

**Opening Statement of Michael J. Rigas
Nominee to Serve as Member of the Board of Directors
Export-Import Bank of the United States**

Chairman Scott, Ranking Member Warren, and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today.

I am honored by the confidence President Trump has placed in me by nominating me to serve as a Member of the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank of the United States (EXIM). I am grateful for the opportunity to continue serving our country, and I appreciate the time that Members of this Committee and your staff have devoted to meeting with me throughout this process.

I would also like to thank my wife, Laura, my parents, John and Zoe Rigas, my siblings, and all of my family and friends for their unwavering love and support. I am especially grateful to those who are here with me today—my wife, Laura; my mother, Zoe; my twin sister, Elaine; and, most especially, my daughter Mary Elizabeth, who is attending her second confirmation hearing today, and my nephew Dino, who is here for his third. My father, John, could not be with us today, but I know he is watching from home in Massachusetts.

My parents instilled in our family the importance of public service and giving back to this country that provided so much opportunity to them and to our family. Those values have guided me throughout my career in both the private and public sectors.

My career has provided experiences that I believe are directly relevant to EXIM's mission. I spent more than a decade in the financial services industry, where I gained experience in banking, finance, investment analysis, and risk management. These experiences gave me a practical understanding of the challenges businesses face as they seek to compete and grow in an increasingly competitive global economy.

In public service, I have held senior leadership positions at the Office of Management and Budget, the Office of Personnel Management, and the General Services Administration. Today, as Deputy Secretary of State for Management and Resources, I oversee significant management, budget, personnel, and operational responsibilities while supporting the advancement of American interests around the world.

These roles have reinforced several principles that I believe are essential to effective governance: public resources must be managed responsibly and transparently; risk must be carefully evaluated and appropriately managed; government programs must deliver measurable results; and every decision should be guided by whether it advances the interests of the American people. If confirmed, it would be a privilege to serve on the Board of Directors of EXIM and to help advance the Bank's mission and strategic priorities under the leadership of President Trump and Chairman Jovanovic. I look forward to supporting EXIM's focus on returning to its foundational mission of supporting American workers, manufacturers, and exporters; promoting American energy dominance around the world; strengthening the security and resilience of critical supply

chains; and ensuring that the United States leads in the industries and technologies that will define the future global economy.

These priorities are more than policy objectives. They are critical to strengthening American competitiveness, advancing our economic and national security interests, and creating opportunity for workers, businesses, and communities across our country. EXIM has an important role to play in helping American companies compete on a level playing field, confronting strategic competition from foreign governments, and ensuring that the products, technologies, and innovations developed by American workers remain the gold standard around the world.

As our nation faces growing economic competition from strategic rivals, EXIM serves as an important tool to support U.S. manufacturing, strengthen critical supply chains, expand American energy leadership, and unlock opportunities in the industries that will shape the future. By supporting these efforts, EXIM helps reinforce America's economic security while promoting long-term growth and prosperity.

At the same time, I recognize that EXIM's resources ultimately represent the trust and financial backing of the American taxpayer. Every transaction approved by the Bank must be evaluated with diligence, sound judgment, transparency, and accountability. If confirmed, I will work to ensure that EXIM continues to operate responsibly and effectively while fulfilling its statutory mission and protecting taxpayer interests.

Of course, EXIM's ability to execute its mission is only possible if Congress gives it the authority to do so. I want to thank Congress, including many members of this Committee, for reauthorizing the Bank in 2019. As many of you know, EXIM's current authorities expire on December 31, 2026. If confirmed, I look forward to working with this Committee to ensure a strong reauthorization for EXIM before year's end so that the Bank can continue to support American workers and American companies, large and small alike, to compete and win.

Throughout my career, I have sought to leave organizations stronger than I found them by improving performance, strengthening accountability, and empowering dedicated public servants to achieve results. Any successes I have had have been made possible by the talented individuals with whom I have had the privilege to serve, both in government and in the private sector.

If confirmed, I look forward to working with my fellow Board Members, EXIM's leadership and employees, this Committee, and Congress to support American workers, manufacturers, exporters, and businesses while ensuring that the Bank continues to deliver results for the American people.

Thank you for considering my nomination. I look forward to answering your questions.