

TO ENABLE THE EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES TO APPROVE EXTENSION OF CERTAIN LOANS, GUARANTEES, AND INSURANCE

MONDAY, MAY 13, 1968

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON BANKING AND CURRENCY,
Washington, D.C.

The committee met, pursuant to recess, at 10:15 a.m., in room 2128, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. Wright Patman (chairman) presiding.

Present: Representatives Patman, Barrett, Sullivan, Reuss, Ashley, Moorhead, Gettys, Annunzio, Rees, Galifianakis, Widnall, Brock, Clawson, Stanton, and Brown.

Chairman PATMAN. The committee will please come to order.

Today the committee begins hearings on H.R. 16162, a bill to enable the Export-Import Bank of the United States to approve extension of certain loans, guarantees, and insurance in connection with exports from the United States in order to improve the balance of payments and foster the long-term commercial interests of the United States.

Members of the committee will recall that the President, in his January 1, 1968, Balance of Payments Message, said, and I quote:

I shall * * * ask the Congress to earmark \$500 million of the Export-Import Bank authorization to:

Provide better export insurance.

Expand guarantees for export financing.

Broaden the scope of Government financing for exports.

This legislation is part of the program which would implement the President's balance of payments message. In essence this legislation would implement the objectives sought in this instance by authorizing the Export-Import Bank to assist in promoting United States exports through the utilization of the Export-Import Bank's credit, guarantees and insurance provisions in those instances which currently do not meet the Export-Import Bank's statutory standard of "reasonable assurance of repayment."

This legislation, if enacted, would authorize the Bank through its various programs to relax its "reasonable assurance of repayment" standards when, in the judgment of the Board, such loans prove to deserve the support of one or more of the Export-Import Bank's authorities.

(The text of H.R. 16162 follows:)