

JAMES E. CLYBURN

6TH DISTRICT, SOUTH CAROLINA

DEMOCRATIC STEERING COMMITTEE

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ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT
TRANSPORTATION

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4006

September 30, 2003

Bryant L. VanBrakle
Secretary
Federal Maritime Commission
800 North Capitol Street, NW
Washington, DC 20573

RECEIVED
03 OCT 15 P. 11:24
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Dear Mr. VanBrakle:

I am informed that United Parcel Service (UPS) has filed for an exemption from the prohibition on Non-Vessel Operating Common Carriers (NVOCCs) from entering into confidential contracts with their customers. I am writing in strong support of the UPS petition, and I urge the Federal Maritime Commission to grant its approval as quickly as possible.

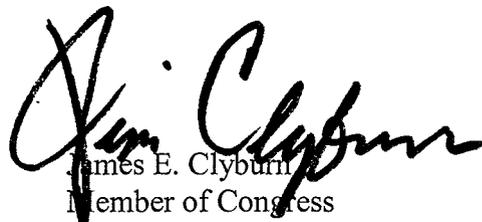
The petition filed by UPS cites the recent evolution of the ocean shipping marketplace and addresses itself to the precise reason Congress granted such broad exemption authority to the Federal Maritime Commission. By granting the petition, the Federal Maritime Commission will level the playing field between NVOCCs and vessel operators, and will ultimately benefit ocean shipping consumers around the world.

UPS has a hub in my hometown of Columbia. I have personally toured this facility, and remain impressed with the technology of the operation. More importantly to me, however, is the high number of well paying jobs this hub provides to my constituents, many of whom are single minorities. I support any action that will allow this company to compete fairly in the marketplace and expand its operation in Columbia.

Once again, I strongly support this application and will remain grateful for your favorable consideration. Should you have questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,


James E. Clyburn
Member of Congress