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KEY VOTE "YES" ON TRADE ACT OF 2015 (H.R. 1314)

June 11, 2015

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the members of the American Apparel & Footwear Association, and the four million trade-dependent U.S. workers the industry employs, I am writing to express strong support for the Trade Act of 2015 (H.R. 1314).

AAFA has key voted passage of each Title of the Trade Act of 2015 (Title I on Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) and Title II on Trade Adjustment Assistance) legislation as <u>YES</u> votes.

- Once enacted, TPA will facilitate completion of negotiations for the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) with 11 Pacific Rim countries and the Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (T-TIP) with the European Union. Those agreements have the potential to eliminate long-standing tariff barriers, harmonize regulatory regimes, and expand trade and investment opportunities for the U.S. apparel and footwear industry.
- Moreover, TPA does this in a way that provides effective oversight, guarantees full consultation with stakeholders, and confirms Congress's Article I, Section 8 powers concerning international trade.
- TAA ensures that workers displaced by trade have access to vitally important job retraining resources and assistance.

At a time when other countries are actively negotiating, concluding, and implementing trade agreements with each other, it is imperative that the United States not fall behind. The Trade Act of 2015 ensures the United States' full involvement in the world economy, keeping American companies and American workers globally competitive.

I urge you to vote <u>YES</u> on each Title to ensure that the Trade Act of 2015 be swiftly approved.

Please accept my best regards,

fuanita D. Duggan

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