

PLUMBERS & PIPEFITTERS LOCAL 396

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September 8, 2015

The Honorable Fred Upton
Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr
Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ed Whitfield
Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy and Power
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Booby Rush
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Energy and Power
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairmen Upton and Whitfield and Ranking Members Pallone and Rush:

Local 396, Plumbers and Pipefitters strongly urge you to recognize and embrace America's oil and natural gas production renaissance by supporting legislation to repeal the outdated and unwarranted ban on U.S. crude oil exports.

America's energy renaissance has created an opportunity for the United States to become a global energy superpower. In 2014, the U.S. surpassed both Saudi Arabia and Russia to become the largest petroleum producer in the world. The oil export ban was enacted by Congress in 1975, a time of perceived energy scarcity. In light of the U.S. oil production increase, maintaining this self-imposed restraint hinders our economy and our members from realizing the benefits that could come from being an energy supplier to the world.

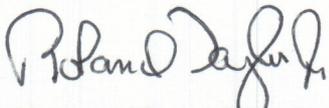
In addition, we were pleased to learn that a study, released just last week by the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Energy Information Administration (EIA), found that, "Petroleum product prices in the United States, including gasoline prices, would be either unchanged or slightly reduced by the removal of current restrictions on crude oil exports." Concerns about crude oil exports leading to higher domestic gasoline prices have proven to be unfounded and it is now clear that removing the ban could help save

consumers money at the gas pump. The EIA and U.S. Energy Secretary Moniz have confirmed that domestic gasoline prices are based on the international price of oil.

The numerous compelling benefits for American workers and consumers, our economy and our national security are clear. It is now time to act by passing legislation to repeal the antiquated and destructive 1970s-era oil export ban, so that we may support local jobs in the United States.

We stand with the bipartisan members of Congress across the state, who supports crude oil exports.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roland Taylor". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

Roland "Butch" Taylor
Business Manager
Local 396
Plumbers and Pipefitters

Cc: Senator Rob Portman, Senator Sherrod Brown,
Congressman Bill Johnson, Congressman Tim Ryan