

Media Advisory

Tuesday, December 1st, 2009

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One Hundred Trade Events Across America

Protest the Past Failed Policies of the WTO

Activists Urge the Obama Administration

to Enact Trade Reform Campaign Promises

WASHINGTON, D.C.: Marking the ten year anniversary of the World Trade Organization (WTO) demonstrations in Seattle -- and the ongoing WTO ministerial in Geneva -- hundreds of individual groups are gathering in local communities across America to rally for a trade turnaround away from the failed WTO model.

With a goal of enacting new rules to promote the public interests of the majority over the private interests of the few, organizers are calling for an end to the Doha Round in 2010, for President Obama to enact his trade reform campaign promises, and for elected officials to cosponsor the 2009 TRADE Act in Congress. Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH) is releasing the TRADE Act today with substantial senate support, and Congressman Michaud's House TRADE Act Bill (HR 3012) has been endorsed by 129 cosponsors from both parties.

Details

WHAT: Over 165 individual trade reform events across America, including town halls, teach-ins, marches, movie screenings, rallies, and house parties are being held in local communities this week to promote a new trade reform agenda.

WHEN: This week of action takes place from November 27th to December 5th, coinciding with the WTO ministerial which began yesterday in Geneva, Switzerland, and overlapping with the ten year anniversary of citizen protests in Seattle that changed the future course of trade.

WHERE: In over one hundred cities from Portland OR to Portland ME -- in places like Minneapolis and Milwaukee -- from Austin TX to Albany NY, citizen activists are meeting to move a new trade agenda, and to highlight WTO policy problems on financial regulation, climate change, human rights, agricultural policy and environmental protection.

WHO: Hundreds of local organizations, including individuals from faith, family farm, labor, environmental and consumer protection groups, are banding together in their own towns to highlight

the impact that trade has on our everyday life, and why we need to change the failed policies of the past.

WHY: Trade rules should serve a majority of people on issues such as public health, the environment, human rights, food safety and access to essential services. We cannot achieve these goals unless a new model exists that can get a majority of support from congress, and from people voting for elected leaders.

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Citizens Trade Campaign (CTC) is a diverse national coalition of environmental, labor, consumer, family farm, religious and other civil society groups founded in 1992 to improve the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). We are united in a common belief that rules which govern the global economy must reflect the views and needs of a majority of the people across the country, and the world.