

August 6, 2024

The Honorable David Valadao
2465 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Support for the Safeguarding Our Supply Chains Act

Dear Representative Valadao:

On behalf of the Intermodal Association of North America (IANA), a leading transportation trade association representing the combined interests of the intermodal freight industry, I am writing to express our support for the Safeguarding Our Supply Chains Act (H.R. 8834).

IANA represents more than 1,000 corporate members, including railroads, ocean carriers, ports, intermodal truckers and over-the-road highway carriers, intermodal marketing and logistic companies, and suppliers to the industry. IANA's associate (non-voting) members include shippers (defined as the beneficial owners of the freight to be shipped), academic institutions, government entities, and non-profit trade associations.

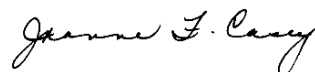
Intermodal supply chains are comprised of a broad network of multimodal transportation entities, which together support the seamless movement of more than 95 percent of goods manufactured globally and domestically and generate over \$60 billion in annual revenue. Cargo theft and fraud poses a significant threat to the freight our industry moves due to the complex logistics involved when transferring goods between different modes of transportation. In recent years, such theft has increased at an alarming rate, ultimately counteracting the steps taken by the intermodal industry to ensure that goods arrive safely and efficiently at their final destination.

Due to the interconnected nature of the supply chain, cargo theft and fraud have significant rippling effects across the U.S. economy. Organized supply chain crime halts or delays the delivery of goods, increasing the costs incurred by shippers bringing their products to market, and raising consumer prices. And the economic impacts are significant – as demonstrated by reports estimating more than \$154 million worth of stolen goods in 2023. Moreover, organized crime threatens the safety of hard-working supply chain workers, including truck drivers and rail and intermodal facility workers.

The Safeguarding Our Supply Chains Act recognizes these challenges and offers common sense solutions such as the establishment of a Supply Chain Fraud and Theft Task Force to identify, disrupt, and deter organized crime throughout the supply chain. Importantly, the legislation prevents supply chain disruptions by providing for a coordinated, multi-agency approach to combat crime and supports information sharing with affected private sector companies.

IANA commends your leadership on this important issue. If IANA can be a resource on this topic, please do not hesitate to contact me at jcasey@intermodal.org or 301-982-3400 ext. 349.

Sincerely,



Joanne F. Casey
President and CEO
Intermodal Association of North America