



**COALITION TO INSURE
AGAINST TERRORISM**
www.insureagainstterrorism.org

- American Bankers Association
- American Bankers Insurance Association
- American Council of Engineering Companies
- American Gas Association
- American Hotel and Lodging Association
- American Land Title Association
- American Public Gas Association
- American Public Power Association
- American Resort Development Association
- American Society of Association Executives
- Associated Builders and Contractors
- Associated General Contractors of America
- Association of American Railroads
- Association of Art Museum Directors
- Babson Capital Management LLC
- The Bond Market Association
- Building Owners and Managers Association International
- Boston Properties
- CCIM Institute
- Campbell Soup Company
- Century 21 Department Stores
- Chemical Producers and Distributors Association
- Citigroup Inc.
- Commercial Mortgage Securities Association
- Cornerstone Real Estate Advisers, Inc.
- CSX Corporation
- Edison Electric Institute
- Electric Power Supply Association
- The Financial Services Roundtable
- The Food Marketing Institute
- General Aviation Manufacturers Association
- Helicopter Association International
- Hilton Hotels Corporation
- Host Marriott
- Independent Electrical Contractors
- Institute of Real Estate Management
- Intercontinental Hotels
- International Council of Shopping Centers
- International Franchise Association
- International Safety Equipment Association
- The Long Island Import Export Association
- Marriott International
- Mortgage Bankers Association
- National Apartment Association
- National Association of Home Builders
- National Association of Industrial and Office Properties
- National Association of Manufacturers
- National Association of REALTORS®
- National Association of Real Estate Investment Trusts
- National Association of Waterfront Employers
- National Association of Wholesaler-Distributors
- National Basketball Association
- National Collegiate Athletic Association
- National Council of Chain Restaurants
- National Football League
- National Hockey League
- National Multi Housing Council
- National Petrochemical & Refiners Association
- National Restaurant Association
- National Retail Federation
- National Roofing Contractors Association
- National Rural Electric Cooperative Association
- The New England Council
- Partnership for New York City
- Office of the Commissioner of Baseball
- Public Utilities Risk Management Association
- The Real Estate Board of New York
- The Real Estate Roundtable
- Society of American Florists
- Starwood Hotels and Resorts
- Taxicab, Limousine & Paratransit Association
- Travel Business Roundtable
- Trizec Properties, Inc.
- UJA-Federation of New York
- Union Pacific Corporation
- U.S. Chamber of Commerce

October 27, 2005

The Honorable Michael G. Oxley
Chairman
House Committee on Financial Services
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Oxley:

The Coalition to Insure Against Terrorism (CIAT) recognizes that Congress has been in the midst of grappling with the ramifications of a horrific hurricane season that is still ongoing. These devastating events and their aftermath appropriately have been the focal point of Congressional attention in recent weeks.

While we applaud the entire Congress and you, in particular, for the time and attention necessarily paid to these natural disasters, we are increasingly concerned that the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act (TRIA) may expire at year's end. Given the limited number of days left on the 2005 Congressional calendar, we respectfully urge you to promptly consider and move forward legislation continuing this important program.

Since 9/11, TRIA has helped keep the economy on a positive track and has proven vital to the business community. It has stabilized the terrorism insurance marketplace and restored insurance capacity to an enormous portion of the U.S. economy, thereby ensuring economic continuity critical to the nation's overall security. Equally important is the role TRIA plays in connection with the nation's preparedness in the event of a future catastrophic terrorist attack. Having a federal insurance backstop in place in advance, along the lines of TRIA, allows for the timely and orderly payout of claims to the victims of terrorism after an attack, thereby reducing or eliminating ultimate taxpayer exposure and minimizing the economic fallout from the next terrorist attack.

We in the business community share your instinctual preference that the private market alone provides this important insurance coverage. However, we have seen little evidence to suggest that the private market alone can satisfy the economy's demand for terrorism insurance either now or in the immediate future. Therefore, CIAT believes that it is absolutely critical for you and your Committee to act promptly to extend a viable terrorism insurance program beyond December 31, 2005. With a very limited number of legislative days left before the end of the year, American businesses and property owners soon will come face-to-face with the reality of the unavailability of adequate and affordable terrorism insurance coverage next year. Without such a program, our nation's economy will be disrupted needlessly; and substantial U.S. economic interests, including U.S. jobs, are likely to be exposed to the uninsured costs of a catastrophic terrorist attack.

In short, notwithstanding the press of other business, including hurricane-related issues, CIAT respectfully asks that you do all you can to have your Committee report quickly to the full House Committee legislation encompassing a workable and comprehensive terrorism risk insurance program for a reasonable period beyond 2005.

Sincerely,

The Coalition to Insure Against Terrorism

Cc: The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert
The Honorable Tom DeLay
The Honorable Roy Blunt
The Honorable David Dreier
The Honorable Eric Cantor
The Honorable Richard H. Baker
House Committee on Financial Services Members