

For Immediate Release

California Chamber of Commerce and Ontario Chamber of Commerce Join Forces in Support of NAFTA
Chambers encourage continued, cooperative trade relationships between California and Ontario

(Toronto and Sacramento, March 6, 2018) – The California Chamber of Commerce (CalChamber) and the Ontario Chamber of Commerce (OCC) encourage California state leaders, and in particular the California Congressional Delegation, and Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne in actively supporting the renewal of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) during the current renegotiation process.

Trade between California and Ontario is extremely strong with an upward trajectory over the past five years. California and Ontario are key trade partners with billions of dollars at stake in sectors such as autos, medications, coins, fruits, motor vehicle parts and computers and computer peripherals.

“The CalChamber is working with the Ontario Chamber of Commerce in support of NAFTA, which has been mutually beneficial for our industries and agricultural enterprises,” said Allan Zaremborg, President and CEO of the California Chamber of Commerce. “The CalChamber’s long-standing support for NAFTA is based upon an assessment that it serves the interests of California, Ontario and beyond - and is beneficial to the business community and society as a whole. Our Chambers stand together in urging a quick and efficient negotiation process, ensuring that trade remains strong and without interruption.”

With California and Ontario being long-standing trade partners, the CalChamber and the OCC are also encouraging their governments to continue the work being done to explore options for cooperation independent of NAFTA. An integral part of the success of trade relationships are positive bilateral diplomatic relations at the subnational level.

“The OCC is working collaboratively with the California Chamber of Commerce in support of renewing NAFTA and the expansion of trade to ensure continued prosperity and competitiveness for both our economies,” said Rocco Rossi, President and CEO at the Ontario Chamber of Commerce. “We know that trade is a way of improving results for everyone and we are committed to working with our Chamber Network, US Chambers and the Government of Ontario in support of free trade.”

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