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Eric Garcetti	<i>Mayor, City of Los Angeles</i>				
Board of Harbor Commissioners	Ambassador Vilma S. Martinez	David Arian	Patricia Castellanos	Anthony Pirozzi, Jr.	Edward R. Renwick
Eugene D. Seroka	<i>President</i>	<i>Vice President</i>			
	<i>Executive Director</i>				

April 29, 2015

The Honorable Peter DeFazio, Ranking Member
House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
United States House of Representatives
2134 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
c/o Luke Strimer

The Honorable Grace Napolitano
House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
United States House of Representatives
1610 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
c/o Joe Sheehey

Dear Ranking Member DeFazio and Representative Napolitano:

The Port of Los Angeles supports your Amendment to H.R. 2028, the Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, which will require the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to allocate Harbor Maintenance Funds as was outlined in WRRDA 2014 Section 2102. This section was intended to provide a more equitable distribution of Harbor Maintenance Tax (HMT) to donor ports (such as the Port of Los Angeles), emerging harbors, Great Lakes Harbors, and underserved harbors.

As you know, in the case of donor ports, Harbor Maintenance Funds do not return to the states and harbors where the taxes are collected. For example, California receives only 15% back of what the shippers at our harbors pay into the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund. The San Pedro Bay Port Complex, comprised of the Port of Los Angeles and the Port of Long Beach, is among the largest collectors of the HMT Funds, with an average of \$250 Million each year, but receives less than 1% back.

WRRDA 2014 Section 2102 would address this by requiring at least 10% of HMT priority funds to be allocated to donor ports for expanded uses, including berth dredging, removal of contaminated sediment, environmental remediation, and or subsidies to shippers to continue to use their ports

Thank you for your leadership in recognizing this inequity and supporting donor ports. The Port of Los Angeles strongly supports your Amendment to H.R. 2028.

Very truly yours,

EUGENE D. SEROKA
Executive Director