



December 8, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Senate Majority Leader
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
H-232, The Capitol
Washington DC 20515

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Senate Minority Leader
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
House Republican Leader
H-204, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Majority Leader McConnell, Minority Leader Schumer, and Minority Leader McCarthy:

On behalf of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU), the member companies of the Pacific Maritime Association (PMA), and the major West Coast container ports – including the Port of Los Angeles, the Port of Long Beach, the Northwest Seaport Alliance (NWSA), and the Port of Oakland – we write to urge you to conclude this Congress with the passage of 2020 Water Resources Development Act (WRDA 2020) legislation that includes Harbor Maintenance Tax (HMT) reform provisions that have been negotiated by the WRDA conference committee.

Members of our group have worked closely with Chairmen Defazio and Barrasso, Ranking Members Carper and Graves, their respective staffs, the American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA), and numerous maritime stakeholders to develop the policies proposed in WRDA 2020 that provide for equitable distribution of HMT funding and expand the allowable uses of those funds.

As the nation's gateway to Pacific Rim trade, we collectively handle cargo to and from every congressional district in the country, generating roughly over 25% of all HMT revenues annually. Yet historically, we have received a small fraction of that funding in return. WRDA 2020 addresses this inequity by recognizing HMT donor ports and accommodating our infrastructure maintenance needs. Specifically, WRDA 2020 provides guaranteed money and expanded uses that allow donor ports like the Northwest Seaport Alliance, the Port of Long Beach, and Port of Los Angeles to address critical maintenance needs. The changes will also

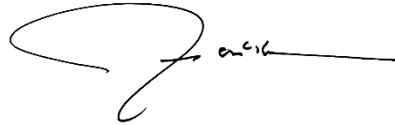
allow these ports, for the first time, to use HMT funding to perform maintenance to fortify our facility against seismic activity.

Passage of WRDA 2020 represents both a strategic investment in our long-term competitiveness and a much-needed stimulus to our local economy. I urge you to move this important legislation this year and urge its swift adoption.

Sincerely,



William E. Adams
International President
International Longshore and Warehouse Union



James McKenna
President & CEO
Pacific Maritime Association



Mario Cordero
Executive Director
Port of Long Beach



Eugene D. Seroka
Executive Director
Port of Los Angeles



John Wolfe
Chief Executive Officer
The Northwest Seaport Alliance



Danny Wan
Executive Director
Port of Oakland