



February 5, 2015

The Honorable Doug Lamborn
House of Representatives
2402 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Lamborn,

The Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce (DMCC), the Metro Denver Economic Development Corporation (MDEDC), and the Colorado Competitive Council (C3) strongly urge you to support Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) for the President. TPA facilitates negotiations on bilateral and multilateral trade agreements, which lead to greater exports supporting U.S. jobs. As legislation is introduced this session, we urge you to vote in favor of TPA.

Colorado exported \$8.5 billion in merchandise exports in 2013, supporting almost 43,000 jobs. More than 5,500 companies exported from Colorado in 2012, and of those, 88 percent are small or medium size enterprises, which make up most of the DMCC's 3,000 members. 95 percent of the global market lies outside of the borders of the United States. Since the Great Recession, it has become clear to our companies that global markets are increasingly important to their businesses.

Currently the United States Free Trade Agreement partners represent 50 percent of U.S. exports of goods, although they are just 10 percent of the global market. Indeed, in Colorado we watched our exports to Mexico grow five times following the implementation of NAFTA. Just think about the benefits to our companies to grow their export of goods and services by completing negotiations on the Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement with 11 other Asia-Pacific nations, and the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership with the European Union, the largest market for U.S. business.

Every President since Franklin Delano Roosevelt has had TPA. TPA gives our trade negotiators the authority required and the countries that we are negotiating with the confidence that the United States is serious about reaching free and fair trade practices globally. Under TPA, Congress sets negotiating objectives and requires the executive branch to consult extensively with legislators during negotiations. Ultimately, Congress has the final vote to ratify all trade agreements.

We urge you to continue to help the Colorado and U.S. economy grow and support good jobs for our workers and businesses by supporting TPA legislation expected to be introduced this session. Please contact us to discuss how we can work together to keep our economy strong.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Kelly Brough in black ink.

Kelly Brough
President and CEO
Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce

Handwritten signature of Tom Clark in black ink.

Tom Clark
CEO
Metro Denver EDC

Handwritten signature of Mizraim S. Cordero in black ink.

Mizraim S. Cordero
Director
Colorado Competitive Council