March 31, 2015

The Honorable Michael Froman  
U.S. Trade Representative  
Office of the U.S. Trade Representative  
600 17th 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 RIBBLE  
Member of Congress

MIKE SIMPSON  
Member of Congress

PETER WELCH  
Member of Congress

JOE COURTNEY  
Member of Congress
THOMAS J. ROONEY  
Member of Congress

AUSTIN SCOTT  
Member of Congress

ADAM SMITH  
Member of Congress

JASON SMITH  
Member of Congress

STEVE STIVERS  
Member of Congress

MAC THORNBERY  
Member of Congress

FRED UPTON  
Member of Congress

KEVIN YODER  
Member of Congress

DAVID YOUNG  
Member of Congress

KURT SCHRADER  
Member of Congress

JOHN SHIMKUS  
Member of Congress

ADRIAN SMITH  
Member of Congress

ELISE STEFANIK  
Member of Congress

GLENN 'GT' THOMPSON  
Member of Congress

SCOTT R. TIPTON  
Member of Congress

TIM WALBERG  
Member of Congress

TED S. YOHO, DVM  
Member of Congress