



Trade Benefits America

January 14, 2015

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Harry Reid
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Boehner, Leader McConnell, Leader Pelosi and Leader Reid:

As members of the Trade Benefits America Coalition, we write to urge passage of bipartisan Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) legislation early this year.

As you know, TPA has long played an important role in both the negotiation and Congressional consideration of high-standard trade agreements. Every U.S. free trade agreement except one – the U.S-Jordan FTA – or 14 agreements were concluded pursuant to TPA, as well as the GATT Tokyo Round and WTO Uruguay Round agreements. When TPA was not in effect from 1994 to 2002, the United States fell behind our foreign competitors that negotiated trade agreements advantaging their companies, farmers and workers over ours in international markets.

TPA was last written in 2002 and expired in 2007. Since then, new trade issues have emerged for U.S. businesses and farmers in today's global marketplace. Congress and the President have a prime opportunity to work together to modernize and pass 21st century TPA to help address those issues and support U.S. economic growth and jobs.

TPA is particularly important now, given ongoing efforts to close the Trans-Pacific Partnership negotiations and the Administration's goal of then seeking its Congressional approval this year. TPA is also critical to advancing the broader U.S. trade agenda, including the ongoing talks on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership, the Trade in Services Agreement, and an agreement to eliminate tariffs on environmental goods. These initiatives hold tremendous potential to open new markets for U.S. companies, farmers and workers and support growth and jobs. With 95 percent of potential customers outside the United States and more than one in five American jobs supported by trade, we need to seize the opportunities they present.

We believe it is important and urgent for Congress to pass bipartisan TPA legislation to: (1) strengthen U.S. negotiators' hands to secure solid results in U.S. trade negotiations; (2) demonstrate to the countries we are negotiating with that Congress supports high-standard and market-opening outcomes in these negotiations; and (3) help facilitate Congressional review and consideration of these agreements.

For all these reasons, we urge you, your colleagues in the House and Senate, and the President and his Administration to work together to enact TPA early this year. We are eager to work with you, and we will continue to work hard to help pass TPA and achieve solid results in the ongoing U.S. trade negotiations.

Sincerely,

Members of the Trade Benefits America Coalition (see list below)

cc: Senator Orrin Hatch
Senator Ron Wyden
Representative Paul Ryan
Representative Sandy Levin

3M	Alliance for Healthcare Competitiveness
AAPA	Altec, Inc.
Abbott	American Apparel & Footwear Association (AAFA)
AbbVie	American Association of Exporters and Importers (AAEI)
ACE Limited	American Business Conference
Aerospace Industries Association	American Chamber of Commerce in Australia
Aflac	American Chemistry Council
AGCO Corporation	American Council of Life Insurers
Agriculture Transportation Coalition (AgTC)	American Farm Bureau Federation
The Airforwarders Association	
Alcoa Inc.	

American Forest & Paper Association (AF&PA)	The Boeing Company
American Insurance Association (AIA)	Border Commerce and Security Council
American International Automobile Dealers Association (AIADA)	Brown-Forman Corporation
The American Legion	BSA The Software Alliance
American Natural Soda Ash Corporation (ANSAC)	Business Council for Global Development
American Petroleum Institute	Business Roundtable
American Soybean Association	CA Technologies
Amgen Inc.	California Business Roundtable
Amway	California Chamber of Commerce
Apple Inc	Campbell Soup Company
Applied Materials, Inc.	Cange International, Inc.
Archer Daniels Midland Co.	Cargill, Incorporated
Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM)	Caterpillar Inc.
Association of Global Automakers	CETRA Language Solutions
Association of the Nonwoven Fabrics Industry (INDA)	Chambers of Commerce Alliance of Ventura & Santa Barbara Counties
AT&T Inc.	Chevron Corporation
Bayer AG	CIGNA Corporation
BASF Corporation	Cisco Systems, Inc.
Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO)	Citigroup, Inc.
BNSF Railway Company	The Clorox Company
	CNH Industrial
	Coalition for Employment through Exports

Coalition of New England Companies for Trade (CONNECT)

Coalition of Services Industries

The Coca Cola Company

Consumer Specialty Products Association

Corning Incorporated

Corn Refiners Association

Council of the Americas

Crop Life America

Cummins Inc.

C. V. Starr & Co., Inc.

DAIMLER

Danaher Corporation

Darden Restaurants, Inc.

Deere & Company

Diageo

Direct Selling Association

Distilled Spirits Council of the U.S.

The Dow Chemical Company

DuPont

Eastman Chemical Company

Eaton

eBay

Emergency Committee for American Trade

Emerson

Express Association of America (EAA)

Exxon Mobil Corporation

EY

Fashion Accessories Shippers Association (FASA)

FedEx Corporation

Florida Ports Council

Foreign Trade Association

Footwear Distributors & Retailers of America (FDRA)

Free Trade Alliance

Freeport-McMoRan Inc.

Gap Inc.

General Electric Company

General Mills, Inc.

Global Information Infrastructure Commission

Grant Thornton LLP

Greater Beaumont Chamber of Commerce

Grocery Manufacturers Association

Hanesbrands, Inc.

Hardwood Plywood and Veneer Association

Herbalife	Kalispell Chamber of Commerce Convention & Visitor Bureau
Hewlett-Packard	
The Home Depot	KPMG LLP
Honda North America, Inc.	Liberty Mutual Group
Honeywell	Lincoln Chamber of Commerce
IBM Corporation	Lockheed Martin
Illinois District Export Council	LORD Corporation
Information Technology Industry Council (ITI)	Los Angeles Customs Brokers and Freight Forwarders Association
Ingersoll-Rand plc	Mary Kay Inc.
Intel Corporation	Mattel, Inc.
International Dairy Foods Association	McGraw Hill Financial
International Intellectual Property Alliance	Medtronic, Inc.
ITC Holdings Corp.	Merck
International Paper	MetLife, Inc.
International Trade Association of Greater Chicago	Miami Valley Marketing Group
Jeffersonian Project, an affiliate of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC)	Michael's Stores
Jockey International, Inc	Microsoft Corporation
Johnson & Johnson	Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce
Juniper Networks	Momentive Performance Materials and Specialty Chemicals
Juvenile Products Manufacturers Association (JPMA)	Mondelēz International
	Montana Chamber of Commerce
	Morgan Stanley

Motion Picture Association of America	PA Chamber of Business and Industry
Motorola Solutions, Inc.	Pacific Coast Council of Customs Brokers and Freight Forwarders Assoc. - The PCC
National Association of Manufacturers	Personal Care Products Council
National Association of Wheat Growers	Pfizer Inc
National Confectioners Association	Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA)
National Corn Growers Association	The Plastics Industry Trade Association (SPI)
National District Export Council	Polyguard Products
National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)	PPG Industries
National Foreign Trade Council	The Procter & Gamble Company
National Grain and Feed Association	Promotional Products Association International
National Milk Producers Federation	Qualcomm Incorporated
National Oilseed Processors Association (NOPA)	Retail Industry Leaders Association
National Retail Federation	Rockwell Automation, Inc.
National Small Business Association	Santa Clara Chamber of Commerce and Convention-Visitors Bureau
North Alabama International Trade Association (NAITA)	Securities Industry & Financial Markets Association (SIFMA)
North American Equipment Dealers Association	Semiconductor Equipment and Materials International (SEMI)
North American Export Grain Association (NAEGA)	Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA)
Outdoor Power Equipment Institute (OPEI)	Siemens Corporation
Oracle	Small Business Exporters Association
Organization for International Investment	

Society of Chemical Manufacturers and Affiliates (SOCMA)

Software & Information Industry Association

Sony

Sports & Fitness Industry Association

State Farm Insurance Companies

SVB Environmental Lubricants, Inc.

Sweetener Users Association

Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber

Target Corporation

TechAmerica

TechNet

Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)

Texas Instruments Incorporated

Towpath Group International, LLC

Toy Industry Association

Toyota

Trans-Atlantic Business Council (TABC)

Travel Goods Association (TGA)

The Travelers Companies

Tyco International Ltd.

United Technologies Corporation

U.S. Chamber of Commerce

U.S. Council for International Business

U.S. Dairy Export Council

U.S. Fashion Industry Association

U.S. Wheat Associates

US-ASEAN Business Council

UPS

USA Rice Federation

Vermeer Corporation

Virginia Chamber of Commerce

Virginia - Washington, DC District Export Council

Visa Inc.

Volvo Group North America

Walmart

The Walt Disney Company

Washington Council on International Trade

Western Digital Corporation

Western Growers

Whirlpool Corporation

The Williams Companies

Wine Institute

W.J. Byrnes & Co.

World Trade Center Delaware

Xerox Corporation

Zac Ventures Inc