

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 31, 2014

President Barack Obama
The White House
Washington, D.C 20500

Dear President Obama,

We write to express our support of Buy American that have been in place since the Buy American Act of 1933. We believe that it is crucial that you protect the integrity of Buy American preferences.

The Buy American requirements have had a key role and lasting impact in creating jobs and bolstering the economy in the United States. When robust domestic sourcing requirements are included, manufacturing employment gains from infrastructure investment can increase dramatically. A recent report by your administration noted that U.S. manufacturing plays an immense role in spurring American innovation, including the vast majority of all patents issued in the United States.

It is our understanding that U.S. negotiators of the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) have agreed to provisions that would require all firms operating in any TPP signatory country to be treated the same as U.S. firms with respect to granting them U.S. government procurement contracts over a certain dollar threshold. Any “national treatment” terms should not require us to waive long-standing Buy American policies with respect to all firms operating in any TPP signatory nation.

We fear the proposed TPP terms will result in U.S. tax dollars being offshored and invested to strengthen other countries’ manufacturing sectors, rather than these tax dollars being spent at home to improve our own economy. It is extremely difficulty to modify procurement policy established in trade agreements, as the consent of all signatory countries would be needed. This would essentially circumvent Congress and their authority to alter procurement policies.

We urge you to reconsider the current “national treatment” requirements included in TPP’s procurement chapter. The recently-passed 2015 Commerce, Justice, Science (CJS) House Appropriations bill that funds the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative explicitly forbids expenditure of funds to negotiate trade agreement terms that would require a waiver of Buy American policy and we hope this will become U.S law. While we may have different views on

the prospective TPP, we are united in believing that inclusion of "national treatment" for U.S. government procurement in the agreement would be completely unacceptable

Thank you in advance for your consideration on this very important subject. We look forward to working together to find a more fair trade policy.

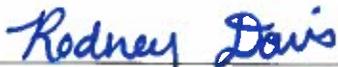
Sincerely,



Rep. David Joyce (OH-14)
Member of Congress



Rep. Duncan Hunter (CA-50)
Member of Congress



Rep. Rodney Davis (IL-13)
Member of Congress



Rep. Howard Coble (NC-06)
Member of Congress



Rep. Walter Jones (NC-03)
Member of Congress



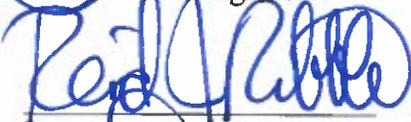
Rep. Mike Fitzpatrick (PA-08)
Member of Congress



Rep. David McKinley (WV-01)
Member of Congress



Rep. Michael Grimm (NY-11)
Member of Congress



Rep. Reid Ribble (WI-08)
Member of Congress



Rep. Tom Marino (PA-10)
Member of Congress



Rep. Steve Stivers (OH-15)
Member of Congress



Rep. Don Young (AK-AL)
Member of Congress



Rep. Chris Gibson (NY-19)
Member of Congress



Rep. Frank LoBiondo (NJ-02)
Member of Congress