



April 3, 2015

We are writing to express our strong support for the reauthorization of Trade Promotion Authority and the adoption of the Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement.

Accessing overseas markets for Oregon agriculture is critical to the economic health of our farmers. Oregon's agricultural exports reached an estimated \$2 billion in 2012, up from \$1.7 billion in 2008. These overseas sales help boost farm prices and income, while supporting about 13,200 jobs both on the farm and in related industries such as food processing, transportation, and manufacturing. Export sales accounted for approximately 42 percent of total Oregon farm receipts in 2012.

Reauthorization of Trade Promotion Authority (TPA), which expired in 2007, is critical to closing the current negotiations on the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). The TPP will deepen our relationship with many of Oregon's best trading partners in Southeast Asia. It will also update our trade relationship with Japan, which has traditionally been a difficult country for agricultural exports. Having Japan open its market to more Oregon products will give us increased access to one of Oregon's largest export markets.

Oregon is a trade-dependent state and these two bills will give us more opportunity to find markets for our products.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Barry Bushue, President
Oregon Farm Bureau

Tom Danowski, Executive Director
Oregon Winegrowers Association

Katie Fast, Executive Director
Oregonians for Food and Shelter

Tami Kerr, Executive Director
Oregon Dairy Farmers Association

David McGiverin, President
Northwest Food Processors Association

Bryan Ostlund, Administrator
Oregon Blueberry Commission

Jerome Rosa, Executive Director
Oregon Cattlemen's Association

Blake Rowe, Chief Executive Officer
Oregon Wheat Grower's League

Nancy Stites, Executive Director
Oregon Hops Commission

Jeff Stone, Executive Director
Oregon Association of Nurseries

Roger Beyer, Executive Director
Oregon Seed Council