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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

August 14, 2003

FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION
800 North Capitol Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20573

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to express our support for the request by Sinotrans Container Lines Company Ltd. (Sinolines) to reduce tariff rates on **publication**.

As one of the largest importers of furniture in the United States, we ship to and from many **Chinese** ports that are not in the standard rotation of other **carriers**. Based on our comparison of services, we have determined that Sinolines is a most qualified carrier for our cargo by virtue of their direct services and strategic alliances.

Furthermore, because we frequently have cargo which must move quickly outside of contract, we consider that Sinolines' inability as Controlled Carrier to quickly file rates renders use of these preferred services both uncompetitive and inconvenient.

The Federal Maritime Commission, which enforces the Controlled Carrier Act, has shown willingness in the past to provide limited relief from some procedural requirements of the law when it believes such relief is warranted. In the interest of free markets and the **shipping** community at large, we request that you consider Sinolines' request to reduce its tariff rates upon **publication**.

Sincerely,
COASTER COMPANY OF AMERICA, INC.

Gene Korbut
VP of Transportation