



September 13, 2016

Speaker of the House Paul D. Ryan
The House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi
The House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Senate Democratic Leader Harry Reid
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Speaker Ryan and Leaders McConnell, Pelosi, and Reid:

On behalf of the hundreds of dynamic and innovative companies in the tech sector, which employ millions of Americans, our associations call on Congress to work with the Administration to reach an agreement that would allow passage of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) this year.

The TPP has the potential to provide significant benefits to the tech sector and the entire U.S. economy. The 12 nations that are part of the agreement are among the fastest-growing economies in the world and account for 40 percent of global gross domestic product. U.S. technology companies alone exported \$10 billion in goods and services to the TPP markets in 2014. The TPP will open or expand access to these key markets for the products, services, and applications made by the companies we represent, and facilitate market access for the wide array of industries that rely on these technologies to conduct their own businesses.

This agreement creates a new standard for trade pacts with its forward-looking approach on technology products and services going far beyond just tariff reductions. The agreement will keep borders open to the free flow of data, provide a strong and balanced intellectual property framework, prohibit data localization requirements and other barriers to digital trade, and protect trade secrets, among many other benefits. And it promotes U.S. values of a free and open Internet.

This is a historic opportunity to expand U.S. economic leadership in the Asia-Pacific. Failure to pass this agreement will not only disadvantage American companies and the Americans who work for those companies, it will hamper the ability to negotiate new agreements, or even

improve existing ones. Our allies and trading partners in Asia are also looking to the U.S. for leadership in the global economy. Passing the TPP will demonstrate the U.S. remains unambiguously committed to free trade and to strong leadership in the region. For these strategic reasons, we urge you to work with the Administration to reach an agreement that will secure passage of TPP in 2016.

Thank you in advance for your leadership and support of free trade. We request that you intensify your focus on the greater purpose at this critical juncture and pass TPP this year.

Sincerely,



Melissa Blaustein
Founder and CEO
Allied for Startups



John Neuffer
President and CEO
Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA)



Victoria A. Espinel
President and CEO
BSA/The Software Alliance



Carl Guardino
President and CEO
Silicon Valley Leadership Group (SVLG)



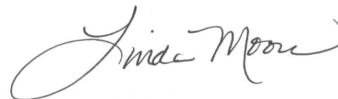
Ed Black
President and CEO
Computer & Communications Industry
Association (CCIA)



Ken Wasch
President
Software & Information Industry
Association (SIIA)



Todd Thibodeaux
President and CEO
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Linda Moore
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Dean Garfield
President and CEO
Information Technology Industry Council
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Scott Belcher
CEO
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Michael Beckerman
President and CEO
Internet Association (IA)

cc: Chairman Kevin Brady
Chairman Orrin Hatch
Ranking Member Sander M. Levin
Ranking Member Ron Wyden