



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

May 23, 2019

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
United States House of Representatives  
H-232, U.S. Capitol Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Steny Hoyer  
Majority Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
H-107, U.S. Capitol Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Speaker Pelosi and Leader Hoyer:

Trade is the backbone of Montana's economy, and open markets and certainty are critical for Montana producers – from agriculture to manufacturing. In 2018, Montana exported \$680 million in goods to Canada, our largest trading partner. Montana exports more than six times more to Canada and Mexico than we do to China.

Montanans need Congress to consider and pass the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) which will provide Montanans with greater certainty with our neighbors and top trading partners.

The USMCA simplifies customs and trade rules to allow small businesses to expand and be competitive in foreign markets. The agreement secures market access for our farmers and ranchers, particularly by lowering non-tariff barriers for Montana beef and wheat. The deal also brings trade into the 21st century by establishing a framework that supports increased investment and trade for internet-based services.

In Montana, we need this deal more than ever. Montanans ask me why there is a delay and what can be done to move USMCA forward. In fact, at a recent town hall event I held, Montanans believe ratifying USMCA should be America's trade priority over lifting tariffs on China by a 10-to-1 ratio.

Citing a variety of reasons, some in your caucus have urged a delay in considering this trade agreement. Many of those concerns are resolved. Last week, the administration lifted existing tariffs on steel and aluminum imported from Mexico and Canada. Also last week, the Mexican Senate voted to allow Mexican workers to unionize. Canada has publicly announced it plans to pass the agreement by the end of June. Perceived roadblocks to a deal are gone.

Therefore, I urge you to end your public opposition to the USMCA and support ratification. Please do not let a vocal minority continue to hold this trade deal hostage to the detriment of Montana and the rest of our country.

The requirements set by Democrats and Republicans are met. The time for waiting is over. Let us ratify the agreement reached during two years of negotiations with Canada and Mexico.

I call upon you to support the USMCA and work with the White House to ratify the agreement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G. Gianforte', is written over the typed name and title.

Greg Gianforte  
Member of Congress