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STATE OF MAINE

Citizen Trade Policy Commission

June 13, 2014

Senator Angus S. King, Jr.
359 Dirksen Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator King,

We appreciated the recent opportunity to meet with Marge Kilkelly of your staff in May to discuss several letters sent by the CTPC to the USTR in February 2014 and other important trade issues. During that meeting, we specifically referenced the three enclosed letters that the CTPC sent to USTR Michael Froman on February 24, 2014. These letters addressed significant concerns that the Maine Citizen Trade Policy Commission had regarding differing aspects of current international trade treaty negotiations.

While we realize that the USTR is very busy conducting simultaneous negotiations for the TPP and the TTIP, the CTPC is disappointed that we have not received any response whatsoever from the USTR regarding these three letters which were unanimously approved by the CTPC. We would greatly appreciate any effort that you could make on our behalf to solicit a meaningful set of responses from the USTR to the important issues that the CTPC has raised.

More specifically, these letters addressed pharmaceuticals, procurement and Investor- Settlement Dispute Resolution and can be briefly summarized as follows:

- Pharmaceutical and medical device reimbursement and intellectual property provisions in the TPP : In this letter, the CTPC specified a number of concerns including:
 - opposition to pharmaceutical reimbursement provisions being included in any international trade treaty;
 - the need for transparency, affordability and recognition of the sovereignty of federal, state and local regulation in any healthcare reimbursement provisions included in the TPP; and
 - any Intellectual Property Chapter included in the TPP must reflect a balance between the need for ongoing innovation while at the same time ensuring affordability with respect to biologics

This letter can be viewed at:

<http://www.maine.gov/legis/opla/CTPCpharmaceuticalslettertoUSTR.pdf>

- Negotiations in the TTIP concerning procurement provisions affecting sub-central governments: In this letter, the CTPC expressed its position that the Procurement Chapter of the TTIP must not restrict the ability of state government to procure and promote local agricultural products.

This letter can be viewed at:

<http://www.maine.gov/legis/opla/CTPCprocurementlettertoUSTR.pdf>

- Support for Public Stocktaking Process on Investment and Investor-to-State Dispute Settlement Policies: In this letter, with regards to the TTIP, the CTPC expressed its longstanding belief that ISDS provisions must reflect a much higher degree of transparency and the opportunity for meaningful public input and participation.

This letter can be viewed at:

<http://www.maine.gov/legis/opla/CTPC%20letter%20ISDS%20to%20USTR.pdf>

We also want to thank you for your support and ongoing interest in the activities of the CTPC.

Sincerely,



Senator Troy Jackson, Chair



Representative Sharon Anglin Treat, Chair

c.c.

Members of the CTPC

Marge Kilkelly, Senior Policy Advisor

Chris Rector, Regional Representative