## Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

March 31, 2015

The Honorable Michael Froman U.S. Trade Representative Office of the U.S. Trade Representative 600 17<sup>th</sup> Street NW Washington, D.C. 20508

The Honorable Thomas J. Vilsack Secretary of Agriculture U.S. Department of Agriculture 1400 Independence Avenue SW Washington, D.C. 20250

Dear Ambassador Froman and Secretary Vilsack:

As the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) talks move into their final stages, we write to urge you once again to do everything possible to secure meaningful new market access for U.S. dairy farmers and manufacturers in order to obtain a balanced dairy outcome.

We appreciate your continued efforts to seek new trade opportunities for the U.S. dairy sector, but we are very troubled by reports that Canada has still not seriously engaged with TPP partners on dairy issues. We are also intent on ensuring that agricultural negotiations with Japan yield significant and comprehensive market access that will expand over time. Increases in U.S. dairy export opportunities are particularly important given strong interest from other TPP partners in increasing their own access to our market.

We recognize that you must juggle a wide range of priorities as the negotiations conclude. However, as you are aware from recent committee hearings as well as more informal discussions with Congress, we believe that winning an overall positive market access result for the U.S. dairy industry is critical to the success of the TPP negotiations.

In closing, we hope you will continue to do everything possible to negotiate a successful, balanced outcome for dairy trade that creates robust opportunities for everyone. We thank you for your work and we stand ready to work with you as the process comes to a conclusion.

Sincerely.

REID J RIBBLE Member of Congress

Member of Congress

PETER WELCH

Member of Congress

JOE COURTNEY

DAVID G. VALADAO Member of Congress Member of Congress FOM REED Member of Congress Member of Congress LOU BARLETTA DAN BENISHEK M.D. Member of Congress Member of Congress ROD BLUM MIKE BOST Member of Congress Member of Congress EMANUEL CLEAVER **CHERI BUSTOS** Member of Congress Member of Congress CHRIS COLLINS Member of Congress Member of Congress RODNEY DAVIS JEFF DENHAM Member of Congress Member of Congress ROBERT J. DOLO SEAN P. DUFFY Member of Congress Member of Congress

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STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

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BOB GIBBS

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**BOB GOODLATTE** Member of Congress

SAM GRAVES Member of Congress

RICHARD L. HANNA Member of Congress

VICKY HARTZLEŘ Member of Congress

**RON KIND** Member of Congress

Member of Congress

JOHN GARAMENDI Member of Congress

Member of Congress

PAUL A. GOSAR Member of Congress

**GLENN GROTHMAN** Member of Congress

ANDY HARRIS Member of Congress

Member of Congress

DEREK KILMER Member of Congress

ÄNN KIRKPATRICK

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Member of Congress  DAVE REICHERT  Member of Congress	Member of Congress  JAMES B RENACCI Member of Congress

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