

# DEDICATED PEOPLE WHO CARE

ABOUT FARM FAMILIES  
ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT  
ABOUT THE COMMUNITIES WE SERVE

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March 2, 2018

Representative Mike Simpson  
802 W Bannock St #600  
Boise, ID 83702

Representative Cathy McMorris Rodgers  
10 North Post St. #625  
Spokane, WA 99201

Representative Dan Newhouse  
3100 George Washington Way #130  
Richland, WA 99354

Representative Greg Walden  
1051 NW Bond St  
Bend, OR 97701

Dear Friends:

We, farmers and people who serve farm families from across the Inland Northwest, need you to urge the Administration to open trade doors and to remain committed to two remaining agreements they've threatened to drop—NAFTA, with Canada and Mexico, and KORUS, with South Korea—while re-entering the Trans Pacific Partnership, negotiated with overseas customers upon whom we have relied for generations and new ones we have begun to serve. We were promised new bilateral agreements when the Administration withdrew from TPP but a year has passed with little signs of progress—troublesome for the future, particularly concerning in tough times.

The Administration has promised to **do no harm** to agriculture but significant harm is being done each and every day as the world passes us by on trade. Twelve months after we walked away from the TPP the other eleven nations reached an agreement slashing tariffs and putting American farmers at a serious disadvantage. We announced new tariffs the same day, and others since, further putting agricultural trade at risk.

Ours is the most export dependent region in the United States and trade has always been our lifeblood. As you know, these are very challenging times for Inland Northwest farm families and for the rural communities where many of us live and do business. An already stressed agricultural community needs the benefit of free and fair trade now! As Members of Congress representing us in Washington, D.C., we need you to lead the way, to convey a sense of urgency, and to help put Inland Northwest agriculture on sound footing in these challenging times.

We respectfully request that you speak out on agricultural trade and that you convey a sense of urgency to the Administration in repairing the trade relationships so vital to our future and in building new ones, too. You've been stalwart in your efforts for the people of Inland Northwest agriculture in the past and we very much need your help on this crucial matter. Please keep us informed of your progress and we will share your thoughts with the 840 customers, friends, and fellow employees who have signed this letter.

Respectfully,

Alex McGregor