



November 30, 2021

The Honorable John Garamendi  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2368 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Dusty Johnson  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1714 Longworth HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Representatives Garamendi and Johnson,

Outdoor Industry Association (OIA) applauds your leadership in addressing the nation's shipping crisis by introducing H.R. 4996, the Ocean Shipping Reform Act of 2021. We recognize the daunting challenge in developing meaningful solutions; thus we will work to build support for this important legislation.

OIA is the trade association for outdoor companies across the United States, including suppliers, manufacturers, and retailers of outdoor products. The outdoor recreation economy generates more than \$788 billion in consumer spending and accounts for 5.2 million American jobs in the United States. Our members produce innovative products that reach all corners of the globe, enriching people's lives by supporting healthy and active lifestyles.

OIA member companies include domestic producers, importers and exporters, all of whom have been negatively affected by the shipping crisis. The status quo threatens our ability to navigate our supply chains which face numerous challenges, such as recent shut-downs in Vietnam due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Importantly, the effects of the shipping crisis' go beyond simple delays. Our members are paying unprecedented prices for shipping and have been hit with fees from both shipping carriers and ports due to delays. This creates inflationary pressure that will result in making outdoor products more expensive.

Inflation and resulting price increases for outdoor products make it difficult for many Americans to reap the physical and mental health benefits of outdoor recreation. It is no surprise that with outdoor recreation being one of the safest and most beneficial activities during the pandemic, demand for our products has grown. Supplying the needs of American families is a daily challenge due to the shortage of essential equipment to facilitate international trade, such as vessels, shipping containers and trucking.

Unfortunately, we expect bottlenecks and delays well into 2022. We believe now is the time for Congress to consider and enact the reforms your propose to address these issues, and we stand ready to assist in gaining support for this legislation.



OIA and its member companies strongly endorse H.R. 4996. We look forward to working with you and your staff to help in whatever way possible.

Sincerely,

Outdoor Industry Association

Big Agnes  
The Coleman Company  
Hydro Flask  
NEMO Equipment  
Oberalp North America  
REI Co-op  
Simms Fishing Products  
Vista Outdoor