

Chairman of the Board  
**SCOTT J. BALOGH**  
President & CEO, Mar-Bal, Inc.



President  
**ERIC L. BURKLAND**

October 25, 2017

The Honorable Sherrod Brown  
U.S. Senate  
713 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Brown:

Thank you for your strong and enduring support for the U.S. Export-Import (Ex-Im) Bank. As you know, The Ohio Manufacturers' Association (OMA) also supports a robust (Ex-Im) Bank to provide manufacturers in Ohio a fair opportunity to win sales overseas

To ensure that Ex-Im Bank is providing Ohio and American firms and workers a fair shake, the OMA strongly supports the confirmation of Spencer Bachus, Kimberly Reed, Claudia Slacik and Judith Pryor to the Ex-Im Bank board of directors. At the same time, the OMA is firmly opposed to the nomination of Scott Garrett to lead the Ex-Im Bank given his longstanding opposition to its mission and his past actions to destroy the agency.

Mr. Garrett has a long record of opposing the fundamental mission of the Ex-Im Bank to support U.S. jobs through exports. Manufacturers in Ohio are concerned that he will not empower the agency to achieve its full capability but will instead hobble it. Beyond his votes against a multi-year reauthorization of the Ex-Im Bank in both 2012 and 2015, his opposition appears to be based on a fundamental misunderstanding of the agency and a disregard of the extremely tilted international landscape that manufacturers in the U.S. face.

Past statements made by Mr. Garrett show that he does not appreciate the Ex-Im Bank's ability to level the playing field globally as a much-needed counterweight to substantial foreign export financing.

Manufacturers in Ohio and across America are missing out on major new business opportunities overseas every day that the Ex-Im Bank sustains vacancies on its board of directors, to the detriment of local economies and American jobs. That is why I call on your committee to move forward the nominations of Mr. Bachus, Ms. Reed, Ms. Slacik and Ms. Pryor to the Ex-Im Bank board. By contrast, Mr. Garrett is not qualified to lead the Ex-Im Bank. His confirmation would be catastrophic to U.S. exporters, manufacturing workers and families.

I would welcome the opportunity to further discuss my concerns with you and your colleagues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Eric L. Burkland".

Eric L. Burkland  
President

CC: Sen. Mike Crapo, Senate Banking Committee, Chairman