

September 14, 2015

Hon. Fred Upton
Chairman

Hon. Frank Pallone, Jr.
Ranking Member

Hon. Ed Whitfield
Chairman
Energy and Power
Subcommittee

Hon. Bobby L. Rush
Ranking Member
Energy and Power
Subcommittee

Energy and Commerce Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Gentlemen:

Let Freedom Ring supports H.R. 702, which would end the ban on crude oil exports. This ban is a drag on the energy renaissance that has started in the United States. It makes Europe vulnerable to Russian extortion and intimidation.

The ban is left over from the oil shortages of the 1970s and the fear that while Americans were waiting in line to gas up their cars, U.S. crude oil was going overseas. The shortages were the result of government price controls. The oil export ban was a panicked response to that situation in the face of OPEC market manipulations. The OPEC manipulations were intended to punish the United States for supporting Israel in the 1973 Yom Kippur War.

The export ban now contributes to oil prices falling so low in the United States that the energy renaissance is in jeopardy. This at a time when Iran is about to be allowed to export oil onto the world market again. The United States is the only country that does not allow itself to export oil.

H.R. 702 would not only repeal the oil export ban, but it would further prevent any federal officials from administratively preventing the export of oil.

Ending the ban on oil exports will decrease the vulnerability of U.S. allies to intimidation from Russia and Iran. Ending the export ban will help to increase the expansion of the energy sector in the United States, enhancing our national security and adding thousands of jobs throughout the country.

The continuation of America's energy renaissance is critical to economic recovery and national security. It will mean more good jobs at home and a safer world. H.R. 702 will be a big step in advancing that renaissance. For that reason we support the passage of H.R. 702.

Sincerely,



Colin A. Hanna
President



Peter Knickerbocker
Executive Director