



Brian O'Shaughnessy
*Chief Co-Chair, and
Co-Chair for Manufacturing*
Revere Copper Products
Rome, NY

Joe Logan
Co-Chair for Agriculture
Ohio Environmental Council
Columbus, OH

Bob Baugh
Co-Chair for Labor
AFL-CIO Industrial Union Council
Washington, DC

Bill Bullard, Director
R-CALF USA
Billings, MT

John Ditrach, Director
American Corn Growers Assn
Tilden, NE

Rob Dumont, Director
TMTA
Farmington Hills, MI

Dave Frengel, Director
Penn United Technologies
Saxonburg, PA

John Hansen, Director
National Farmers Union
Lincoln, NE

Robert Johns, Director
Romar Consulting
Granite Falls, NC

Tom Neppi, Director
Colorado Springs Mfg Task Force
Colorado Springs, CO

Pam Potthoff, Director
WIFE
Trenton, NE

**Nelson Hoffman,
Emeritus Director**
La Quinta, CA

Fred Stokes
Emeritus Chairman
Org'n for Competitive Markets
Porterville, MS

May 25, 2011

The Honorable Louise M. Slaughter
2469 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Reciprocal Market Access Act of 2011, H.R. 1749

Dear Representative Slaughter:

The Coalition for a Prosperous America is pleased to endorse the Reciprocal Market Access Act of 2011, H.R. 1749. We thank you and the 35 co-sponsors for introducing the bill.

CPA represents agricultural production, manufacturing and worker interests. We support a national trade strategy that achieves **net exports** for the U.S. economy. Any increase in two-way trade is either irrelevant or economically harmful when the result is net imports. A national priority should be to eliminate the U.S. trade deficit to produce jobs and economic growth.

Past bi-lateral trade agreements have failed dramatically by generating, in the aggregate, net imports in comparison to the pre-agreement trade balance. One reason is that foreign trade rivals replace tariffs with non-tariff barriers thereby depriving the U.S. the export benefits of the bargain. Post agreement enforcement for agreement violations are slow, ineffective and/or lacking.

Reciprocity is a bedrock international trade principle which has been ignored by U.S. trade negotiators and Congress. Your bill helps re-establish reciprocity by requiring trade negotiators to obtain a reduction or elimination of foreign tariff or non-tariff barriers before agreeing to lower U.S. tariffs. This is on a product by product basis, not an aggregate multi-product basis.

Your bill also provides a much faster and effective enforcement provision. If a foreign trade rival violates the agreement to reduce a barrier, there is a "snap back" provision allowing the U.S. to re-establish the tariff on that product to pre-agreement levels. The foreign country should not benefit from a breach.

CPA will be happy to advocate passage of HR 1749. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michael C. Stumo
CEO

OFFICE
615 Boardman Street
Sheffield, MA 01257

DC OFFICE
700 12th St. NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20005

TEL: 413.854.2580 **FAX:** 413.895.5355

WEB
www.prosperousamerica.org
www.tradereform.org