

From: [Jody Cortellessa](#)
To: [Secretary](#)
Cc: [Christine Sillars](#); [Francine Vinche](#); [Jeff Sillars](#)
Subject: FW: Docket No. 22-04, Comments on Demurrage and Detention Billing Requirements ANPRM
Date: Friday, April 15, 2022 12:07:05 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[FMC Letter.docx](#)

Sbrocco International, Inc. has been a major importer of fresh fruit for 30 years. As an importer of fresh produce it is imperative to have access to our produce as soon as possible. Refrigerated perishable cargo must be expedited and made available; and importers like Sbrocco should never be penalized with demurrage or detention charges when the inability to pick up the cargo or return the empty is due to issues outside our control. We have incurred tens of thousands of dollars of demurrage charges due to unfair demurrage and detention billing practices which may affect future business with our exporters. Refrigerated containers are charged more (demurrage at \$400/500 per day for reefers as opposed to \$200/300 per day for dry) and given less free time (2 days average for reefers as opposed to 4 days for dry). Sbrocco believes the steamship lines and terminals must be held accountable to expedite the availability of refrigerated containers. The longer the fresh produce remains in the container, the lower the quality and condition, meaning a lower price for the produce. It is essential that fresh produce importers have the ability to pick up their containers as soon as possible after discharge so that the produce can be sold when it has the best quality and condition.

We have attached comments made by our customs broker J&K Fresh, and we agree wholeheartedly with their remarks.

Thank you.

Best Regards,

Christine Sillars
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