**Sample Letter to the Editor - Ex-Im Board Nominee** **Letter**

To the Editor:

With 95 percent of the world’s consumers living outside of the United States, manufacturers in the United States need tools like the U.S. Export-Import Bank to take advantage of opportunities in markets abroad. While my company does not export directly, our customers do and those exports are critical to the success of my business too.

Manufacturers scored a victory last year, when a supermajority in Congress passed a long-term reauthorization of Ex-Im Bank after a temporarily lapse in its charter. Unfortunately, continued politicking inside the D.C. Beltway has left the agency handicapped.

The Ex-Im Bank supports millions of U.S. jobs and helps businesses of all sizes compete in a global economy, and is paid for by fees and interest of its users. Unfortunately, the governing Board of Directors for this federal agency is currently one member short of the quorum required to act on certain transactions that require Board approval. Unless the Senate moves forward on the nomination, U.S. exporters and their suppliers like my company will remain at a significant disadvantage to competitors around the world who are supported aggressively by their own government export credit agencies. This puts manufacturing and American jobs at risk.

My business, like thousands of others, has benefited from Ex-Im because our customers use it to improve their global competitiveness. Today, [company’s] [type of products] are included in final products that are sold in [name of countries or number of countries]. As a result of that trade, our company has been able to keep and grow jobs and spur new investment.

With a tough global economy and many headwinds challenging the competitiveness of manufacturers in the United States, now is the worst possible time threaten this critical tool. Manufacturers need a fully functioning Ex-Im Bank today.