

September 26, 2007

Dear Congressman/Senator:

Participation in the global economy has provided significant and important benefits for the United States. Many in the United States, however, have concerns about the impact that globalization in general and trade with China in particular are having on jobs and economic security. We recognize that some parts of the U.S. economy have faced substantially increased competition. We agree that constructive efforts should be pursued vigorously to address such concerns and increase the benefits from engagement in the international economy for all Americans. We urge you to seek solutions that advance international engagement and promote America's broad interests, while at the same time pursuing policies and programs designed to prepare American workers to remain the most productive and competitive in the world. Conversely, we believe that adopting retaliatory measures, such as increasing tariffs or assessing user fees on imports, will do more harm than good.

Our companies and the millions of workers we employ collectively represent all major sectors of the U.S. economy and benefit substantially from the global trading system. International trade and investment have helped us to expand into markets outside of the United States and to access raw materials, inputs and finished products that make our companies and workers more globally competitive, while providing important benefits to consumers here in the United States. While the United States will always be an important market for us, access to international markets means that U.S. farmers, manufacturers and service providers are able to expand sales to new customers, increasing activities here in the United States and abroad.

The benefits of participation in the international economy go beyond increased economic activity and the generation of high-quality jobs in the United States. U.S. companies bring their global employment practices and environmental, health and safety standards to facilities in China and around the world. That helps to improve the quality of life for all.

Advancing America's interests requires eliminating barriers abroad and increasing our competitiveness at home. For example, China has already made major advances in implementing its World Trade Organization (WTO) commitments in a manner that has benefited nearly all major sectors of the U.S. economy. Additional and continued progress is needed. As well, policies that address U.S. competitiveness, worker education and retraining, and health care are needed as part of an effective and balanced response to the challenges of the global economy.

Conversely, policies that single out individual countries as responsible for the United States' broader concerns will not be effective and should be rejected, as should approaches that violate the United States' own international obligations or that improperly restrict access to the U.S. market. Doing so can only undermine U.S. credibility and competitiveness and put U.S. exports at substantial risk of retaliatory action. Imposing unfair barriers to trade in the name of currency valuation or product safety is not a solution to the underlying concerns, and it ultimately undermines the important work that should be undertaken to prepare our economy and our workers for the realities of the global economy.

Our economy is the most competitive and productive in the world. We will maintain that position only if we rise to the economic challenges we face while keeping the U.S. market open and our focus on expanding trade opportunities for American workers, farmers and service providers.

Respectfully,

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 ACE Group of Insurance and Reinsurance
 Companies
 AdvaMed - Advanced Medical Technology
 Association
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 Affinity Marketing, LLC
 Albany International Corp.
 Alcatel-Lucent
 Altria Group, Inc.
 American Apparel & Footwear Association
 American Council of Life Insurers
 American Electronics Association (AeA)
 American Insurance Association
 American International Group, Inc. (AIG)
 American Signature, Inc.
 Amway Corporation
 Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc.
 APL Limited
 Applied Materials
 AutoZone, Inc.
 Barbara Franklin Enterprises
 Bechtel Corporation
 Best Buy Co., Inc.
 The Boeing Company
 Boston Scientific Corporation
 Brass Key, Inc.
 Brooks Sports
 Buhler Quality Yarns Corp.
 Business Roundtable
 Cadbury Schweppes
 Cargill, Incorporated
 Case New Holland
 Caterpillar Inc.
 Celanese
 Chevron
 China Pacific Group, Inc.
 Chindex International, Inc.
 Chrysler LLC
 The Chubb Corporation
 Citigroup, Inc.
 Coalition for Employment Through Exports
 Coalition of New England Companies for
 Trade
 Coalition of Service Industries
 The Coca-Cola Company
 Computing Technology Industry Association
 (CompTIA)
 Consumer Electronics Association
 Consuming Industries Trade Action Coalition
 Corporate Computer, Inc.
 Crane International Inc.
 Cummins Inc.
 Cutter & Buck
 Deb Shops, Inc.
 Deckers Outdoor Corp.
 Design Resources, Inc.
 Distilled Spirits Council of the United States
 The Dow Chemical Company
 DRI DUCK Traders
 DuPont
 Eastman Kodak Company
 EDS
 Emerald Home Furnishings
 Emergency Committee for American Trade
 Emerson
 Exxon Mobil Corporation
 FedEx
 Financial Services Forum
 Financial Services Roundtable
 Fluor
 Footwear Distributors and Retailers of
 America
 Ford Motor Company
 Four Star Distribution
 Gap Inc.
 General Electric Company
 General Mills
 General Motors Corporation
 Grocery Manufacturers/Food Products
 Association
 Hewlett-Packard Company
 The Home Depot
 Honeywell
 Hormel Foods Corporation
 IBM Corporation
 Independent Bakers Association
 Information Technology Association of
 America
 Information Technology Industry Council
 Ingersoll Rand Company Ltd.
 Intel Corporation
 ITT Corporation
 J.C. Penney Corporation, Inc.
 J.C. Penney Purchasing Corporation
 J.P. Morgan Chase & Co.
 Johnson & Johnson
 LFI International
 Liz Claiborne, Inc.
 Lowe's Companies, Inc.
 Maritime Products International
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Matrix Advisors, LLC
The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc.
Michar LLC
Microsoft Corporation
Morgan Stanley
Motorola, Inc.
The National Fisheries Institute
National Foreign Trade Council
National Retail Federation
New York Life
Newell Rubbermaid
NIKE Inc.
Northwest Laboratories Inc.
Office Depot
One Step Up
Oracle Corporation
Pacific Coast Council of Customs Brokers and
Freight Forwarders
Pacific Coast Feather
Pacific Northwest Advisors
Paul Davril, Inc.
Payless ShoeSource
PepsiCo
Perry Ellis International
Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers
of America
Praxair, Inc.
Principal Financial Group
The Procter & Gamble Company
Produce Marketing Association
QUALCOMM Inc.
Red Pagoda Concepts LLC
Reebok International Ltd
REI
Retail Industry Leaders Association
Robert A. Kapp & Associates
The Rockport Company
Rohm and Haas Company
SAP Americas
Securities Industry and Financial Markets
Association
Sequel Technologies
Skyway Luggage
The SRC Group
Stonebridge International
Sun Life Financial
Target
Ann Taylor Stores Corporation
TaylorMade
Travel Goods Association
Tyco Electronics

U.S. Association of Importers of Textiles and
Apparel
United States Council for International
Business
United Technologies Corporation
UPS
US Chamber of Commerce
US-China Business Council
Visa International
Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.
Wandell Industries, Inc.
Washington Council on International Trade
Washington State China Relations Council
Washington State Potato Commission
The Westin Building
Westinghouse Electric Company
Whirlpool Corporation
World Shipping Council
Zyvex Corporation