

JERRY MORAN  
KANSAS

521 DIRKSEN SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1606  
(202) 224-6521  
moran.senate.gov

## United States Senate

September 27, 2024

COMMITTEES:  
APPROPRIATIONS  
COMMERCE, SCIENCE,  
AND TRANSPORTATION  
INTELLIGENCE  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS  
RANKING MEMBER

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden  
President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden,

As we head into the busy holiday and harvest season, Americans across the country, including Kansas, depend on the efficient flow of commerce through our incoming and outgoing maritime ports. The International Longshoreman (ILA) and the United States Maritime Alliance (USMX) are currently deadlocked in negotiating a new master contract, which is set to expire on September 30, 2024. I have serious concerns about the potential consequences of a major strike at our ports and your administration's lack of engagement with the two parties thus far. I urge your administration to take leadership to ensure that families in Kansas and across America are not saddled with the economic impacts of a potential port strike.

As you know, any delay at our maritime ports inland or otherwise due to contract negotiations will impact nearly every industry and countless jobs within Kansas and throughout the country, from retail and manufacturing to agriculture and transportation. Looking back on the impacts of COVID-19, the pandemic brought ports and warehouses to capacity, leading to costly delays at numerous ports, ultimately increasing the cost of goods for American families. Your administration can step in today to mitigate these consequences.

In Kansas, countless industries depend on the free movement of commerce domestically and internationally. Kansas continues to be a net exporter of goods, with over \$14 billion of goods from the aerospace industry, agricultural food, fiber, fuels, and machinery parts reaching international trading partners. All of our trading partners depend on the timely and efficient receipt of goods. Of particular concern is the ability of Kansas farmers to move their goods for humanitarian efforts in countries in greatest need. Similarly, Kansas depends on imports so that our farmers and ranchers receive critical inputs like fertilizer and crop management tools that allow growers to produce the highest quality food, fiber, and fuels.

Your administration must show leadership and encourage both parties to return to the negotiating table to find a reasonable, long-term solution. If an agreement is not made, American families and businesses will face the brunt of an already difficult economy.

Sincerely,



Jerry Moran  
United States Senator

GARDEN CITY OFFICE  
1511 EAST FULTON TERRACE  
SUITE 1511-2  
GARDEN CITY, KS 67846

HAYS OFFICE  
1200 MAIN STREET  
SUITE 402  
HAYS, KS 67601

MANHATTAN OFFICE  
1880 KIMBALL AVENUE  
SUITE 270  
MANHATTAN, KS 66502

OLATHE OFFICE  
23600 COLLEGE BOULEVARD  
SUITE 201  
OLATHE, KS 66061

PITTSBURG OFFICE  
306 N. BROADWAY  
SUITE 125  
PITTSBURG, KS 66762

WICHITA OFFICE  
100 N. BROADWAY  
SUITE 210  
WICHITA, KS 67202