The Honorable Ron Wyden United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Wyden:

On behalf of our millions of members and supporters, we write to share our objectives regarding 21st century trade agreements and the enhanced congressional oversight needed to ensure that U.S. trade pacts deliver benefits for most Americans, promote broadly shared prosperity, and safeguard the environment and public health. Our organizations oppose the Fast Track model of trade authority and believe that it must be replaced with a new system for negotiating and implementing trade agreements that provides for more congressional and public accountability.

Today's proposed trade agreements, including the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP), extend far beyond traditional trade issues such as tariffs. The TPP is a massive 29-chapter agreement that would establish binding rules on issues related to labor rights, energy and the environment, medicine pricing, patents and copyright, food and product safety, Internet freedom and innovation, government procurement, financial regulation, immigration, healthcare, and more. Similarly, TTIP is an expansive agreement that will focus mainly on eliminating so-called "non-tariff" or "technical" barriers to trade—namely behind-the-border domestic regulatory policies. Indeed, the TTIP is focused more on how national or regional policies are made and the uniformity of regulatory standards than on international trade in its traditional sense.

The old Fast Track Trade Promotion Authority is simply not appropriate given the subject matter covered by today's pacts, such as TPP and TTIP. For this reason, we oppose "The Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities Act" (S. 1900), which replicates the overly broad delegation of Congress's constitutional authorities that was provided in the 2002 Fast Track and allows the executive branch to unilaterally select negotiating partner countries, negotiate terms, decide when negotiations are complete and then sign a final pact *before* the full Congress has had an opportunity to approve the contents. Pursuant to S. 1900, signed pacts could then be rushed through Congress—regardless of whether congressional negotiating objectives have been met—with a guaranteed vote in 90 days under rules that circumvent ordinary review, amendment and debate procedures.

In order to deal with today's complex trade agreements and accelerating globalization, a 21st century trade authority that includes enhanced mechanisms for Congress to exercise its constitutional authority over U.S. trade policy is needed. While it is important that Congress develop negotiating mandates that outline what all U.S. trade agreements must and must not include, as explained below, even more important is the replacement of the outdated and failed Fast Track *procedures*. Any agreement that will be considered for expedited approval (i.e. limited debate and no amendments) must include robust and binding provisions that truly mark it as a "21st Century Trade Agreement." However, including strong mandates without a system to guarantee the mandates have been achieved is like having a speeding limit in a school zone without any enforcement personnel. To that end, in this new model of trade authority, expedited consideration of completed agreements should *only* be available if and when Congress

determines that its negotiating objectives have been satisfied and the executive branch has abided by requirements for increased congressional and public oversight over the entire process.

To achieve improved accountability and outcomes, this enhanced process should include:

- 1. Congressional role in selecting appropriate trade partners: Congress should set criteria, including with respect to human and labor rights compliance, environmental and public health standards, and market access opportunities for U.S. exporters, to determine whether a country is an appropriate trading partner for the United States. Congress must also have the opportunity to determine that a country proposed by the executive branch does not meet such criteria before negotiations commence and is unlikely to be an appropriate partner in the near term, in which case the trade agreement would not qualify for expedited procedures.
- **2. Mandatory negotiating objectives to ensure trade agreements deliver broad benefits:** Congress should set mandatory negotiating objectives outlining what all U.S. trade agreements *must* and *must not* include. Congress must have the opportunity to add agreement-specific objectives.
- **3. Enhanced transparency to ensure meaningful congressional and public input:** The Office of the United States Trade Representative must conduct broad, specific, and systematic congressional and public briefings on the progress that negotiators are making towards meeting the established negotiating objectives. In addition, negotiating texts should be made available to the public so that all stakeholders have the information to provide informed input to elected and appointed officials on the implications of the trade deal.
- **4.** Congressional certification that trade goals have been met before trade negotiations are concluded: When executive branch negotiators believe that they have concluded negotiations, a final text must be released publicly and Congress must certify that the negotiating objectives have been satisfied before the text of a pact can be deemed final. Only such certification could trigger an expedited vote by Congress to approve the agreement.
- 5. Congressional approval of trade agreements and authorization for the executive branch to sign and enter into agreements: Congress would vote on trade agreements using expedited procedures only if the requirements enumerated above were met. Requiring explicit congressional approval to sign and enter into the agreement enables Congress to ensure that an agreement's contents are acceptable at a time when changes could still be made, if necessary.
- **6.** A mechanism for a sizeable minority of the House or Senate to obtain a vote on a resolution to remove an agreement from expedited consideration: As an additional safeguard, a sizeable minority in either chamber should be able to get a privileged floor vote in either chamber on a resolution to withdraw expedited consideration for any pact for a variety of reasons, such as lack of Congressional or public consultation/input or clear breach of negotiating objectives.
- 7. Trade negotiating authority must be considered in conjunction with related trade and economic policy legislation. For example, trade rules that cannot be enforced provide no real benefits for the American people, our environment, or our economy. Moreover, increased trade

without concurrent investments in our infrastructure and workforce will surely result in lost opportunities. Addressing long-standing economic problems such as wage suppression and economic inequality will take more than new trade pacts.

Over the course of our nation's history, Congress has regularly created new trade authority mechanisms as the subject matter of agreements changed. We urge you to seize the historic opportunity to replace the outdated Fast Track procedures that our organizations so strongly oppose and create a new trade negotiating and approval process that would help deliver trade agreements that could benefit workers, communities, and the environment and, therefore, rebuild broad support for trade agreements.

Sincerely,

National Organizations:

350.org

ActionAid USA

Alliance for Democracy

Alliance for Retired Americans

Amazon Watch

American Federation of Labor and Congress of

Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO)

American Federation of State, County and Municipal

Employees (AFSCME)
American Federation of Teachers
American Friends Service Committee

American Medical Student Association (AMSA)

American Medical Student Association - Just

Medicine Campaign

Americans for Democratic Action (ADA) Association of Flight Attendants – CWA

(AFA-CWA)

Association of Professional Flight Attendants

(APFA)

Association of Western Pulp and Paper Workers

Backbone Campaign

Black Alliance for Just Immigration

BlueGreen Alliance Breast Cancer Action

Campaign for America's Future Center for Biological Diversity Center for Effective Government

Center for Food Safety

Center for International Environmental Law

Citizens Trade Campaign Colombia Support Network

Columban Center for Advocacy and Outreach

Common Cause

Communications Workers of America Conference of Major Superiors of Men Consumer Federation of America Corporate Accountability International

Cultural Survival

Democratic Socialists of America (DSA)

Domestic Fair Trade Association

Earthjustice

Economic Policy Institute

Environmental Investigation Agency

Ethix Ventures Inc. Fair World Project Family Farm Defenders

Farm and Ranch Freedom Alliance

Fight for the Future Food & Water Watch

Food Chain Workers Alliance Food Empowerment Project Free Speech for People Friends of the Earth, US

Global Exchange GMO Free USA Gray Panthers Green America Greenpeace

Health Alliance International Health Care without Harm

Health GAP (Global Access Project) Holy Cross International Justice Office Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy

Institute for Policy Studies, Global Economy Project

International Association of Machinists and

Aerospace Workers

International Brotherhood of Boilermakers
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

International Brotherhood of Teamsters

International Federation of Professional & Technical Engineers (IFPTE)

International Labor Rights Forum

International Union of Bricklayers and Allied

Craftworkers

International Union, United Automobile, Aerospace & Agricultural Implement Workers of America (UAW)

IUE-CWA, Industrial Division of the Communications Workers of America

Jobs With Justice Just Foreign Policy

Justice Party

Labor Network for Sustainability League of Conservation Voters

Maquiladora Health & Safety Support Network Medical Mission Sisters Alliance for Justice

Moana Nui Move To Amend MoveOn.Org **NAACP**

National Black Rank and File Exchange

National Family Farm Coalition

National Hmong American Farmers, Inc National Latino Farmers & Ranchers Trade Association

Natural Resources Defense Council

NETWORK, A National Catholic Social Justice

Lobby

New Rules for Global Finance

Nicaragua Center for Community Action

Oil Change International OpenMedia International People for the American Way

Physicians for a National Health Program

Physicians for Social Responsibility

Popular Resistance Presbyterian Church USA

Progressive Democrats of America

Public Citizen

Quaker Earthcare Witness

RootsAction.org

School of the Americas Watch

Service Employees International Union (SEIU)

Sierra Club

Sisters of Mercy of the Americas - Institute Justice

Society of Professional Engineering Employees in

Aerospace (SPEEA)

Sr. of Charity of Nazareth Western Province

Leadership SumOfUs.org

Task Force on the Americas

The Episcopal Network for Economic Justice

The Rachel Carson Council, Inc.

Unitarian Universalist Global AIDS Coalition

UNITE HERE

United Brotherhood of Carpenters

United Church of Christ Justice and Witness

Ministries

United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of

America (UE)

United Mineworkers of America

United Steelworkers

United Students Against Sweatshops

United Students for Fair Trade

Universities Allied for Essential Medicines

WarIsACrime.org

Western Organization of Resource Councils (WORC)

Women's Voices for the Earth

Worldview

Local, State, and Regional Organizations:

12th Congressional District Chapter of Progressive Democrats of America

350 Central Maine

350 Maine 350 CT 350 Seattle

7th District West of Illinois Move-On Chapter

a2mc (Access to Medicines Coalition)

ACC / AFT Local 6249 **ACLC AFL-CIO** Activate CT

Aerospace Machinists Dist Lodge 751

Africa Connections, First Unitarian Church of

Portland, Oregon

AFSCME 2748 Chapter 10

AFSCME Council 5 **AFSCME Council 65** AFSCME Local 1542

AFSCME Local 1624 **AFSCME Local 3214**

AFSCME Local 3214 **AFSCME Local 34** AFSCME Local 3800

AFSCME Local 4001

AFSCME Local 668

AFT - Oregon Chester County Council AFL-CIO Alliance for Democracy - Oregon Chicago Democratic Socialists of America Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1005 Chicago Fair Trade American Association of Retirees, a California Chicago Religious Leadership Network on Latin nonprofit corporation America American Federation of Government Employees, Church Council of Greater Seattle Local 3937 Citizens' Environmental Coalition American Indian Mothers Inc. Cleveland Jobs with Justice American Postal Workers Union, Minneapolis Area Climate Action Business Association Cloutman & Cloutman, LLP Local American Postal Workers Union, St. Paul Area Local Coastal Bend Labor Council, AFL-CIO Americans for Democratic Action Hawaii Colorado State Legisaltive Board BLE & T Americans for Democratic Action Iowa Columbia Pacific Alliance for Social Justice Americans for Democratic Action of Southeastern Communications Workers of America District 7 Penna. Chapter Communications Workers of America State Council Americans for Democratic Action Southern California Community Action for Justice in the Americas, Africa Americans for Democratic Action, Northeast Ohio and Asia (CAJA-3) ATU Local 1091 Community Alliance for Global Justice Austin Central Labor Council Community Alliance of Lane County Community to Community Development Austin Tan Cerca de la Frontera Concerned Families of Westchester Awake Miami BCTGM Local 167G Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes Connecticut Justice Party BCTGM Local 267G Connecticut State Council of Machinists BCTGM Local 369G Berks Gas Truth Construction & General Laborers Local 154 **BLET-MNSLB** Corpus Christi American Federation of Teachers BlueGreen Alliance, Minnesota CWA District 2-13 Bronx River Bicycle Works CWA District 6 Brooklyn For Peace CWA Local 1111 Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen CWA Local 6132 Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen CWA Local 6215 Washington State Legislative Board CWA Local 6222 Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen CWA Local 7777 Massachusetts State Legislative Board CWA Local 7901 California Farmers Union Dakota Resource Council (ND) Carpenters Local Union 1209 Dakota Rural Action (SD) Carpenters Local Union 223 Dallas AFL-CIO Carpenters Local Union 318 Dallas Building Trades Council, AFL-CIO Carpenters Local Union 318 Delaware Riverkeeper Network Democracy in Action Chicago Carpenters Local Union 322 Carpenters Local Union 345 Denver Justice & Peace Committee Carpenters Local Union 361 Divas Fair Trade Carpenters Local Union 50 DownRiver Alliance Carpenters Local Union 74 DSA Austin Cascade AIDS Project East Central Area Labor Council

Central Co-op Centro de Trabajadores Unidos en la Lucha (CTUL) CFTC - CT Fair Trade Coalition

Catskill Citizens for Safe Energy

Cement Masons and Plasters Local 633

Center for Family Farm Development, Inc.

Ecumenical Peace Institute/CALC

Eco-Logic, WBAI-FM

Eastern Michigan Federation of Teachers

El Paso Building & Construction Trades Council

Economic Justice Action Group of First Unitarian

Elevator Constructors Local 21 Elevator Constructors Local 9 Empire State Consumer Project Esperanza Peace & Justice Center Fairmont, MN Peace Group Faith Action Network

Farmworker Association of Florida

Fernandez Ranch Florida AFL-CIO

Farms Not Arms

Florida Alliance for Retired Americans

Food for Maine's Future Fort Worth MoveOn Council Fort Worth Professional Firefighters

Foundation for Integrative AIDS Research (FIAR)

Fox Valley Citizens for Peace & Justice

Frack Free Illinois

GCC / IBT Local 4535M General Teamsters Local 326

GMO Free Florida Grand Rapids CAT Team Grassroots Coalition

Greater Danbury MoveOn.Org Council

Green Ministry Team First Presbyterian Church Bend,

OR.

Harris County AFL-CIO Council

HartBeat Ensemble

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Houston Federation of Teachers

Houston Gulf Coast Building and Construction Trades

Council

IAMAW Airline Local 1833

IAMAW Capitol City and Minneapolis Metal Workers

Lodge 459

IAMAW District 165

IAMAW Local Lodge 1037 IAMAW Local Lodge 112

IAMAW Local Lodge 126

IAMAW Local Lodge 1956

IAMAW Local Lodge 2198

IAMAW Local Lodge 623

IAMAW Local Lodge 737 IAMAW Local Lodge 1005

IAMAW Minnesota State Council

IBEW 3rd District

IBEW Local 1253

IBEW Local 160

IBEW Local 242 IBEW Local 278

IBEW Local 294 IBEW Local 31 IBEW Local 46 IBEW Local 520 IBEW Local 66

IBEW Local 716

IBT - Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen - Texas State Legislative Board

Illinois Stewardship Alliance

Independent Cattlemen of Wyoming

Insulators LU 22

International Union of Painters and Allied Trades

Local 1175

International Union of Operating Engineers Local 286

Iron Workers Local Union # 482

Ironworkers Local 263
Iroquois Valley Farms, LLC
IUE-CWA Local 1140
JOBS NOW Coalition

Jobs with Justice of South Sound Joint Council of Teamsters No.37

Jubilee Oregon

Kitsap Central Labor Council

KKI

Label GMOs.org

Laborers District Council of MN & ND

Land Stewardship Project LCLAA Gulf Coast Chapter League of Rural Voters Lehigh Valley Gas Truth

Lehigh Valley Group, Sierra Club Lone Star Chapter, Sierra Club Lubbock Central Labor Council Maine Fair Trade Campaign

Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association

Maine People's Alliance

MaineXChange

MAPE

Marin Interfaith Task Force on the Americas

Marion Polk Move to Amend

Maryland United for Peace and Justice

Mata Traders

Mid-South Carpenters Regional Council

Millwrights Local 548

Milwaukee Fair Trade Coalition

Minneapolis Regional Labor Federation

Minnesota AFL-CIO

Minnesota Building and Construction Trades

Minnesota Farmers Union

Minnesota Industrial Union Council Minnesota Nurses Association

Minnesota Public Interest Research Group

Minnesota State Council of Machinists IAM&AW

Minnesota Teamsters Joint Council 32

Missouri ProVote

Missouri Rural Crisis Center Montanans Against the TPP MoveOn Desert Council MoveOn Los Angeles Council MoveOn Metro Denver Council

MoveOn.org/PDX

Nat'l Assn of Letter Carriers, Branch 9

National Nurses Organizing Committee / National

Nurses United Southern Region

NC State AFL-CIO

NEOGAP (Network for Oil and Gas Accountability

and Protection)

NH Right To Know GMO

North American Intertribal Missions

North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters

North East Area Labor Council North Texas Jobs with Justice

Northeastern Illinois Chapter, Americans for

Democratic Action

Northern Illinois Jobs with Justice Northern Plains Resource Council (MT) NW Oregon Labor Council, AFL-CIO

NY4WHALES

NYC Friends of Clearwater

Occupy Bellingham
Occupy Coachella Valley
Occupy Fort Stockton
Occupy Naperville
Ocean Spirit Massage
Ohio Fair Trade Campaign
Olympic Climate Action

OPEIU Local 12 Oregon AFL-CIO

Oregon AFSCME Council 75 Oregon Fair Trade Campaign Oregon Machinist Council Oregon Progressive Party Oregon Rural Action Oregon Steelworkers

Organization of Staff Analysts PA Conference of Teamsters PA Fair Trade Coalition PDA Desert Chapter

Peace Action Bay Ridge Interfaith Peace Action, Maine Chapter

Peace House

PeaceWorks of Greater Brunswick, Maine People For Positive Action of Plattsburgh, NY

Pennsylvania Council of Churches

Pierce County Central Labor Council

Pipefitters Local Union 211

Pittsburgh LCLAA

Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 142

Plumbers Local 68

Portland Central America Solidarity Committee

Portland Healthcare Action Group

Portland Jobs with Justice

Powder River Basin Resource Council

Presbytery of the Twin Cities

Progressive Democrats of America - Illinois Progressive Democrats of America-Tucson Chapter

Protect Biodiversity in Public Forests

Puget Sound Advocates for Retirement Action

Regla de Oro RLM Arts

San Antonio AFL-CIO

San Antonio Labor Council for Latin American

Advancement

San Diego Maquiladora Workers Solidarity Network

(SDMWSN)
Sane Energy Project
Seattle CISPES

Seattle Education Association

SEIU / NCFO Chapter 1016 Local 32BJ

SEIU 503, OPEU SEIU Local 63

SEIU MN State Council Sheet Metal Workers Local 10 Sheet Metal Workers' Local Union #54

Sierra Club - Connecticut Chapter Sierra Club - Oregon Chapter Sierra Club Lehigh Valley (PA) Sierra Club North Star Chapter Sierra Club, Maine Chapter

Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word of San

Antonio, TX SMART Local 565 South Florida LCLAA

South Florida Voices for Working Families South Sound Clean Clothes Campaign South Suburban Council MoveOn.org Southeast Minnesota Area Labor Council Southeast MN Alliance of Peacemakers Southern Oregon Climate Action Now

Southwest Ohio Green PAC

St. Louis Inter-Faith Committee on Latin America

St. Paul Regional Labor Federation Steelworkers Local 9528 CTAPE

Sustainable Business Network of Massachusetts

Take Back America for the People

The same of the sa	m
Tarrant County CLC, AFL-CIO	Teamsters Local 653
Teamsters Joint Council 10	Teamsters Local 657
Teamsters Joint Council 13	Teamsters Local 662
Teamsters Joint Council 16	Teamsters Local 673
Teamsters Joint Council 25	Teamsters Local 697
Teamsters Joint Council 28	Teamsters Local 703
Teamsters Joint Council 3	Teamsters Local 716
Teamsters Joint Council 37	Teamsters Local 745
Teamsters Joint Council 39	Teamsters Local 752
Teamsters Joint Council 42	Teamsters Local 769
Teamsters Joint Council 55	Teamsters Local 777
Teamsters Joint Council 56	Teamsters Local 79
Teamsters Joint Council 58	Teamsters Local 830
Teamsters Joint Council 7	Teamsters Local 838
Teamsters Joint Council 73	Teamsters Local 890
Teamsters Joint Council 80	Teamsters Local 988
Teamsters Joint Council 80	Teamsters Local 988
Teamsters Local 100	Teamsters Local 997
Teamsters Local 102	Teamsters Local 997
Teamsters Local 102	Texas AFL CIO
Teamsters Local 117	Texas Alliance for Retired Americans
Teamsters Local 118	Texas American Federation of Teachers
Teamsters Local 1199	Texas Fair Trade Coalition
Teamsters Local 150	Texas NAACP
Teamsters Local 170	Texas State Association of Electrical Workers
Teamsters Local 179	Texas State Building Trades Council
Teamsters Local 190	Texas State Council of Machinists
Teamsters Local 2011	Texas Young Active Labor Leaders
Teamsters Local 245	The Interfaith Alliance of Rochester
Teamsters Local 26	Traditions Fair Trade
Teamsters Local 29	Truck Drivers Local 449
Teamsters Local 294	UE Western Region
Teamsters Local 317	UFCW 555
Teamsters Local 317	UFCW Local 21
Teamsters Local 324	Union House
Teamsters Local 325	UNITE HERE Minnesota
Teamsters Local 325	United Association Local 529
Teamsters Local 344	United Auto Workers Local 2125
Teamsters Local 38	United Auto Workers Local 879
Teamsters Local 414	United Auto Workers Local 958
Teamsters Local 455	United Auto Workers Minnesota State CAP Council
Teamsters Local 480	United Food and Commercial Workers Local 1189
Teamsters Local 495	United Transportation Union, MN Legislative Council
Teamsters Local 522	University of MN Labor Education Service
Teamsters Local 572	USW District 10
Teamsters Local 577	USW District 11
Teamsters Local 585	USW District 13
Teamsters Local 618	USW Local 1016
Teamsters Local 623	USW Local 11-75
Teamsters Local 631	USW Local 1188
Teamsters Local 637	USW Local 1219

USW Local 12698

USW Local 13-227

USW Local 1329

USW Local 13-620

USW Local 1408

USW Local 1408

USW Local 2002

USW Local 264

USW Local 2660

USW Local 364

USW Local 3657

USW Local 404

USW Local 5652

USW Local 6115

USW Local 7263

USW Local 7687

USW Local 8183

USW Local 9402

USW Women of Steel

WA 28th Legislative Democrats

Washington Fair Trade Coalition

Washington State Democrats

Washington State Labor Council

Washington Young Emerging Labor Leaders

WashTech

West Area Labor Council

West Texas Building & Construction Trades Council

Western Colorado Congress

Western Mass. Jobs with Justice

Western New York Area Labor Federation

Western Wisconsin AFL-CIO Central Labor Council

Whatever It Takes For Progress

Wisconsin Fair Trade Coalition

Witness for Peace – Upper Midwest

Women Occupy San Diego

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom,

Maine Chapter

Young Active Labor Leaders, Texas AFL-CIO