

## **Fair Trade for Our Future – A Congressional Resolution**

(H. Con. Res. 276, S. Con. Res. 69)

### **Tired of opposing bad trade agreements? Co-sponsor the Fair Trade for our Future resolution demanding an aggressive, forward-looking U.S. trade policy.**

- This is a proactive resolution that showcases what Members of Congress are for with respect to trade policy.
- It draws a distinction between the Administration's push to expand the NAFTA model and the public's demands for sound trade policies that boost the economy and create equitable development.

### **The Fair Trade for our Future resolution sets out principles for future trade agreements which Members of Congress will be pleased to support.**

- **Investment rules:** Properly regulated investment can generate growth. However, foreign investors should not be provided with greater rights than those provided in U.S. law. Foreign investors should be protected from direct expropriation of their property, but public interest laws should not be exposed to challenge by foreign investors in secret tribunals.
- **Service Sector:** The U.S. service sector is highly competitive, yet recent experiments in extreme deregulation of some service sectors in the U.S. has resulted in consumer and investor crisis, such as in the Enron California electricity disaster. We must ensure the lessons we have learned nationally are also conveyed in our trade policy: Trade agreements must preserve the right for governments to maintain essential public services and to regulate private sector services in the public interest.
- **Procurement:** Federal, state, and local governments' ability to use procurement as a policy tool, including through Buy America laws, environmental standards (such as recycled content), and purchasing preferences for small, minority or women-owned businesses, must be safeguarded.
- **Labor Standards:** Win-win trade agreements must include enforceable workers protections including the core International Labor Organization standards.
- **Environmental Provisions:** Trade agreements must contain environmental provisions enforceable on par with commercial provisions and must not undermine Multilateral Environmental Agreements.
- **Trade Law -Anti-Dumping/CVD:** If trade is to be fair, the U.S. must maintain strong trade remedy laws for America's workers, farmers, and small businesses.
- **Food Safety:** We must ensure that the food entering our borders is safe – meaning we must preserve our best domestic food safety standards and ensure inspection keeps up with the volume of imports.
- **Farm and food:** U.S. trade policy must safeguard the livelihoods of independent farmers and promote global food security.
- **Process – Transparency:** Trade negotiations and agreements' implementation domestically and administration internationally must be more open and transparent if public support is to be built.
- **Federalism:** State and local governments must participate in trade decisions that will affect them.
- **Access to affordable medicine:** Trade agreements should not constrain governments' ability to ensure access to vital medicines.
- **Developing Countries:** Some countries need assistance to implement sustainable trade policies.