



March 19, 2024

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

RE: NRF Support for Ocean Shipping Reform Implementation Act (H.R. 1836)

Dear Speaker Johnson and Minority Leader Jeffries,

On behalf of the National Retail Federation, we are writing to urge a **yes vote** for the Ocean Shipping Reform Implementation Act (H.R. 1836) which is on the suspension calendar. The bill will continue to address ongoing maritime supply chain challenges and build off the great work Congress achieved through the Ocean Shipping Reform Act.

NRF, the world's largest retail trade association, passionately advocates for the people, brands, policies and ideas that help retail succeed. NRF empowers the industry that powers the economy. Retail is the nation's largest private-sector employer, contributing \$5.3 trillion to annual GDP and supporting one in four U.S. Jobs – 55 million working Americans. For over a century, NRF has been a voice for every retailer and every retail job, educating, inspiring and communicating the powerful impact retail has on local communities and global economies.

We applaud Congress for continuing to try to address ongoing maritime supply chain issues as we continue to see disruptions from events such as the Panama Canal restrictions and attacks by the Houthi rebels against commercial shipping through the Red Sea. These disruptions continue to highlight the importance of the work of OSRA and the need for continued efforts to build resiliency into the supply chain system and address other long-standing issues.

We believe that the Ocean Shipping Reform Implementation Act will pick up where the Ocean Shipping Reform Act left off. Specifically, the continued focus on data standardization and collection is critically important to get a full understanding of what is happening in the supply chain. This visibility is important to enable supply chain actors to adjust and prepare when these disruptions occur.

We encourage members to vote yes on H.R. 1836. If you have any questions, please contact Jonathan Gold, NRF's VP for Supply Chain and Customs Policy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David French", written in a cursive style.

David French
Senior Vice President
Government Relations