

# COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE

CALIFORNIA CHAMBER of COMMERCE



**September 6, 2016**

**To: Members of the California Congressional Delegation**

**From: The California Coalition for Free Trade**

**Re: Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) - Support**

We, the undersigned companies and business organizations of the California Coalition for Free Trade, urge your support of the Trans-Pacific Partnership. Delaying Congressional approval of TPP for just one year would cost the U.S. economy \$94 billion.

The California Coalition for Free Trade was initiated in May of 2008 by the California Chamber of Commerce Council for International Trade. This group of California companies and business organizations believe that opening markets and promoting trade rules are critical for California's economy. The California Coalition for Free Trade is a broad-based group of companies and business organizations working to secure a national free trade agenda.

The California Coalition for Free Trade, enthusiastically supports free trade worldwide, expansion of international trade and investment, fair and equitable market access for California products abroad and elimination of disincentives that impede the international competitiveness of California business.

The large and growing markets of the Asia-Pacific already are key destinations for U.S. and California manufactured goods, agricultural products, and services suppliers, and the TPP will further deepen this trade and investment. U.S. goods exports to TPP nations totaled \$680.1 billion in 2015, representing 45.2 percent of total U.S. goods exports. In 2015, California exports in goods with TPP members were \$68.9 billion, making California the second largest exporting state to the region. Furthermore, 41.6 percent of California's exports in goods went to TPP nations, supporting 1.9 million jobs in the state.

The Asia-Pacific region is a key driver of global economic growth, representing nearly half of the earth's population, one-third of global GDP and roughly 50 percent of international trade. The IMF estimates that nearly two-thirds of world economic growth in 2016-2017 will be in Asia.

In April 2016, Secretary of State John Kerry said, "Ultimately, this whole debate—about TPP, T-TIP, trade generally—comes down to a fundamental question: Will we bind our nation closer to partners and allies in the Asia Pacific and Europe, and strengthen our existing and emerging relationships in key markets and regions? Or will we pull back from our role as the indispensable global leader and leave others to fill the void, and delude ourselves into somehow believing that will make us safer?"

TPP puts American workers first by establishing the highest labor standards of any trade agreement in history, helping small and medium-sized businesses benefit from trade, promoting anticorruption and transparency, and protecting U.S. workers from unfair competition. All of the negotiating 12 countries also have agreed to adopt high standards in order to ensure that the benefits and obligations of the agreement are fully shared.

The Coalition for Free Trade supports allowing California companies to compete more effectively in foreign markets, as well as to attract foreign business to California. We appreciate your consideration of our position of support for the Trans-Pacific Partnership and look forward to working with your Office.

## California Coalition for Free Trade Member Companies - September 2016

- 21st Century Fox /  
Fox Entertainment Group
  - Albertsons
- Applied Materials, Inc.
- Automotive Consulting, LLC
  - Bear Creek Winery
  - Bhatia & Co. Inc.
- Blue Diamond Growers
- California Business Ventures
- California Farm Bureau
  - Chevron
  - Citigroup, Inc.
- Community Power Corporation
  - Crossings TV
  - De Avila Law Firm
- DLA Piper LLP - Sacramento
  - East Bay CITD
  - El Camino College CITD
- Express Employment Professionals
- Fernandez Barragan & Associates
  - Foxx Hunter Farms
  - Gathers Strategies, Inc.
  - Greenberg Traurig, LLP
- HBLA Certified Public Accountant
- Hitchcock Automotive Resources
- Holtouse, Carlin & VanTright
  - Hunter International
    - IBM
  - International Information Specialists
- International Technical Services
- Irvine Chamber of Commerce
- Kautz Ironstone Vineyards
  - Kikkoman Foods Inc.
- Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce
- Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce
  - Lyles Diversified, Inc.
  - Mattel, Inc.
- McWong International, Inc.
  - Mentor International
- Monterey Bay Intl Trade Assn
- Motion Picture Assn. of America
  - Northridge Toyota
  - Oracle Corporation
- Orange County Bus. Council
  - Otis McAllister, Inc.
  - OWI Specialized, Inc
- Paulson Manufacturing Corporation
  - Port of Los Angeles
  - Puente Hills Toyota
  - RB International
  - Ruiz Foods
- San Diego & Imperial District Export Council
  - Silicon Valley CITD
- Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce
  - Solar Turbines
  - SunWest Foods, Inc
  - Systems Integrated
  - The APEX Group
  - The Bear Flag Group
  - The Boeing Company
  - The California Parks Co.
  - The Dow Chemical Company
  - The Walt Disney Company
  - The Wonderful Company
  - Toyota of Santa Barbara
- Toyota Motor Sales, USA, Inc.
  - Tradeport.org
  - TwinLogic Strategies
  - Venture Capital
  - Voiland Enterprises
    - Wine Institute
  - WJ Byrnes & Co.
    - Yuhak & Co.
  - Zenaida Global