The Honorable Robert E. Lighthizer
United States Trade Representative
Office of the United States Trade Representative
600 17th Street NW
Washington, DC 20508

Dear Ambassador Lighthizer,

We write today to urge you to insist on the inclusion of agricultural products in upcoming trade negotiations with the European Union (EU). As you know, agriculture is the source of a great number of trade barriers and irritants in the U.S.-EU trading relationship. Thus, an agreement with the EU that does not address trade in agriculture would be, in our eyes, unacceptable.

The United States and EU share one of the largest trading relationships in the world, but there are many ways in which the two sides can further grow and improve this relationship. Nowhere is this more evident than in trade in agricultural products. Exports from hardworking American farmers and ranchers across the country face barriers to the EU market, including high tariffs, unscientific sanitary and phytosanitary measures, and protectionist policies on geographical indications that hurt American exports not only to the EU but also to countries all over the world.

We were encouraged to see that the negotiating objectives for the EU that your office released in January included specific objectives on agricultural goods. At the same time, we were deeply disappointed that the European Commission’s draft negotiating mandates specifically excluded agricultural products and that Commission officials continue to state publicly that they will not discuss agriculture in the negotiations.

We want to voice our strong support for the inclusion of agriculture in the upcoming discussions and to reiterate that an agreement that fails to include agricultural products would be deficient, significantly jeopardizing Congressional support.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Jackie Walorski
Member of Congress

Ron Kind
Member of Congress

Virginia Foxx
Member of Congress

Angie Craig
Member of Congress
JIM BANKS
Member of Congress

ANN WAGNER
Member of Congress

JEFF FORTENBERRY
Member of Congress

ROGER MARSHALL, M.D.
Member of Congress

MIKE BOST
Member of Congress

DAVID P. ROE, M.D.
Member of Congress

GLENN GROTHMAN
Member of Congress

DARIN LAHOOD
Member of Congress

JIM COSTA
Member of Congress

PETER WELCH
Member of Congress

JIMMY PANETTA
Member of Congress

TJ COX
Member of Congress

CHERI BUSTOS
Member of Congress

DANIEL T. KILDEE
Member of Congress

SUZAN DELBENE
Member of Congress

ABBY FINKENAUER
Member of Congress
MIKE KELLY
Member of Congress

TRENT KELLY
Member of Congress

VICKY HARTZLER
Member of Congress

FRENCH HILL
Member of Congress

JOHN RUTHERFORD
Member of Congress

RICK CRAWFORD
Member of Congress

TIM WALBERG
Member of Congress

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VICENTE GONZALEZ
Member of Congress

SEAN PATRICK MALONEY
Member of Congress

ANTHONY BRINDISI
Member of Congress

BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER
Member of Congress

KURT SCHRADER
Member of Congress

ANTONIO DELGADO
Member of Congress

JOSH HARDER
Member of Congress

JOE COURTNEY
Member of Congress
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Member of Congress

BRUCE WESTERMAN
Member of Congress

DAN NEWHOUSE
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ADRIAN SMITH
Member of Congress

GLENN 'GT' THOMPSON
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Member of Congress

SEAN Duffy
Member of Congress

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KEN BUCK  
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MARK MEADOWS  
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MARK WALKER  
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JOHN SHIMKUS  
Member of Congress
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GREG GIANFORTE
Member of Congress

STEVE STIVERS
Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

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