

**Airforwarders Association (AfA) ▪ American Apparel and Footwear Association (AAFA)
American Association of Exporters and Importers (AAEI)
American Trucking Associations (ATA) ▪ Express Delivery and Logistics Association (XLA)
National Customs Brokers and Forwarders Association of America (NCBFAA)
National Retail Federation (NRF) ▪ Retail Industry Leaders Association (RILA)
U.S. Fashion Industry Association (USFIA)**

June 17, 2015

The Honorable Charles Boustany
U.S. House of Representatives
1431 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Boustany,

We write to congratulate you on the House of Representative's strong bipartisan support for the Preventing Recurring Trade Evasion and Circumvention (PROTECT) Act. Including the PROTECT as the bedrock of the Trade Facilitation and Enforcement Act of 2015 is a critical step to ensuring America has modern and effective trade policies fit for the 21st century.

The undersigned organizations represent millions of American workers and companies large and small operating at the forefront of today's global economy. We know that our business success, as well as America's economic future, rely on global supply chains that are interconnected, predictable, efficient, and fair. As these supply chains grow more complex and interdependent, the U.S. government needs policies that reflect today's realities and provide agencies at the border with the state of the art tools they need.

The Trade Facilitation and Enforcement Act of 2015, which includes several provisions related to U.S. Customs and Border Protection's enforcement and facilitation functions, passed with bipartisan support. In particular, your PROTECT Act focuses on U.S. government efforts to prevent, investigate, and remedy efforts by companies intentionally seeking to break the rules and evade antidumping and countervailing duties. The PROTECT Act builds on existing government strengths and expertise by enhancing the Department of Commerce's authority to investigate these illegal actions. Unlike other legislation, the PROTECT Act's provisions wisely promote effective enforcement without conceiving of new bureaucratic processes that are confusing, unfair, or serve to decrease incentives to public-private partnerships on trade.

We thank you for your leadership on successfully moving the PROTECT Act through the House with overwhelming bipartisan support. We appreciate your efforts to promote America's global economic competitiveness and we look forward to working with you to ensure the PROTECT Act provisions are maintained in conference.

Sincerely,

Airforwarders Association (AfA)
American Apparel and Footwear Association (AAFA)
American Association of Exporters and Importers (AAEI)
American Trucking Associations (ATA)
Express Delivery and Logistics Association (XLA)
National Customs Brokers and Forwarders Association of America (NCBFAA)
National Retail Federation (NRF)
Retail Industry Leaders Association (RILA)
U.S. Fashion Industry Association (USFIA)