

WHEREAS, exports and imports are a significant contributor to the economic growth and prosperity enjoyed by the residents of Irving and all Texans; and

WHEREAS, current lending programs through the Export-Import Bank of the United States (EXIM Bank) directly support jobs in Texas and across America, by operating at no cost to the U.S. taxpayer; and

WHEREAS, the current export/import banking system charges fees for its services, and since 2006, the system has returned \$3.4 billion to the U.S. Treasury above the cost of its operations; and

WHEREAS, the current programs' default rate has consistently been less than 2 percent over the past eight decades; and

WHEREAS, in the last year, the current system provided financing or guarantees for \$27.4 billion in U.S. exports, thereby supporting more than 164,000 American jobs at 3,300 companies; and

WHEREAS, this support is especially important to small and medium-sized businesses, which account for nearly 90 percent of the transactions under the current structure; and

WHEREAS, tens of thousands of smaller companies that supply goods and services to large exporters also benefit from the present-day structure; and

WHEREAS, since 2007, the current arrangement for export financing has enabled more than 1,600 Texas companies, of which 867 were small businesses and 179 were women/minority-owned businesses, to sell their products and services around the world, totaling more than \$30 billion annually; and

WHEREAS, in the Dallas–Fort Worth area alone, the current export-import financing system accounts for over \$2 billion in total exports, and has benefitted more than 238 companies, of which 131 are small businesses and 28 are women/minority-owned businesses; and

WHEREAS, in the City of Irving, since 2007, the EXIM Bank has provided assistance to more than a dozen companies at an estimated export value of \$1.374 billion; and

WHEREAS, American businesses cannot afford a lapse in authorization or exhaustion of lending authority would be sure to bring and either result would amount to an uncertain situation for current trade partners, prospective U.S. exporters, and creditors both in the U.S. and abroad; and

WHEREAS, growth in U.S. exports has helped contribute to positive job growth and economic recovery, but such gains may be easily mitigated or reversed without Congressional action to reauthorize the EXIM Bank; and

WHEREAS, it is important that leadership in both the U.S. House and the Senate work together to develop a multi-year reauthorization, along with transparency mechanisms to ensure fiduciary soundness and protections for American businesses and workers; and

WHEREAS, short–term, stopgap measures would erode exporting confidence for American businesses, international markets, and creditors; and

WHEREAS, reauthorization of the EXIM Bank should include comprehensive reforms to eliminate alleged fraud in the bank, streamline operations, and protect United States taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, reforms to the present export/import structure should include: limit loan-loss reserves to protect against future defaults, reduce future taxpayer exposure to losses, parallel generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) reporting, make any public lender a lender of last resort, improve the private market for export/import financing, enhance multilateral negotiations to reign in official export Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) as well as non-OECD countries, clearly defined roles for any official oversight, require independent audit of any governmental program or entity related to the current export/import structure, provide greater anti-corruption safeguards, and conduct a study on ways to improve the private market for export/import financing that ultimately results in the end of any government program;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF IRVING, TEXAS:

SECTION I. THAT the City Council hereby supports reauthorization of the Export-Import Bank of the United States as a necessary program that continues the competitiveness of Irving's companies in the global economy.