

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

January 11, 2018

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi,
Democratic Leader
United States House of Representatives
H-204, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Ryan and Leader Pelosi,

We strongly urge passage of the “Miscellaneous Tariff Bill Act (MTB) of 2017” (H.R. 4318 and S. 2108), either included in the emerging budget and spending package, as part of another package, or as a standalone measure.

The Miscellaneous Tariff Bill (“MTB”) temporarily eliminates antiquated border taxers on imported products that are not manufactured or available in the United States. The MTB plays an important role in the operations of domestic manufacturers and other industries as it corrects, on a temporary basis, historical distortions in the U.S. tariff code by eliminating border tariffs on imported products for which there is no or insufficient domestic production and availability. Such distortions undermine the competitiveness of manufacturers in the United States by imposing unnecessary costs and, in some cases, imposing a higher cost on manufacturers’ inputs than the competing foreign imported finished product.

The MTB is specifically designed to help level this outdated and uneven playing field, while simultaneously ensuring that existing domestic manufacturers will not be harmed. Moreover, the MTB allows manufacturers in the United States to reinvest in existing domestic operations, maintain and expand American jobs and bolster their global competitiveness.

MTB legislation has been enacted with broad bipartisan support for nearly three decades, yet has been expired since the end of 2012. Thus, for more than five years, U.S. companies have paid billions of dollars in tariffs on products not made or available domestically, to the detriment of American jobs and the competitiveness of our manufacturers.

Under the revised MTB process created by the American Manufacturing Competitiveness Act of 2016 (“AMCA”), federal government agencies thoroughly and transparently vetted nearly 2,600 petitions to ensure that the products are not manufactured or available domestically. H.R. 4318 and S. 2108 include nearly 1,700 eligible product petitions that met the statutory requirements of the AMCA, and which the National Association of Manufacturers estimates will result in \$1.1 billion of duty savings over the next three years, boosting U.S. manufacturing output by more than \$3.1 billion.

We urge you and your leadership teams to act now to improve the competitiveness of manufacturers throughout the United States by passing the MTB legislation as soon as possible, as well as renewal of the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP).

Sincerely,



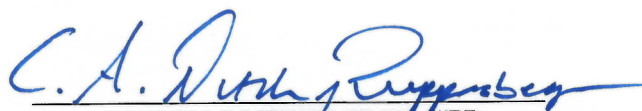
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Member of Congress



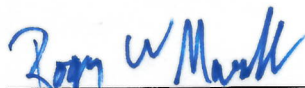
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MARK WALKER
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C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER
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ROGER MARSHALL M.D.
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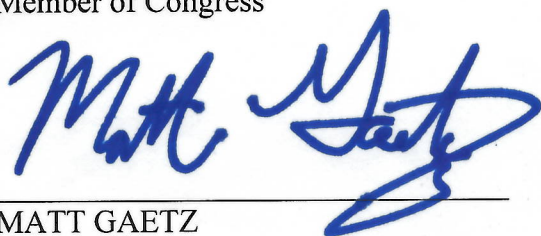
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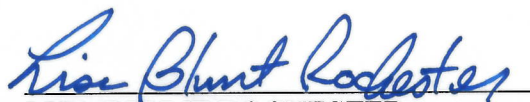
TED BUDD
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DAVID PRICE
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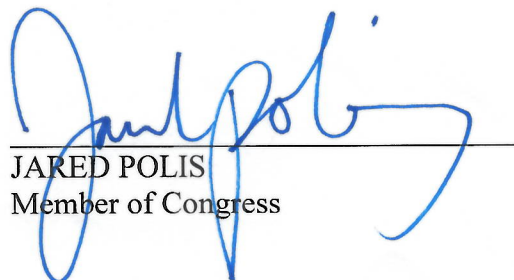
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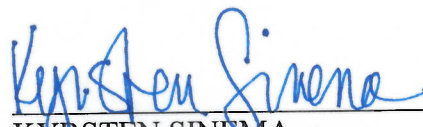
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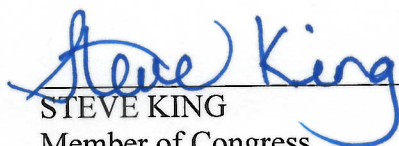
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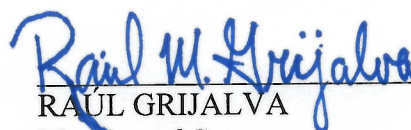
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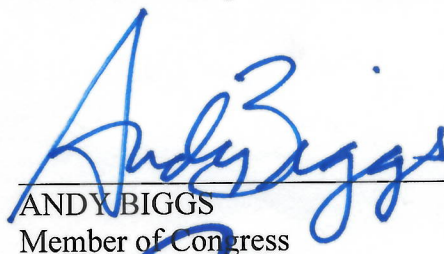
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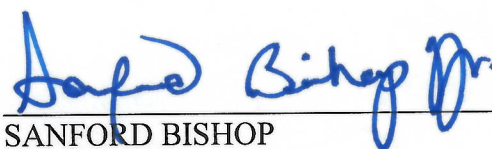
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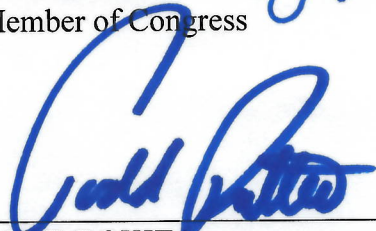
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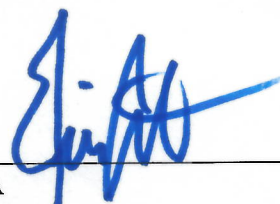
ANDY BIGGS
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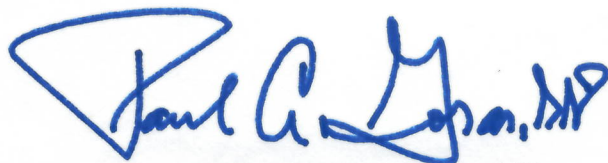
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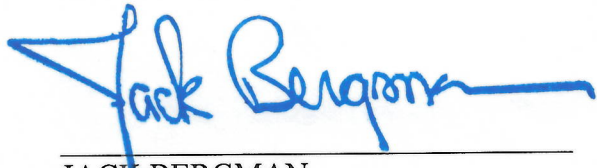
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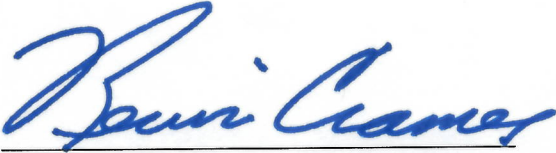
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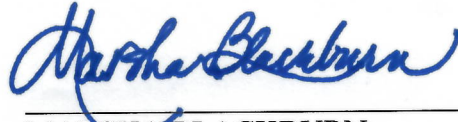
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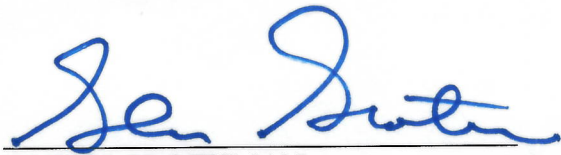
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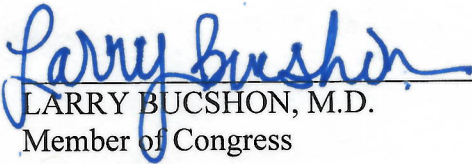
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