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July 15, 2005

VIA E-MAIL

Deborah A. Garza, Esq.
Chair
Jonathan R. Yarowsky, Esq.
Deputy Chair
Antitrust Modernization Commission
1120 G Street, N.W.
Suite 810
Washington, D.C. 20005

Re: Webb-Pomerene Act (Topic V[A]—Immunities and Exemptions)

Dear Ms. Garza and Mr. Yarowsky:

On behalf of the Paperboard Export Association of the United States ("PEA"), I am writing in response to the Commission's Federal Register notice of May 19, 2005 inviting comments on issues under consideration by the Commission. PEA expresses its support for retention of the Webb-Pomerene Act (the "Act"), and requests that the Commission not recommend repeal or restrictive amendment of the Act.

PEA is an organization of companies engaged in the export of linerboard and corrugating medium from the United States. Linerboard and corrugating medium are used in the production of paperboard boxes and cartons. PEA members export linerboard and corrugating medium from U.S. plants to markets all over the world, including Asia, South and Central America, and Europe, among others. PEA members make significant U.S. export sales in markets in which trade imbalances are a significant problem for the U.S. economy. China, in particular, is a major market for PEA's members.

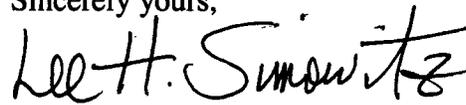
The Webb-Pomerene Act permits PEA's members to share market information and intelligence without fear of U.S. antitrust liability. The ability to share this information makes PEA members more competitive in export markets, increasing sales and avoiding risks of non-payment by customers in those markets. PEA's activities have no impact on the U.S. domestic market; under the Act, PEA must and does confine its activities wholly to export markets.

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Repeal or limitation of the Act would deprive PEA's members of the ability to engage in activities that increase the competitiveness of U.S. export industries, at no cost to U.S. consumers. Imposition of a "sunset" or periodic review requirement would be equally unwarranted. The Act is nearly a century old. Its benefits for the ability of U.S. manufacturing industries to compete abroad are manifest, and should not require burdensome periodic rejustification.

PEA appreciates the Commission's consideration of these comments.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lee H. Simowitz". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Lee H. Simowitz