

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

August 7, 2013

The Honorable Michael Froman
United States Trade Representative
600 Seventeenth Street
Washington, DC 20506

Dear Ambassador Froman:

As you know, the trade agreements currently under negotiation, including the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP), hold significant potential for American agricultural exports. We support the Administration's goal to establish effective, 21st Century agreements to promote new market opportunities across the Asia-Pacific and European regions. With this goal in mind, we urge you to ensure the strongest possible sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures in the TPP and TTIP agreements.

America's farmers and ranchers are among the most productive and efficient in the world, producing high-quality agricultural products sought by consumers across the globe. However, our U.S. producers too often confront import barriers in foreign markets that are not science-based. These attempts to protect foreign markets are spurious and frustrate the desires of our producers, the intent and spirit of the trade agreements, and ultimately the consumers who want and seek American agriculture.

Several Members of the House Ways & Means Committee raised this issue with you during the hearing on July 18 and we will continue to work with you to memorialize in the agreements fair treatment for American agricultural interests. Specifically, we want to ensure that agricultural products receive the same protections, including fully enforceable dispute resolution options under the agreements, that are accorded to any other areas or aspects of the agreements. It is only right that American producers have the same protections enjoyed by others under the agreements and any deviation from that policy cannot be justified.

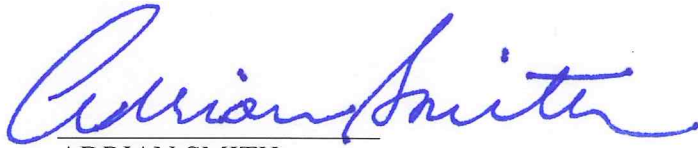
The TPP and TTIP negotiations offer the United States an opportunity to go beyond the World Trade Organization (WTO) rules to create more robust SPS measures. We applaud your efforts to seek forward-leaning agreements and urge you to support effective and enforceable rules to strengthen the role of science in the international marketplace.

Thank you for your leadership on U.S. trade policy. We look forward to continuing to work with you to craft these ambitious agreements.

Sincerely,


TIM GRIFFIN
Member of Congress



RON KIND
Member of Congress



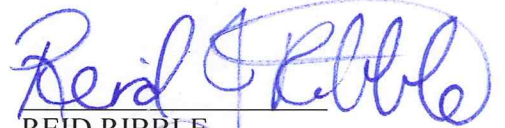
ADRIAN SMITH
Member of Congress



LYNN JENKINS
Member of Congress



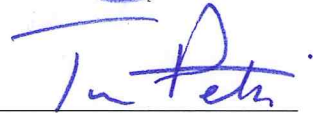
DAVE REICHERT
Member of Congress



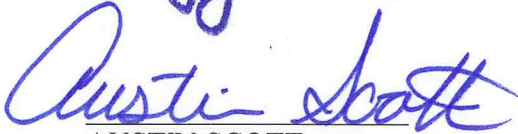
REID RIBBLE
Member of Congress



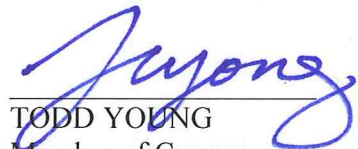
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THOMAS PETRI
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AUSTIN SCOTT
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TODD YOUNG
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JIM RENACCI
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CHARLES BOUSTANY
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KURT SCHRADER
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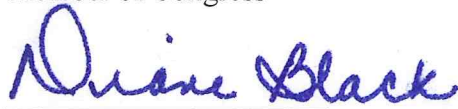
PAT TIBERI
Member of Congress



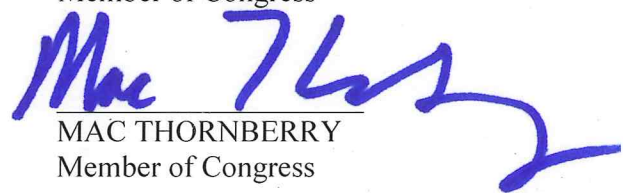
VERN BUCHANAN
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BEN RAY LUJAN
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DIANE BLACK
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MAC THORNBERRY
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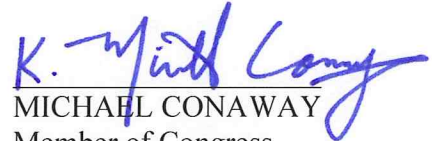
ERIK PAULSEN
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MICHAEL CONAWAY
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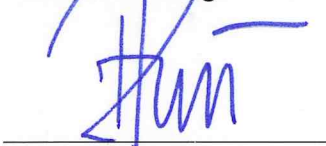
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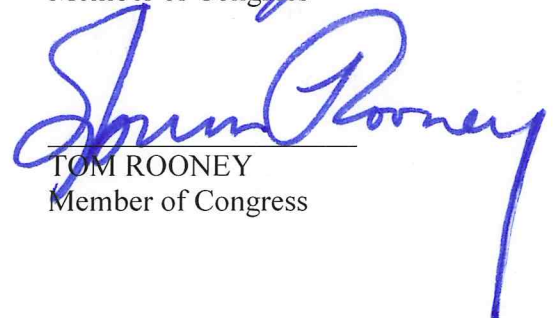
WILLIAM OWENS
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TIM WALBERG
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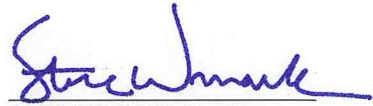
JIM GERLACH
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TOM ROONEY
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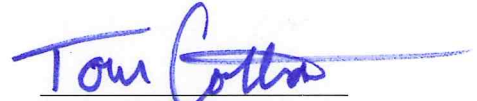
AARON SCHOCK
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STEVE WOMACK
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JOHN GARAMENDI
Member of Congress



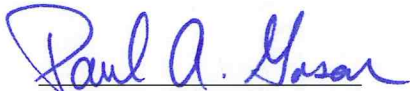
TOM COTTON
Member of Congress



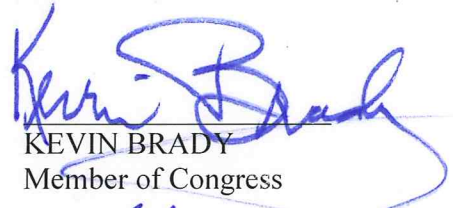
RENEE ELLMERS
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PAUL A. GOSAR
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KEVIN BRADY
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STEVE DAINES
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ANDY HARRIS
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SUZAN DELBENE
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CHRIS COLLINS
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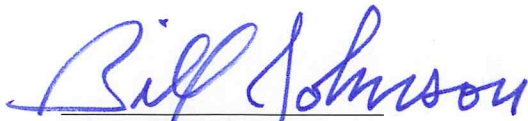
VICKY HARTZLER
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BILL JOHNSON
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CHRIS GIBSON
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BOB GIBBS
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PETER ROSKAM
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DAVID G. VALADAO
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HENRY CUELLAR
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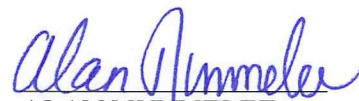
JIM MATHESON
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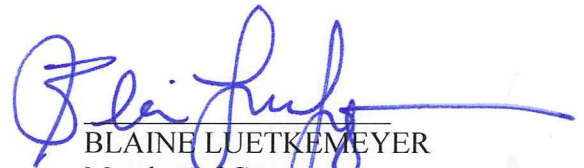
MIKE KELLY
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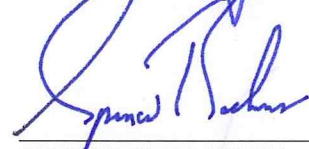
DOC HASTINGS
Member of Congress



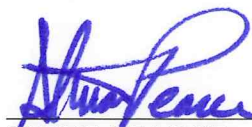
ALAN NUNNELEE
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BLAINE LUETKEMEYER
Member of Congress



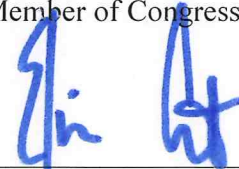
SPENCER BACHUS
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STEVE PEARCE
Member of Congress




TODD ROKITA
Member of Congress

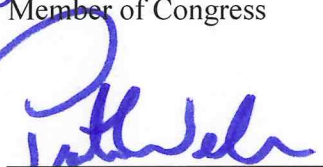


JIM COSTA
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SEAN P. DUFFY
Member of Congress

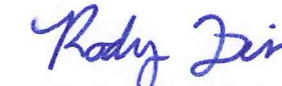

JAMES P. MCGOVERN
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DEREK KILMER
Member of Congress



PETER WELCH
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RODGERS
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RAUL LABRADOR
Member of Congress


RODNEY DAVIS
Member of Congress


JOE COURTNEY
Member of Congress


KYRSTEN SINEMA
Member of Congress


MICHELLE LUJAN
GRISHAM
Member of Congress

Cc: The Honorable Kathleen Sebelius, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
The Honorable Tom Vilsack, U.S. Department of Agriculture