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COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRADE  
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SUBCOMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SECURITY



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Exhibit <u>"D"</u>
Port Commission <u>Regular</u>
Meeting of <u>July 7, 2009</u>

July 7, 2009

Dear Commissioners:

Thank you for your support for maritime and Port Security. As a Port Commission you have shown your support for security and resiliency measures in many different ways. Actions, indeed, speak louder than words and your actions clearly show where your priorities are. I commend you for making the welfare and resiliency of the port and the maritime industry as a whole a priority.

The importance of the port goes beyond the boundaries of King County. Washington's economy is driven by trade and the health of the Port is the health of our economy. With one out of every three jobs in the state directly connected to trade, policy makers must insure that our ports are secure and resilient. A port disaster, man made or natural, could cripple not just Washington's economy but also Alaska's and the inland economies that receive 70 percent of our freight. Our ports are critical to our economic vitality as a region and to global trade in general.

The work of protecting, preparing and promoting our ports is ongoing and requires all of our support. I thank you for your leadership on the issue of port security and resiliency and I will continue to work in Congress to keep our ports secure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "D. Reichert".

David G. Reichert  
Member of Congress WA 08