Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 24, 2025

Ambassador Jamieson Greer U.S. Trade Representative Office of the U.S. Trade Representative 600 17th St., NW Washington, DC 20508

The Honorable Brooke Rollins Secretary of Agriculture U.S. Department of Agriculture 1400 Independence Ave., S.W. Washington, DC 20250 The Honorable Scott Bessent Secretary of the Treasury U.S. Department of Treasury 1500 Pennsylvania Ave, NW Washington, DC 20220

The Honorable Howard Lutnick Secretary of Commerce U.S. Department of Commerce 1401 Constitution Ave., N.W. Washington, DC 20230

Dear Ambassador Greer and Secretaries Bessent, Rollins, and Lutnick,

We write to you to express our strong support for ongoing trade negotiations to level the playing field for American producers and manufacturers. President Trump's decision to pause the implementation of certain reciprocal tariffs creates momentum to secure meaningful and enforceable agreements for U.S. agricultural producers, energy producers, and manufacturers.

International trade is fundamental to the continued success and vitality of U.S. industry, particularly agriculture. Many of the commodities grown in the U.S. are dependent on access to export markets, including grains, oilseeds, specialty crops, and livestock products. For example, over 50% of soybeans, 25% of pork products, and nearly 50% of domestic wheat production are destined for overseas markets. Last year, American food and agricultural exports totaled \$180.2 billion to customers outside the United States¹. At that same time, the agricultural trade deficit reached a high of \$32 billion; a concerning development compared with our historic agricultural trade surplus. This is in part due to President Biden's failure to address tariff and non-tariff barriers in international markets.

Over the last four years, we saw an extraordinary lack of trade engagement by the Biden administration. Where President Biden chose to engage, it was through slow-walked complacency. Often, American industries were left without any defense. Contrast this with President Trump's first term, which achieved historic wins for U.S. agriculture and manufacturing. The U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), the China Phase One trade deal, and the United States-Japan Trade Agreement all achieved historic outcomes for American producers and consumers. Given the current agricultural trade deficit and the state of the farm economy, it is more important than ever to build on the achievements of President Trump's first term.

We appreciate the administration's swift negotiation of an agreement in principle with the United Kingdom which prioritizes agricultural market access, collaboration in industries key to national security, and continued engagement to address other bilateral trade barriers. The initial agreement secures unprecedented access to import quotas for key agricultural products, yet there are significant other tariff and non-tariff barriers that must continue to be addressed in the UK and with other trading partners to realize the full benefit of new access commitments.

¹ 2025 Feeding the Economy report

Certain barriers may require long-term negotiations. However, we are confident in your ability to utilize this 90day pause to come to agreements that can benefit all American industries while providing opportunity for continued dialogue. There are pressing trade issues, including digital services taxes, import quotas, and tariff reduction, which we cannot delay addressing.

American manufacturers, producers, and consumers are eager for the mutual lowering of barriers and long-term certainty trade agreements provide. This certainty could prevent the decline of commodity prices, recover global market share, and unleash American industry to counter global competitors. Further, bilateral agreements which address both tariff and non-tariff barriers provide opportunities to strengthen supply chains, drive innovation, and increase international collaboration, all of which would reassert the United States' global leadership and combat China's malign influence.

We applaud the President for seeking to renew American leadership in global trade and secure meaningful market access for American industries. We look forward to working together on a trade policy agenda that strengthens American industry, agriculture, and rural communities.

Sincerely,

Steve Daines United States Senator

Max L. Miller Member of Congress

Mike Bost Member of Congress

Don Bacon Member of Congress

Adrian Smith Member of Congress

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Michelle Fischbach Member of Congress

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Claudia Tenney Member of Congress

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Deb Fischer United States Senator

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Frank D. Lucas Member of Congress

<u>Mariannette J. Miller-Meeks</u>, M.D. Member of Congress

Vern Buchanan Member of Congress

Mike Carey Member of Congress

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Ron Estes Member of Congress

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Randy Feenstra Member of Congress

Dan Newhouse Member of Congress

Jodey C. Arrington Member of Congress

Derek Schmidt Member of Congress

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Lloyd Smucker Member of Congress

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Ann Wagner Member of Congress

Nicole Malliotakis Member of Congress

Church

Charles E. Grassley United States Senator

Tel Bill

Ted Budd United States Senator

Thom Tillis United States Senator

Sam Graves Member of Congress

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Mark Alford ' Member of Congress

Brad Finstad Member of Congress

Ishley Hinso

Ashley Hinson Member of Congress

David Kustof

David Kustoff Member of Congress

Stark

Tim Sheehy United States Senator

Tracey Mann Member of Congress

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Julie Fedorchak Member of Congress

Troy Downing Member of Congress

James É. Risch United States Senator

Rudy Yakym III Member of Congress

Keith Self Member of Congress

Dusty Johnson Member of Congress

James Comer Member of Congress

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Joni K. Ernst Inited States Senator

Eric A. "Rick" Crawford Member of Congress

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Mark B. Messmer Member of Congress

Gregory F. Murphy, M.D. Member of Congress

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Stephanie Bice Member of Congress

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French Hill Member of Congress