

# Congress of the United States

## Washington, DC 20515

December 2, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
United States Capitol  
Washington D.C., 20515

The Honorable Steny Hoyer  
House Majority Leader  
United States Capitol  
Washington D.C. 20515

Speaker Pelosi and Leader Hoyer,

We are concerned about the ongoing disruptions to our nation's supply chain, which are causing delays and increasing inflation for our constituents. We are pleased that the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act has been signed into law by President Biden and encouraged by the continued work on the Build Back Better Act. These are key steps in addressing these supply chain problems and lowering costs for people, but Congress must do more. We urge additional action by the House of Representatives to further address the disruptions and higher costs our constituents are experiencing.

The COVID-19 pandemic put unprecedented strain on our already crumbling infrastructure and changed consumer habits leading to severe transportation bottlenecks and backlogs at our nation's ports and rail yards. Online shopping, for example, increased 34% from 2019 to 2020, and that trend has continued this year. Decades of underinvestment in our infrastructure have diminished capacity and resiliency in our supply chain. Without investments, modernization, and reform, our transportation system will struggle to deal with the increased volume of goods moving through our ports. The lack of domestic capacity, industry consolidation, and the United States' longstanding trade imbalance has further exacerbated the effects of the pandemic. These issues have spiked shipping costs, with the cost of shipping a container between China and North America up 500% from pre-pandemic, created shortages and delays in numerous industries, significantly contributed to inflation, and have caused uncertainty for American consumers and exporters across our country. These costs of underinvestment are currently being felt by our constituents, and this Congress must take this issue seriously and act. While these price increases should slow and return to normal as these bottlenecks clear and the pandemic subsides, we must speed that process up while establishing supply chain structure for our future.

While the bipartisan infrastructure deal is a historic and long overdue investment in our infrastructure and, along with the Build Back Better Act, will expand capacity and ease inflation concerns, many of our House colleagues have proposed additional legislation to address specific issues affecting our ports, trucking, ocean shipping, and domestic manufacturing. These bills will provide additional relief and investment in targeted areas, ensuring we recover from these disruptions as quickly as possible and have the capacity to grow our economy. Additionally,

increased investments in domestic manufacturing will support good paying jobs here in the United States and further reduce international supply chain pressures.

As our constituents gather for the holiday season, it is imperative Congress acts to address the needs of the nation through additional action to specifically address the supply chain and resulting higher prices experienced by families across the country. We respectfully ask that the House swiftly considers the numerous bills written by our House colleagues that will support domestic manufacturing, agricultural exports, and provide additional solutions to our supply chain crisis.

Thank you for your attention to this letter, and we stand ready to continue to work with you on this critical issue.


Sincerely,



Cindy Axne  
Member of Congress



Susan Wild  
Member of Congress



Susie Lee  
Member of Congress

Elissa Slotkin  
Member of Congress

Kathy Manning  
Member of Congress

Jahana Hayes  
Member of Congress

Ed Case  
Member of Congress

Haley Stevens  
Member of Congress

Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress

Josh Gottheimer  
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Carolyn Bordeaux  
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John Garamendi  
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Angie Craig  
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Josh Harder  
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Mikie Sherrill  
Member of Congress

Kathleen Rice  
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Bradley S. Schneider  
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Tom O'Halleran  
Member of Congress

Lucy McBath  
Member of Congress

Antonio Delgado  
Member of Congress

Scott H. Peters  
Member of Congress