

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON, DC 20515

July 11, 2018

The Honorable Kevin Brady
Chairman
Committee on Ways and Means
1011 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Brady:

Any hearing you call regarding the Administration's trade policies and how they are impacting America's workers, farmers, ranchers, and families will not be successful unless representatives of the Administration are testifying before the full Ways and Means Committee to explain its erratic approach.

To date, the Administration has imposed tariffs on more than \$80 billion of imports entering the United States. In response, America's trading partners have imposed their own tariffs on nearly \$60 billion of U.S. exports, with a focus on hitting U.S. agriculture hard. America's allies and competitors are also banding together to formally challenge the U.S. tariffs at the World Trade Organization. And last week, Reuters reported that China is actively making overtures to the EU to stand together against the Trump Administration's trade policies.

In the meantime, the President is preparing to impose more tariffs. A second set of 25 percent tariffs on \$16 billion worth of imports from China are being vetted this month, while the Administration announced just last night a process for identifying an additional \$200 billion of Chinese imports that will be subject to tariffs. In the next couple months, the Administration also intends to conclude a new investigation into national security threats imposed by imports of autos and auto parts, which could result in substantial new tariffs.

The Administration has reasons for imposing some of these tariffs, including a global production overcapacity crisis in steel and aluminum and the Chinese government's persistent intellectual property abuses. Perhaps the Administration has some explanation for the additional tariffs that are in process. Hopefully, the Administration also has a strategy for how it intends to leverage these many tariffs to achieve its policy goals. There have also been reports that the Administration is devising ways to provide American farmers and ranchers some kind of relief from the retaliatory tariffs, though no one has offered any details.

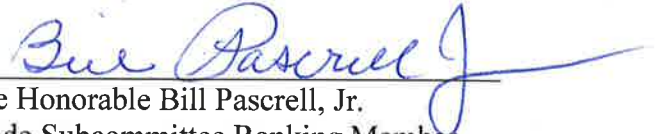
In the meantime, with the proliferation and escalation of tariffs, the U.S. economy and the global economy are on edge. We cannot pretend that this is business as usual. The Administration

owes answers to the Members of the Ways and Means Committee and, more importantly, to the American people about its trade policy goals and whether or not they are working.

Sincerely,



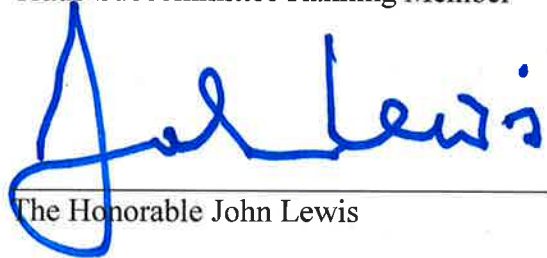
The Honorable Richard E. Neal
Ranking Member



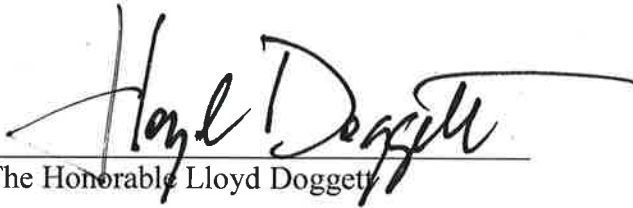
The Honorable Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Trade Subcommittee Ranking Member



The Honorable Sander M. Levin



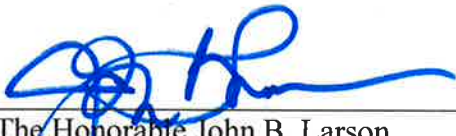
The Honorable John Lewis



The Honorable Lloyd Doggett



The Honorable Mike Thompson



The Honorable John B. Larson



The Honorable Earl Blumenauer



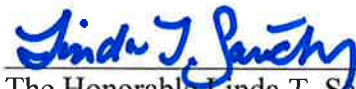
The Honorable Ron Kind



The Honorable Joseph Crowley



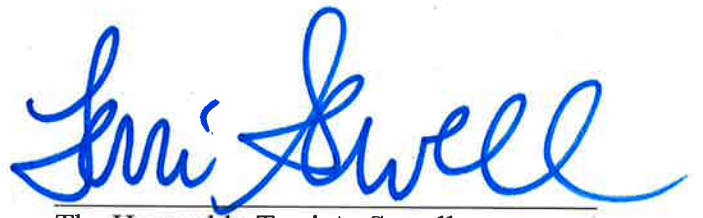
The Honorable Danny K. Davis



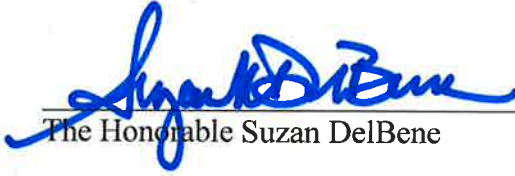
The Honorable Linda T. Sanchez



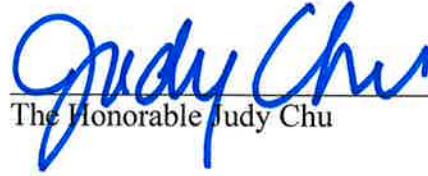
The Honorable Brian Higgins



The Honorable Terri A. Sewell



The Honorable Suzan DelBene



The Honorable Judy Chu