

The President The White House Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

It has been more than one year since the termination of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Cross-Border Trucking Pilot Program with Mexico and more than fifteen years since the U.S. commitment to allow cross border trucking became law. These lapses and Mexico's subsequent imposition of retaliatory tariffs impacting \$2.4 billion worth of manufactured and agricultural products have cost the United States approximately 25,000 jobs. Until now, many of the companies affected have been paying the tariffs, but they will not be able to operate under these circumstances much longer. In short, more jobs will soon be lost.

We appreciate the support expressed by U.S. Trade Representative Ron Kirk during his trip to Mexico in February, and in recent statements that resolving the conflict is a top priority for him and the administration. Permitting cross-border trucking would not only lift the tariffs on numerous U.S. industries, but it would also contribute to the administration's goal to double U.S. exports in the next five years.

On March 1, a bipartisan group of 56 members of the U.S. House of Representatives sent a letter to Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood and Ambassador Kirk urging a solution to this persistent problem. Now with their support, and with the funding prohibition for the pilot program lifted, this issue is squarely in the hands of your administration. We reiterate our request for a formal meeting between relevant members of your Cabinet and the private sector and other stakeholders affected by the U.S. failure to meet its long-time commitment.

In keeping with your previous expression of commitment to work with Mexican President Felipe Calderón to find a negotiated solution, his upcoming visit to the White House on May 19 will be an opportune time to finalize a resolution and to honor the obligation undertaken by the United States 15 years ago. Until then, American workers, farmers, and businesses will continue to pay the price in lost sales and lost jobs.

Respectfully,

The Alliance to Keep U.S. Jobs

American Apparel & Footwear Association

American Association of Exporters & Importers

American Chamber of Commerce of Mexico, A.C.

American Chemistry Council

American Cotton Shippers Association American Farm Bureau Federation American Feed Industry Association American Forest & Paper Association American Frozen Food Institute

American Institute for International Steel

American Meat Institute

American Nursery & Landscape Association

American Peanut Council

American Peanut Product Manufacturers, Inc.

American Seed Trade Association American Soybean Association American Trucking Associations

Amway Appleton Paper

Apricot Producers of California

Archer Daniels Midland Company (ADM) Association of Equipment Manufacturers

Blue Diamond Growers Business Roundtable

California Agriculture Issues Forum California Cherry Export Association

California Dried Plum Board
California Farm Bureau Federation
California Fig Advisory Board
California Grain & Feed Association
California Grape and Tree Fruit League
California League of Food Processors
California Pear Advisory Board
California Seed Association
California Strawberry Commission
California Table Grape Commission

California Tomato Growers Association California Walnut Commission

Campbell Soup Company Cargill, Incorporated

Caterpillar Chiquita Brands

Commodity Markets Council ConAgra Foods, Inc.

Consumer Electronics Association

Continental Express Inc.
Corn Refiners Association
CropLife America

Dallas Chamber of Commerce Dart Container Corporation

DHL Express USA

Distilled Spirits Council of the United States Emergency Committee for American Trade Fashion Accessories Shippers Association

Free Trade Alliance

Frozen Potato Products Institute

General Electric Company

Georgia Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association

Glatfelter Glanbia Foods

Grocery Manufacturers Association

Grower-Shipper Association of Central California Grower-Shipper Association of Santa Barbara and

San Luis Obispo Counties

Herbalife International of America, Inc.

Hormel Foods Corporation

International Dairy Foods Association Jefferson Waterman International

JR Simplot Company

Kraft Foods

Louis Dreyfus Commodities

Magination Consulting International

Manatt Phillips Mars Incorporated Mary Kay, Inc. NASDA

National Association of Manufacturers National Association of Wheat Growers National Barley Grower's Association National Beef Packing Company National Cattlemen's Beef Association

National Chicken Council

National Christmas Tree Association National Corn Growers Association National Council of Farmer Cooperatives National Electrical Manufacturers Association

National Foreign Trade Council National Grain and Feed Association

National Grange

National Milk Producers Federation National Oilseed Processors Association

National Pork Producers Council

National Potato Council

National Renderers Association National Sorghum Producers National Sunflower Association National Turkey Federation National Watermelon Association Nestle Purina PetCare Company

Nestle USA

Nisei Farmers League

North American Equipment Dealers Association North American Export Grain Association North American Millers' Association Northwest Horticultural Council Ocean Spray Cranberries, Inc. Ohio Alliance for International Trade Oregon Association of Nurseries Pacific Egg & Poultry Association Panasonic Corporation of North America

PepsiCo, Inc.

Personal Care Products Council

Pet Food Institute

Plastic Express

Proctor & Gamble

Produce Marketing Association

RR Donnelley

Retail Industry Leaders Association

Schering-Plough

Seaboard Foods, LLC

Smithfield Foods

STR

Sunsweet Growers, Inc.

Sweetener Users Association

TBM Carriers, Inc

TechAmerica

Texas Vegetable Association

The Fertilizer Institute

The Hershey Company

The Popcorn Institute

Travel Goods Association

Truss World, Inc.

Tyson Foods

U.S. Apple Association

U.S. Canola Association

U.S. Chamber of Commerce

U.S. Dairy Export Council

U.S. Grains Council

U.S. Hides, Skins, and Leather Association

U.S. Meat Export Federation

U.S. Premium Beef

U.S. Rice Producers Association

U.S. Wheat Associates, Inc.

Unilever United States, Inc.

United Egg Association

United Egg Producers

United Fresh Produce Association

United States - Mexico Chamber of Commerce

United States Association of Importers of Textiles

and Apparel

United States Council for International Business

United States Dry Bean Council

USA Dry Pea & Lentil Council

USA Poultry & Egg Export Council

USA Rice Federation

Ventura County Agricultural Association

Viagen

Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.

Washington State Council for International Trade

Western Growers Association

Western United Dairymen

Wine Institute

Yum Brands