

Congresswoman Betty Sutton

Representing Ohio's Thirteenth Congressional District

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Congresswoman Sutton Statement on Introduction of the TRADE Act

Washington, D.C. – Statement by Congresswoman Betty Sutton on the introduction of the Trade Reform, Accountability, Development and Employment (TRADE) Act:

“The TRADE Act gets to the heart of what I have been talking about since I first began my campaign for Congress and since I first stepped foot into the people’s House. Working families in Ohio’s 13th Congressional District and all across our nation understand that we need a new trade policy. I have seen communities and families devastated by a trade system that shows little regard for fairness or for the concerns of those that it affects. This was the message that we wanted to get across early last year when I helped organize 38 of my freshmen colleagues on a letter stating our strong support for a new trade policy.

Today, in introducing the TRADE Act, we are laying out a concrete vision of what a strong and meaningful trade policy must look like. Too often, those who put so-called “free trade” ahead of American workers, businesses, communities and farmers attack us by saying we’re against trade. This is a false and deflection tactic. We know that trade is not costing American jobs, but bad trade policies are. And today with our bill, we will finally change this and put that false argument to rest.

The TRADE Act states clearly what should be the goals of future trade agreements as well as how we address current policies that are hurting my constituents and families all across this country. Importantly, our bill also makes it very clear that Congress is going to reclaim its constitutionally mandated oversight of U.S. trade policy.

It is about time our trade policies worked for American workers and businesses instead of against them, and our legislation lays a firm ground on how to get there. I look forward to working with my colleagues who understand the urgent need to enact new trade policies for our nation.”

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