October 8, 2020

The Hon. Ron Johnson, Chairman
Senate Committee on Homeland Security &
Governmental Affairs
328 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Hon. Bennie G. Thompson, Chairman
Committee on Homeland Security
U.S. House of Representatives
2466 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Hon. Gary Peters, Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Homeland Security &
Governmental Affairs
724 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Hon. Mike Rogers, Ranking Member
Committee on Homeland Security
U.S. House of Representatives
2184 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Seafarer Crew Changes

Dear Chairman Johnson, Ranking Member Peters, Chairman Thompson, and Ranking Member Rogers;

It is our understanding that you have recently received the enclosed letter regarding the plight of the world’s seafarers and the need for U.S. Customs and Border Protection to further improve processes in order to mitigate the resultant humanitarian and economic crisis.

Our organizations wholeheartedly support the sentiments expressed in this letter. We respectfully request you take any steps possible to help tear down barriers that prevent vessel owners from safely and efficiently repatriating crewmembers at U.S. seaports.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our views. We greatly appreciate any assistance you may be able to provide.

Sincerely,

American Lifting Products
Anchorage Launch Service Company
Apostleship of the Sea of the United States of America
Apostleship of the Sea - Diocese of Beaumont
Big River Coalition
Columbia River Bar Pilots
Columbia River Pilots
Columbia River Steamship Operators’ Association
Connecticut Maritime Association
Corpus Christi International Seamen's Center
Council of American Master Mariners
Dole Fresh Fruit Company
Energy Transfer
Executive Shipping Svcs (USA) Inc
GAC North America - Shipping, Philadelphia
General Marine Refrigeration Corp.
General Steamship Corporation
Greater Houston Port Bureau
GSB Marine
Host Agency, LLC - Philadelphia
Hueber Launch Service
Inchcape Shipping Services
International Longshore and Warehouse Union
International Seafarers Center of Long Beach-Los Angeles
Interport PNW LLC
Jacksonville Marine Transportation Exchange
John S. Connor, Inc.
Louisiana Maritime Association
Marine Exchange of Puget Sound
Marine Exchange of the San Francisco Bay Region
Marine Exchange of Southern California
Marine Guard Service
Maritime Association of the Port of NY/NJ
Maritime Exchange for the Delaware River and Bay
The Maritime Institute of Technology and Graduate Studies
Monroe Energy
Moran Shipping Agencies
The Nautical Institute – U.S. Gulf Branch
New Orleans Board of Trade
North American General Agents Northeast LLC
North American Shipping Agencies, LLC
Norton Lilly International
Ocean Ship, Inc
PSA Penn Terminals LLC
Port Arthur International Seafarers' Center
Port of Longview (Washington)
Rawle & Henderson LLP
Sandpiper International S/S Agencies, Inc.
Seamen’s Center of Wilmington
Seamen’s Church Institute of Philadelphia and South Jersey
Shaver Transportation
Terminal Shipping Company
Tradepoint Atlantic
Trans-Atlantic Agencies, Inc.
Transversal Shipping Company
United States Great Lakes Shipping Association
Vanport Marine & Industrial
Vessel Owners' and Captains' Association, Inc.
Virginia Maritime Association
West Gulf Maritime Association
Western Fumigation