakings that the Agency seeks to promulgate that exceed its authority or impose overly costly and burdensome requirements without due regard for the intent of Congress, domestic energy security, statutorily-mandated economic and job loss analyses, and an analysis of alternatives to regulation. Such rulemakings include the "Boiler MACT" industrial and commercial boiler air toxics rule; coal ash regulation; total maximum daily loads for the Chesapeake Bay Watershed; retroactive veto of permits for coal mining; Portland Cement air toxics regulations; numeric nutrient criteria for Florida's flowing waters and lakes; improper expansion of the Toxic Substances Control Act; and Clean Air Act National Ambient Air Quality Standards. In addition, the Chamber supports amendments that would ensure the Judgment Fund and Equal Access to Justice Act are used only as intended by the Congress.

The Chamber will consider including votes on, or in relation to, these important policy issues—including votes on amendments—in our annual *How They Voted* scorecard.

Sincerely,



R. Bruce Josten

Enclosure