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**Lock Kiermaier**

STATE OF MAINE

## Citizen Trade Policy Commission

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**PRESS RELEASE:  
PUBLIC HEARING ON 2016 ASSESSMENT  
"MAINE'S ECONOMIC STAKE IN THE TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP"  
TO BE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 15, 2016 BY  
THE CITIZEN TRADE POLICY COMMISSION**

Maine's Citizen Trade Policy Commission (CTPC) will be holding a public hearing on Wednesday, September 15, 2016 from 5 to 8 PM in Rooms 109/110 in Abromson Center, 88 Bedford St, University of Southern Maine, Portland, ME.

The primary focus of this public hearing is to gather public comment and testimony regarding a draft of an assessment commissioned by the CTPC regarding the possible economic effects of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), which is currently being negotiated by the U.S. and a number of other Pacific Rim nations, on the state of Maine. The 2016 CTPC assessment is authored by Professor Phil Trostel and Catherine Reilly deLutio of the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center at the University of Maine. The draft assessment will be released on September 1, 2016 (see attached copy) and, based on comments received during the public hearing on September 15<sup>th</sup>, the assessment will be edited by the authors for final submission to the CTPC on September 30, 2016.

In commenting upon the importance of the CTPC public hearing, CTPC Chair Senator Amy Volk stated that "As Co-Chair of the Citizen Trade Policy Commission, it is clear to me that there has not been a lot of specific information about what economic effects the TPP and other free trade agreements might have on the State of Maine."

CTPC Chair Representative Robert Saucier also stated that "The CTPC believes that the 2016 assessment on the economic effects of the TPP on the State of Maine

will provide invaluable information for both Maine policymakers and members of the Maine public.”

The CTPC was created by Maine State law in 2003 to “assess and monitor the legal and economic impacts of trade agreements on state and local laws, working conditions and the business environment; to provide a mechanism for citizens and Legislators to voice their concerns and recommendations; and to make policy recommendations designed to protect Maine's jobs, business environment and laws from any negative impact of trade agreements.” The CTPC is composed of 6 legislators, 7 members from the private sector and 5 representatives of different state agencies.

**CONTACTS:**

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