

A Letter from U.S. Food and Agriculture Associations and Companies

May 6, 2019

Dear Leader McConnell, Leader Schumer, Speaker Pelosi and Leader McCarthy:

The undersigned food and agriculture associations and companies strongly support ratification of the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA). This new agreement includes important improvements that will enable food and agriculture to trade more fairly, and to expand exports of American agricultural products to our North American partners.

The food and agriculture industry welcomed the opportunity to modernize the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Since NAFTA was implemented, U.S. agricultural exports to Canada and Mexico quadrupled from \$8.9 billion in 1993 to \$39 billion in 2017. The International Trade Commission's new report, the *United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement: Likely Impact on the U.S. Economy and Specific Industry Sectors*, determines that the USMCA "would likely have a positive impact on all broad industry sectors within the U.S. economy" and "a positive impact on the U.S. agriculture sector." In fact, the USMCA would raise the U.S. GDP by \$68.2 billion, pumping an additional \$2.2 billion, or 1.1%, into the U.S. economy through increases in agricultural and food exports.

The ITC report confirmed our belief that the USCMA will further increase the benefit to American farmers, ranchers, and agribusinesses by improving market access and customs procedures, establishing modern, science-based sanitary and phytosanitary standards, and enhancing standards for biotechnology and strengthening safeguards for commonly used food names.

Canada and Mexico account for over \$45 billion in U.S. agriculture exports and support more than one million American jobs. In order to build upon that success, Congress must

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pass USMCA. On behalf of America's farmers, ranchers, and agribusinesses, we respectfully ask you to vote to ratify the USMCA.

Sincerely,

American Bakers Association
American Cotton Shippers Association
American Farm Bureau Federation
American Feed Industry Association
American Seed Trade Association
American Soybean Association
Archer Daniels Midland Company
Bayer
California Cherry Export Association
California Dairies, Inc.
California Pear Growers
Cargill, Incorporated
CHS Inc.
Corn Refiners Association
Dairy Farmers of America
Darigold
Edge Dairy Farmer Cooperative
Elanco Animal Health
Glanbia Nutritionals
Global Cold Chain Alliance
Grocery Manufacturers Association
Hilmar Cheese Company, Inc.
Illinois Corn Growers Association
International Dairy Foods Association
Kraft Heinz Company
Land O'Lakes, Inc.
Mars, Incorporated
Midwest Food Products Association
Mondelēz International
National Association of Egg Farmers
National Association of State Departments of Agriculture
National Association of Wheat Growers
National Chicken Council
National Confectioners Association
National Corn Growers Association
National Cotton Council
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives
National Grocers Association
National Milk Producers Federation

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National Oilseed Processors Association
National Turkey Federation
North American Millers' Association
North Dakota Grain Growers Association
Northwest Horticultural Council
O-AT-KA Milk Products Cooperative
Ohio Corn & Wheat Growers Association
Perry's Ice Cream
Pet Food Institute
Produce Coalition for NAFTA
Saputo Cheese USA Inc.
Sartori Company
SNAC International
Sweetener Users Association
Syngenta
Tate & Lyle
United Dairywomen of Arizona
United Egg Association
United Egg Producers
United Fresh Produce Association
Upstate Niagara Cooperative
U.S. Apple Association
U.S. Dairy Export Council
USA Poultry & Egg Export Council
USA Rice
William James and Associates, LLC
World Perspectives, Inc.
Zeeland Farm Service, Inc.