

Linda M. Dempsey

Vice President

International Economic Affairs

May 14, 2015

U.S. Senators
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators,

The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), the largest manufacturing association in the United States representing manufacturers in every industrial sector and in all 50 states, strongly supports Senate approval of the trade preference provisions contained in the Trade Preferences Extension Act of 2015 (S.1267) and the customs modernization, intellectual property enforcement, miscellaneous tariff bill process and provisions to prevent trade remedy evasion that are contained in Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015 (S. 1015) to be voted on by the Senate today. Broadly, these provisions will advance the global competitiveness of manufacturers in the United States.

The NAM supports the Trade Preferences Extension Act that will extend duty-free treatment preferences on imports from developing countries, African nations and specified products from Haiti. Extension of these U.S. preference programs as contained in S. 1267 provide incentives for those countries to respect the key rules of the global trading system in ways that will promote more open markets and respect for U.S. property and innovation.

The NAM also supports the following key provisions of the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act:

- Title I, which will modernize Customs & Border Protection (CBP) processes, cut red tape and improve the facilitation of legitimate trade, including provisions on duty drawback modernization and exemption from duty for container residue.
- Title II, which will create new tools to protect and enforce intellectual property theft in our trade flows.
- Title III, which includes the Enforcing Orders and Reducing Customs Evasion (ENFORCE) Act that will create a transparent and regularized process for CBP to review and act to reclassify imports that have been found to be evading trade remedy orders, which has been a growing problem for manufacturers that have already found to be injured by unfairly traded imports.
- Title VIII, which will create a new Miscellaneous Tariff Bill process to correct distortions in the U.S. tariff code by eliminating tariffs on imported products that are not produced in the United States, but are important for improving the competitiveness of manufacturers in the U.S.

These provisions of S. 1015 are important to address a host of competitiveness barriers that U.S. laws are currently placing on manufacturers in the United States, while also strengthening

enforcement of intellectual property rules and providing improved tools to enforce at the border longstanding U.S. trade rules that remedy unfairly traded imports.

Manufacturers urge the Senate to approve and move forward with these provisions.

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light green rectangular background. The signature is written in a cursive style and reads "Linda M. Dempsey".

Linda Dempsey