



May 15, 2017

Hon. Jeb Hensarling
Chairman
House Committee on Financial Services
2129 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Hensarling:

On behalf of the Border Trade Alliance, I write to you to encourage you and your colleagues to support H.R. 882, the North American Development Bank Improvement and General Capital Increase Authorization Act of 2017, legislation we believe will expand the good work and positive impact of the NADBank.

Over the past 20 years, the NADB has been vitally important to improving basic services in the border region by financing numerous water, wastewater, solid waste and street paving projects, among others. Throughout its history, NADB has provided over \$2.76 billion in loans and grants to support infrastructure projects in the border region. On average, one dollar of NADB financing has been leveraged to become three dollars in infrastructure investment and represents a total investment of over \$8.2 billion, benefitting more than 12 million residents of the region.

The BTA supports H.R. 882's policy goals, which call on the NADB to provide financing for projects related to natural gas, with an emphasis on cross-border energy distribution and consumption and the energy security of the United States and Mexico; as well as the expansion or new construction of international land border crossings to help facilitate the lawful flow of goods and travel across the U.S.-Mexico border. Improved efficiency at our border crossings not only reduces border wait times, which are a drag on the region's competitiveness, but it also helps improve the area's air quality by reducing pollution resulting from idling vehicular and commercial traffic.

We also support the bill's call for the NADB to develop more efficient processes that will help streamline the financing of worthy projects, including reducing redundant certifications, and allowing the institution to internally approve qualifying projects under a certain monetary threshold.

A more efficient, nimbler NADB, with greater ability to fund worthy projects, would positively impact the U.S.-Mexico border region and the broader U.S.-Mexico relationship. It is for these reasons that the Border Trade Alliance respectfully requests your support for North American Development Bank Improvement and General Capital Increase Authorization Act of 2017.

Sincerely,

Britton Clarke
President