

COMMITTEE ON RULES

RANKING MEMBER

WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
2469 RAYBURN BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515-3221  
(202) 225-3615



DISTRICT OFFICE:

3120 FEDERAL BUILDING  
100 STATE STREET  
ROCHESTER, NY 14614  
(585) 232-4850

WEBSITE: <http://www.louise.house.gov>

LOUISE M. SLAUGHTER  
CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES  
25TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK  
April 17, 2014

Ambassador Froman  
Office of the United States Trade Representative  
600 17th Street NW  
Washington, DC 20508

Dear Ambassador Froman,

As the Ranking Member of the Rules Committee with purview over any future Trade Promotion Authority, otherwise known as 'fast track' legislation, my responsibility is to view the net impact of trade deals that are brought before the House of Representatives and to ensure the rights of each Member of Congress to speak and offer amendments on behalf of their 700,000 constituents.

It's long past time our main export was something other than good-paying American jobs. American manufacturers and American workers have been decimated by unfair trade agreements. Now is the time to finally end the era of giveaway trade. If foreign countries erect barriers to American goods and fail to uphold their end of the deal, we should hold them accountable. Our economic prosperity is directly linked to our manufacturing base. Until we fix our broken trade system, workers, businesses, and our entire economy will continue to struggle.

I am enclosing a copy of my legislation, the "Reciprocal Market Access Act (RMAA)," which has been introduced since 2007. The legislation has bipartisan support of Members along with the support of industry and labor unions, including AFL-CIO, National Council of Textile Organizations, United Automobile Workers, United Steelworkers, Coalition for a Prosperous America, International Brotherhood of Teamster and Corning Incorporated. Unless we can get the enforcement mechanism in this legislation as part of future trade agreements, we'll never achieve a trade deal that benefits American workers.

I am requesting a response with your thoughts on my legislation, as well as USTR's plan to ensure trade deals currently being negotiated can be enforced at the prompting of workers, industries, Members of Congress and federal agencies when our trading partners do not uphold their end of the deal. I look forward to your timely response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Louise M. Slaughter".

Louise M. Slaughter  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Rules