



April 21, 2015

Honorable Orrin Hatch
Chairman, Senate Committee on Finance
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-6200

Dear Senator Hatch:

The Tea Party Express is in support of your Trade Promotion Authority legislation that will foster greater economic growth and provide better opportunities for American workers. Having concrete rules for international trade negotiations will require the President to fully engage the Congress and ensure that increased trade will be a boost for our slow growing economy.

The Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015 is a product of thoughtful negotiations between the House and Senate, and it will serve as a benchmark for getting the most favorable trade conditions for the United States in our increasingly global economy. It will be an important step in removing barriers to new markets as well as provide incentives for foreign investment in the United States.

While many of our supporters are concerned about the negotiating skills of the current Administration, your legislation keeps Congress in the vital role of approving any agreements and maintaining oversight to protect American interests. The legislation directly addresses issues of transparency, curtailing currency manipulation and eliminating barriers to innovation and digital trade, which are important to keeping America's trade policies in line with more prosperity for our citizens.

This legislation will allow a quicker adoption of the Trans-Pacific Partnership so that we can strengthen our ties with our Asian allies. The completion of an agreement with the 11-county Pacific Rim trade group would be an important step in allowing the United States and our allies to compete with China in world markets.

As our friend, Steve Forbes, recently opined, "Letting this once-in-a-generation opportunity pass would hurt American workers, our economic output and our long-term ability to compete in the global market-place." Those are certainly compelling reasons for the Tea Party Express to support your legislation and efforts to improve America economically through sound trade agreements.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sal Russo". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

SAL RUSSO