

July 7, 2020

The Honorable Richard Neal  
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Grassley  
Chairman, Committee on Finance  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin Brady  
Ranking Member, Committee on Ways and Means  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ron Wyden  
Ranking Member, Committee on Finance  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Neal, Chairman Grassley, Ranking Member Brady and Ranking Member Wyden:

On behalf of manufacturers and other businesses in the United States and the millions of workers our organizations represent, we are writing to urge a legislative fix to language in the United States–Mexico–Canada Agreement Implementation Act that—if uncorrected—will result in the payment of millions of dollars of fees on imports into the United States.

Section 205 of the USMCA Implementation Act, as drafted, allows companies to claim refunds of the merchandise processing fee at the time of entry, but precludes companies from making a post-importation claim for such refunds. Merchandise processing fee refunds are eligible for post-importation claims under other U.S. free trade agreements.

Our organizations are committed to the successful implementation of the USMCA, which will help manufacturers and other businesses grow in the United States, compete globally and support millions of well-paying jobs across the country as we lead our economic recovery and renewal. A timely fix to the merchandise processing fee drafting error in the USMCA Implementation Act is critical to enabling this success given the substantial number of post-importation preference claims that we expect will be filed in the coming months.

We appreciate your support for fixing the merchandise processing fee drafting error and look forward to working with you and your teams to remedy this issue as expeditiously as possible.

Sincerely,

Advanced Medical Technology Association (AdvaMed)  
AICC, The Independent Packaging Association  
Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute  
American Apparel & Footwear Association  
American Automotive Policy Council  
American Forest & Paper Association  
American Home Furnishings Alliance  
American Iron and Steel Institute  
American Pet Products Association  
American Sportfishing Association  
American Supply Association  
Arizona Manufacturers Council  
Associated Industries of Florida  
Associated Industries of Missouri  
Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM)  
Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers

Association of Washington Business  
Auto Care Association  
Border Trade Alliance  
Brick Industry Association  
Business & Industry Association of New Hampshire  
Business Alliance for Customs Modernization  
Business and Institutional Furniture Manufacturers Association (BIFMA)  
Business Roundtable  
Can Manufacturers Institute  
Chillicothe Ross Chamber of Commerce  
Cincinnati Inc  
Colorado Chamber of Commerce  
Computing Technology Industry Association (CompTIA)  
Connecticut Business & Industry Association  
Consumer Technology Association  
Council of Industry of Southeastern New York  
ECIA - Electronic Components Industry Association  
Express Association of America (EAA)  
Fabricators and Manufacturers Association, International  
Flexible Packaging Association  
Glass Packaging Institute  
Global Business Alliance  
Greater North Dakota Chamber  
Hearth, Patio & Barbecue Association  
Here For America  
Idaho Association of Commerce and Industry  
Illinois Manufacturers' Association  
INDA, The Association of the Nonwoven Fabrics Industry  
Independent Lubricant Manufacturers Association  
Industrial Minerals Association - North America  
Industrial Truck Association  
International Association of Plastics Distribution  
Iowa Association of Business and Industry  
Kansas Chamber  
Kentucky Association of Manufacturers  
Maryland Chamber of Commerce  
Medical Device Manufacturers Association  
Metal Powder Industries Federation  
Metals Service Center Institute  
MICHauto  
Michigan Chamber of Commerce  
Michigan Manufacturers Association  
Montana Chamber of Commerce  
Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association  
NAPIM  
National Association of Manufacturers  
National Center for Defense Manufacturing and Machining  
National Confectioners Association  
National Council of Textile Organizations  
National Customs Brokers & Freight Forwarders Association of America  
National Electrical Manufacturers Association  
National Fastener Distributors Association  
National Foreign Trade Council

National Lime Association (NLA)  
National Retail Federation  
National Shooting Sports Foundation  
NC Chamber  
Nebraska Chamber of Commerce & Industry  
Nevada Manufacturers Association  
New Mexico Business Coalition  
North American Association of Food Equipment Manufacturers (NAFEM)  
Northeast PA Manufacturers & Employers Association  
Ohio Manufacturers' Association  
Outdoor Industry Association  
Outdoor Power Equipment Institute, Inc.  
Pennsylvania Manufacturers' Association  
Personal Care Products Council  
Plastics Industry Association  
Plumbing Manufacturers International  
Railway Supply Institute  
Rhode Island Manufacturers Association  
San Antonio Manufacturers Association  
SEMI  
Semiconductor Industry Association  
Society of Chemical Manufacturers and Affiliates  
South Carolina Chamber of Commerce  
State Chamber of Oklahoma  
Texas Association of Manufacturers  
The Aluminum Association  
The Fertilizer Institute  
Truck and Engine Manufacturers Association (EMA)  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce  
United States Council for International Business  
Vinyl Institute  
Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce