

THE PRESIDENT'S EXPORT COUNCIL

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20230

June 19, 2014

President of the United States of America
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

As members of the Presidents Export Council, we strongly support and encourage progress on the Administration's ambitious trade agenda, including the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP); the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP); the Trade in Services Agreement (TISA); and implementation of the WTO-agreed Agreement on Trade Facilitation. We urge you to move each of these high-standard, commercially meaningful initiatives forward.

We also believe that renewing and updating Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) is a critical part of the United States trade toolkit. In January, Congressional leaders from both parties introduced bipartisan, bicameral legislation to renew and update TPA. Trade Promotion Authority will ensure that the Congress continues to play a vital role by setting forth 21st century negotiating objectives necessary to conclude the high-standard, comprehensive trade agreements we are all seeking.

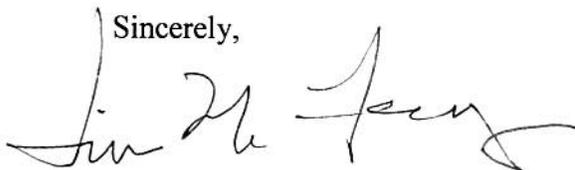
TPA prioritizes U.S. trade negotiating objectives, sets a statutory framework for close cooperation between Congress and the Executive Branch before, during, and after negotiations, and facilitates Congress' review and consideration of trade agreements. When TPA was not in effect from 1994 to 2002, the United States fell behind our foreign competitors in negotiating bilateral and regional trade agreements, ultimately providing foreign companies, farmers and workers preferential access in foreign markets.

Passage of TPA would: (1) reassure our trading partners of Congress' commitment to high-standard and ambitious outcomes in these negotiations; (2) promote transparency and ensure appropriate mechanisms for input by Congress and other stakeholders; and (3) help facilitate Congressional review and consideration of these agreements. A cohesive executive and legislative perspective on trade is a key element of ensuring strong final agreements that support the U.S. domestic economy and our companies, workers, and exporters.

TPA will incentivize progress on our current negotiations and create a more positive environment for concluding a commercially meaningful, high-standard TPP. Trade Promotion Authority will also enhance the current framework of discussions under TTIP, and ensure meaningful progress to achieve key benefits of that agreement, particularly in the regulatory cooperation arena.

To ensure the completion of high-standard trade agreements that create opportunities for U.S. businesses, farmers, and workers to buy and sell goods and services with other countries, we urge the Administration to continue its engagement with the Congress to move forward on modernized TPA legislation as soon as possible. We look forward to continuing to work with you and the Congress to advance completion of the American trade agenda.¹

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim McNerney". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jim" being the most prominent.

Jim McNerney

¹ Please note this letter was prepared by the private sector appointed members of the PEC.