

UNITED STATES SENATOR • IOWA  
**CHUCK GRASSLEY**  
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Statement of Sen. Chuck Grassley  
News Conference, French Fries and Trade Promotion Authority  
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History credits Thomas Jefferson with introducing French fries to our colonies in the late 1700s. Today, Thomas Jefferson might be shocked at how tough it is for American potato growers to export their products.

Because of free trade agreements, Chile is phasing out its duties on Canadian and Argentine potatoes. Tariffs on U.S. potatoes are stuck at 8 percent. As a result, U.S. potato producers are losing their market share. Recently, U.S. potato exporters lost the Burger King account in Chile to Canadian and Argentine suppliers. That's a real shame.

While the United States sits out of free trade agreements, other countries enjoy what could be our market share. The potato industry is just one of many reasons why our President needs Trade Promotion Authority. While other countries use trade to build their economies, the United States falls further behind. Without Trade Promotion Authority, our potato industry and many others will get eaten alive by unfair foreign competition.