Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
US House of Representatives  
235 Cannon Bldg  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi,

I am writing to ask you to cosponsor the Trade Reform Accountability, Development and Employment (TRADE) Act of 2008. Members of Congress should have more power in deciding when to pass trade agreements.

Like you, I support responsible trade between the United States and countries across the globe, but our current system has not worked, has not met past promises, and has not served the interests of a majority of people in our country or the world.

The price we've paid under this so-called “free trade” model in job loss, wage decline, environmental damage and other societal harm is far too great. We must take action now to improve this failed system of trade.

The TRADE Act sets up the framework for what a good trade agreement would look like, and moves us away from the failed NAFTA and CAFTA model. This bill provides a roadmap for what a responsible agreement should include.

The TRADE Act is backed by over 60 of your colleagues, and by an array of labor, environmental, consumer, faith and family farm organizations.

As a representative for 225,000 Teamster members and their families in California, I strongly urge you to cosponsor the 2008 TRADE Act (H.R. 6186) and ask you to send me a letter confirming that you have done so.

The past model has not worked, and we need a better way.

Sincerely,

Chuck Mack
Chairman

CM/mn