



TRANSPORTATION REPORT FROM UTC WASHINGTON D.C.

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EX-IM State of Play

House and Senate Leaders have indicated they would allow votes on reauthorizing EX-IM and the proposed vehicle is the highway bill. The funding for highway programs ends on July 31st so both chambers must take action to either 1) enact a long term highway bill or 2) pass another funding extension.

This week the House passed a clean extension (No EX-IM) which will keep highway funds flowing until Dec. 18. The Senate is currently considering a multi-year highway bill (Staff is meeting over the weekend) and has an extension bill ready to be considered. EX-IM will likely be considered as an amendment to the Senate highway bill, either a multi-year bill or an extension. If the Senate passes a long-term highway bill, the EX-IM reauthorization will likely be considered as an amendment and will pass the Senate. The Senate will also need to pass an extension of the highway bill as there will not be enough time before July 31 for the House to consider the long-term Senate bill. If the Senate cannot pass a multi-year highway bill, they will pass an extension and this extension will likely include EX-IM. The length of the Senate extension is an open question.

The House will then need to consider the Senate version of the extension as it would be different from the House if it includes EX-IM, is shorter than the House extension, or both. There will be an Open Rule when the House considers the Senate highway extension (and EX-IM) which means opponents of EX-IM will be able to offer many different amendments in an effort to strip EX-IM. Since both chambers need to approve the same highway extension (with or without EX-IM) before they leave for August recess, all eyes are on the Senate next week to see what they produce.

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