**Fund CBP’s Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) and**

**Support Trade Modernization**

* The National Customs Brokers and Forwarders Association of America (NCBFAA), whose over 1,400 member companies employ over 110,000 professionals in international trade serving more than 250,000 importers and exporters, **strongly supports additional funding**  to further develop and modernize CBP’s Automated Commercial Environment (ACE), with the necessary legal framework, to address current capability gaps and strengthen the foundation needed to meet the demands of the current trade regime.
* ACE serves as a centralized platform that connects U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), the international trade community, and partner government agencies for duty/tariff collection and to ensure compliant entry reporting. By enabling the application of expertise, technology, and automation, ACE supports streamlined and efficient processes that enhance legitimate trade while targeting high-risk transactions, to create a level playing field and ensure national security.
* **Trade modernization laws must require ACE to function as a true single window, which along with appropriate funding, will enable ACE to serve as a unified system through which the trade community can submit all import, export, and transit information required by multiple government agencies. Achieving this vision will reduce redundancy, improve transparency, and increase efficiency as well as security for government and industry stakeholders alike.**
* **ACE is critical infrastructure.** Any inefficiency, incapacitation, or destruction of the system would have a debilitating effect on national security, economic stability, and public health. Therefore, laws and funding supporting continuous investment are essential to ensure the system remains secure, efficient, and capable of evolving alongside the demands of global trade.
* The NCBFAA urges the design, development, testing, and implementation of enhanced ACE functionality. We specifically advocate for legislation and direct funding of key ACE enhancements to ensure timely completion and to promote safe and secure trade.

**NCBFAA supports technology, transformation, and funding for ACE that ensures a level playing field through appropriate enforcement and streamlined processes, enhancing safety and security.**

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