

News Release

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Statement of the U.S. Business Coalition for TPP on the Launch of the Friends of Trans-Pacific Partnership Caucus in the United States House of Representatives

The U.S. Business Coalition for TPP (“Coalition”) welcomes the bipartisan vision and leadership of Congressmen Boustany, Reichert, Kind, and Meeks, in establishing the Friends of Trans-Pacific Partnership Caucus and serving as co-chairs of the Caucus.

The Coalition supports the negotiation of a comprehensive, high-standard and commercially meaningful Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreement that will open markets for U.S. farmers, ranchers, manufacturers and service providers, increasing U.S. exports and supporting American jobs. Such a TPP agreement will also advance security, stability and prosperity throughout the Asia-Pacific region. Members of the steering committee for the Coalition offered the following comments:

“The launch of this Caucus signals the importance that the United States Congress places on the TPP,” said Calman Cohen, President of the Emergency Committee for American Trade, which serves as Secretariat of the Coalition.

“Now that the negotiations are entering their final phase, it is critical that all parties remain mindful of the collective ambition for a high-standard 21st-century trade agreement laid out by leaders of the TPP countries at the 2011 APEC Summit in Honolulu. The launch of this Caucus demonstrates that if negotiators can deliver such an ambitious agreement, it will receive strong support in Congress,” added Devry Boughner Vorwerk, Director, International Government Business Relations, Cargill, Incorporated.

“The Coalition looks forward to working with the Caucus co-chairs and their colleagues to promote a strong outcome in the TPP negotiations that sets a model of ambition for a subsequent Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific,” said Doug Goudie, Director, International Government Affairs, Pfizer, Inc.

“TPP has the potential to strengthen the rule of law for trade and investment and open markets in the Asia-Pacific to provide new opportunities for American businesses and workers. It is essential that Congress support these guiding free-trade principles, and the Caucus has a key role to play in that regard,” added Laura Lane, President of UPS Global Public Affairs.

The U.S. Business Coalition for TPP is a broad-based and cross-sectoral group of U.S. companies and associations. The Coalition’s members represent the principal sectors of the U.S. economy, including agriculture, manufacturing, merchandising, processing, publishing, retailing and services.

The principles and objectives of the U.S. Business Coalition for TPP may be viewed at <http://tppcoalition.org/AboutUs.aspx>.