

September 20, 2016

The Honorable Penny Pritzker
Secretary
United States Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Secretary Pritzker:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations representing manufacturers, farmers and agribusinesses, wholesalers, retailers, importers, exporters, distributors, and transportation and logistics providers, we appreciate your actions related to the Hanjin Shipping Company bankruptcy and urge you to continue to engage the South Korean government to bring a swift and economically positive resolution to the situation.

U.S. businesses rely on predictability in their supply chains, particularly during the busiest shipping season of the year. The recent bankruptcy filing has caused widespread disruptions in freight shipments worldwide.

Since this is ongoing, the level of anxiety remains high as shippers wonder when Hanjin ships will be allowed to enter ports and if their goods will be seized by Hanjin's creditors once they are docked. There are also concerns about critical cargo that remains at overseas ports. For some, there is added confusion about the location of cargo, where cargo will be unloaded and how the cargo will be transported. The trade community is also facing steadily increasing freight charges as they look for new transportation options as well as concerns about fees assessed on cargo. The impact on small and medium sized companies could be particularly devastating if this situation is not resolved in a timely manner.

Thank you for your attention to this issue and your outreach to the business community throughout the process. We strongly encourage you to continue to work with the South Korean government to bring about a swift and economically beneficial resolution that will allow cargo to move through the global supply chain and give certainty to U.S. businesses.

Sincerely,

Agriculture Transportation Coalition
Airforwarders Association
Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers
Almond Alliance of California
American Apparel & Footwear Association
(AAFA)
American Association of Exporters and
Importers
American Chemistry Council
American Coatings Association

American Farm Bureau Federation
American Forest & Paper Association
American Frozen Food Institute
American Hardwood Export Council
American Home Furnishings Alliance
American Import Shippers Association
American Potato Trade Alliance
American Pyrotechnics Association
American Soybean Association
American Trucking Associations

American Walnut Manufacturers Association
 Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers, Inc.
 Association of Food Industries
 Auto Care Association
 California Business Properties Association
 California Chamber of Commerce
 California Farm Bureau
 California League of Food Processors
 California Retailers Association
 California Trucking Associations
 California Walnut Commission
 CAWA – Representing the Automotive Parts Industry
 CONECT – Coalition of New England Companies for Trade
 Consumer Technology Association
 Fashion Accessories Shippers Association (FASA)
 Footwear Distributors & Retailers of America
 Furniture Shippers Association
 Foreign Trade Association
 Gemini Shippers Group
 Global Cold Chain Alliance
 Green Coffee Association
 Grocery Manufacturers Association
 Harbor Association of Industry & Commerce
 Harbor Trucking Association
 Hardwood Federation
 Hardwood Manufacturers Association
 Hardwood Plywood & Veneer Association
 Halloween Industry Association, Inc.
 Indiana Hardwood Lumbermen’s Association
 Information Technology Industry Council (ITI)
 Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Inc.
 Intermodal Motor Carriers Conference
 International Association of Movers
 International Wood Products Association
 Juvenile Products Manufacturers Association, Inc.
 Kentucky Forest Industries Association
 Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce
 Los Angeles Customs Brokers & Freight Forwarders Association
 Maple Flooring Manufacturers Association
 Meat Import Council of America
 Midwest Shippers Association
 Missouri Forest Products Association
 Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association
 National Association of Beverage Importers
 National Association of Chemical Distributors
 National Association of Egg Farmers
 National Association of Manufacturers
 National Cattlemen's Beef Association
 National Council of Farmer Cooperatives
 National Customs Brokers and Forwarders Association of America (NCBFAA)
 National Fisheries Institute
 National Foreign Trade Council
 National Grain and Feed Association
 National Hardwood Lumber Association
 National Industrial Transportation League
 National Milk Producers Federation
 National Oilseed Processors Association
 National Onion Association
 National Pork Producers Council
 National Potato Council
 National Retail Federation
 National Shippers Strategic Transportation Council
 National Waste & Recycling Association
 National Wood Flooring Association
 National Wooden Pallet and Container Association
 New Jersey Retail Merchants Association
 New York/New Jersey Foreign Freight Forwarders and Brokers Assn.
 North American Blueberry Council
 North American Export Grain Association
 North American Meat Institute
 North Carolina Forestry Association
 Northwest Food Processors Association
 Oregon Dairy Farmers Association
 Oregon Farm Bureau Federation
 Outdoor Industry Association
 Pacific Coast Council of Customs Brokers and Freight Forwarders
 Promotional Products Association International
 Propeller Club of Los Angeles-Long Beach
 Railway Tie Association
 Retail Industry Leaders Association
 Tea Association of the U.S.A., Inc.
 The Coalition for Responsible Transportation
 Toy Industry Association
 Transportation Intermediaries Association

Travel Goods Association (TGA)
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
U.S. Dairy Export Council
U.S. Fashion Industry Association
U.S. Hide, Skin and Leather Association
U.S. Soybean Export Council (USSEC)
United Fresh Produce Association
United States Fashion Industry Association
USA Poultry & Egg Export Council
Virginia Forest Products Association
Virginia Forestry Association
Virginia Loggers Association
Washington Council on International Trade
Washington Farm Bureau
Washington Trucking Associations
Western Growers Association
Western Hardwood Association
Wood Component Manufacturers Association