



AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

GROVER G. NORQUIST

PRESIDENT

May 10, 2007

An open letter to the United States Congress:

We, the undersigned state legislators, support the passage of H.R. 1042, the Trade Promotion Authority Extension and Enhancement Act of 2007.

On June 30, 2007, the president's trade promotion authority (TPA) will expire. No administration will be able to negotiate timely and effective trade agreements without TPA.

American foreign policy is centered on free trade. Our economy has benefited from opening foreign markets to our goods and services. American businesses, farmers, ranchers, and workers will lose out in the global marketplace if agreements cannot be negotiated with our trading partners. The President needs as much negotiating leverage as possible in order to assure the opening of foreign markets to American business.

TPA must be renewed every two years. Congress needs to act to renew TPA so that this president, and the next president, has the ability to advance the ideals and benefits of free trade in a timely fashion.

It is important to remember that TPA does not give the president a blank check to negotiate trade agreements, nor does it undermine the constitutional prerogatives of Congress. TPA merely gives the president the ability to negotiate in an open manner with foreign countries. The trade agreements are then submitted to Congress and they have the ability to give an "up or down" vote. If the president does not have TPA, countries will not initiate serious trade negotiations with the United States.

TPA has been the indispensable tool of U.S. trade policy granted to each of America's last five presidents and we must renew it to ensure continued economic growth. **We strongly urge all members of the United States Congress to renew the President's Trade Promotion Authority and vote "yes" to H.R. 1042.**

Sincerely,

(Signature)

(Name)

(State)

(Body of legislature)

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WE WILL ADD YOUR NAME TO A LIST WE WILL HAND OVER
TO MEMBERS OF THE U.S. CONGRESS AND TO PRESIDENT BUSH**
*You can check whether we have received your signed letter by going to our website at: <http://www.ATR.org/state/alerts/index.html>
We will keep a running tally there.*