Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (T-TIP)

Opportunities for Hawaii

T-TIP stands to be an ambitious, comprehensive, and high-standard trade and investment agreement that offers significant benefits for U.S. companies and workers through eliminating existing trade barriers and better enabling U.S. companies and workers to compete. **T-TIP will provide significant new opportunities for U.S. industry, as approximately one-fifth of all U.S. goods and services exports go to the European Union (EU). In 2013, every billion dollars of U.S. exports supported 5,590 jobs. In that same year, U.S. goods and services exports to the EU supported an estimated 2.5 million U.S. jobs.**

**Key Opportunities for Hawaii’s Industries**

**Consumer Goods**

The consumer goods sector accounted for **19 percent** of Hawaii’s total exports to the EU between 2012 and 2014. During that same period consumer goods exports to the EU from Hawaii averaged **$6.3 million** annually. The EU currently has tariffs on consumer good products as high as 15 percent. Hawaii companies would likely benefit from reduced tariffs in this sector as a result of the agreement.

**Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)**

The ICT sector accounted for **5 percent** of Hawaii’s total exports to the EU between 2012 and 2014. During that same period ICT exports to the EU from Hawaii averaged **$1.8 million** annually. The EU currently has tariffs on ICT as high as 14 percent. Hawaii companies would likely benefit from reduced tariffs in this sector as a result of the agreement. ICT exports could also benefit from T-TIP provisions that will address technical regulations and standards that unnecessarily restrict trade.

**Fish and Fish Products**

The fish sector accounted for **3 percent** of Hawaii’s total exports to the EU between 2012 and 2014. During that same period fish exports to the EU from Hawaii averaged **$986 thousand** annually. The EU currently has tariffs on fish and fish products as high as 26 percent. Hawaii companies would likely benefit from reduced tariffs in this sector as a result of the agreement.
Exports Sustain Thousands of Hawaii Businesses including SMEs

A total of 862 companies exported from Hawaii locations in 2013. Of those, 751 (87.1 percent) were small and medium-sized enterprises with fewer than 500 employees. Small and medium-sized firms generated nearly three-fifths (59.4 percent) of Hawaii’s total exports of merchandise in 2013.

Hawaii exported $39 million annually in goods to the EU (2012-2014 average).

The EU’s tariff elimination as part of T-TIP would provide new market access that could benefit Hawaii’s exports. Exports from Hawaii could also benefit from efforts in T-TIP to achieve new market access commitments in services and investment, improve the regulatory environment, and establish global best practices.

How Past FTAs Have Benefitted Hawaii

The United States currently has free trade agreements in force with 20 countries, which account for $903.5 million (62 percent) of Hawaii’s exports in 2014. During the past 10 years (2005-2014), exports from Hawaii to these markets grew by 51 percent, with Australia, Panama, Korea, CAFTA-DR, and NAFTA showing the largest dollar growth during this period.

In Their Own Words: T-TIP Comments

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<tr>
<th>The American Farm Bureau Federation</th>
<th>National Fisheries Institute (NFI)</th>
<th>Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)</th>
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<td>“The American Farm Bureau Federation, a U.S. general farm organization, supports efforts to increase agricultural trade flows and remove several major impediments to this flow that currently exist between the United States and the European Union.”</td>
<td>“NFI applauds USTR’s willingness to negotiate a high-standards agreement for what is a large and critically important market for American seafood”</td>
<td>“We see significant potential for a TTIP to increase transatlantic trade of telecommunications goods and services. As the two largest telecommunications markets in the world, the benefits of a comprehensive agreement will likely have a significant commercial benefit to the United States and Europe.”</td>
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For more information, please see www.trade.gov/fta.
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