



# Trade Facts

---

*Office of the United States Trade Representative  
Bipartisan Agreement On Trade Policy: Investment  
May 2007*

[www.ustr.gov](http://www.ustr.gov)

## Port Security

- Some in Congress have worried that FTAs may allow foreign government-owned companies to operate U.S. ports even where there are legitimate security concerns.
- A new FTA provision would clarify that the agreement's "essential security" exception, which can be invoked to override any FTA obligation, including on port services, is not subject to challenge.
- That means if a foreign company's plan to provide services at a U.S. port raises national security concerns, we can be sure the FTA will not stand in the way of any action U.S. authorities take to address those concerns.