

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 12, 2016

COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS
BUDGET
HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LABOR, AND PENSIONS
HOMELAND SECURITY
AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Honorable Richard Shelby
Chairman
Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee
534 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Shelby:

I write to express my concern that the Senate Banking Committee has not taken any action on the pending nominee to the Export-Import Bank's Board of Directors.

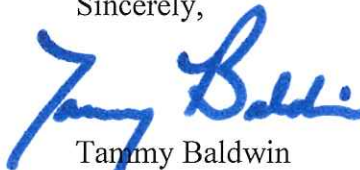
Mark McWatters, a Republican, was nominated by President Obama in January 2016. If confirmed, Mr. McWatters would be only the third member of the Bank's five-person Board of Directors. His confirmation would provide the Board with the quorum needed to authorize new loans over \$10 million.

The Export-Import Bank is not only a vital export tool for small businesses, but an important tool for deficit reduction that returned \$675 million to the U.S. Treasury last year. Since 2007, the Export-Import Bank has supported 27,131 Wisconsin jobs by helping 218 Wisconsin businesses, including 128 small businesses, export \$5 billion worth of goods and products made in Wisconsin.

Despite Republican opposition that led to lapse of the Bank's authorization in June of 2015, the Bank was reauthorized in December 2015 with bipartisan support from both chambers of Congress. I have been a long-time supporter of the Export-Import Bank and was proud to vote for legislation that revived the Bank. The American people have made it clear through their representatives that they approve of the Bank and its mission. Blocking Mr. McWatters' nomination and denying the Bank a quorum to conduct its business is in direct opposition to that clear mandate.

According to the Peterson Institute for International Economics, each day's delay on a confirmation costs U.S. businesses \$50 million in exports. Wisconsin manufacturers have waited long enough for the Export-Import Bank to return to full operating capacity. Out of respect to those manufacturers, workers, and their families, I urge you to uphold your responsibility and proceed to the consideration of Mr. McWatters' nomination.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator