

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 1, 2019

The Honorable Wilbur Ross
Secretary of Commerce
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Mr. Secretary:

We write to request that you immediately terminate the current agreement suspending the outstanding antidumping investigation on fresh tomatoes from Mexico.

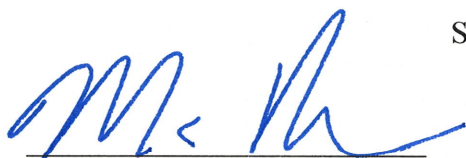
Congress has enacted U.S. laws targeting unfair trade practices for the specific purpose of ensuring that American farmers, workers, and companies are not injured as a result of systematic abuses by foreign producers. The record is clear in this case: the suspension agreements negotiated by past Administrations have not worked, and Mexican tomato exporters have used successive suspension agreements as cover for their continued use of unfair trade practices to gain U.S. market share at the expense of the domestic tomato industry.

Since the first tomato suspension agreement was enacted in 1996, hundreds of U.S. tomato growers across the country have been forced out of business. Mexico's share of the U.S. tomato market has increased from 32 to 54 percent, while the share for U.S. growers has fallen from 65 to 40 percent. Since 2002, imports of Mexican tomatoes have skyrocketed 125 percent and U.S. production has declined 34 percent. Small family operations have been particularly hard hit, and the production losses reverberate beyond agriculture to deeply impact rural economies and land development patterns. The industry will continue to shrink if the status quo is maintained.

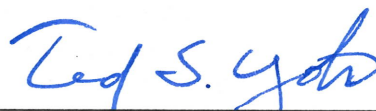
We appreciate your team's efforts to attempt to renegotiate improved terms. However, Mexican exporters have shown no interest in accepting a suspension agreement that would close the loopholes that permit them to continue dumping tomatoes and injuring American tomato growers and packers. Such suspension agreements have always been negotiated with the best intentions in mind. Yet, three different agreements have already been negotiated over the last 22 years because each previous agreement had failed to work as intended.

Rather than renegotiate the terms of the current, ineffective agreement with Mexican exporters who have thus far demonstrated their unwillingness to deal in good faith, we instead request that you use your authority to immediately terminate the agreement suspending the outstanding antidumping investigation on fresh tomatoes from Mexico.

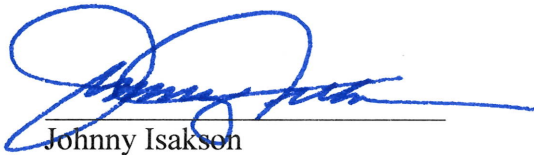
Sincerely,



Marco Rubio
U.S. Senator




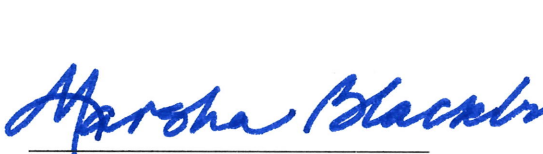
Ted S. Yoho, D.V.M.
Member of Congress



Johnny Isakson
U.S. Senator

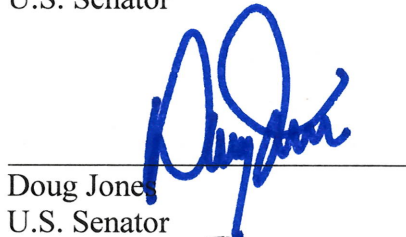


Lamar Alexander
U.S. Senator



Marsha Blackburn
U.S. Senator

David Perdue
U.S. Senator



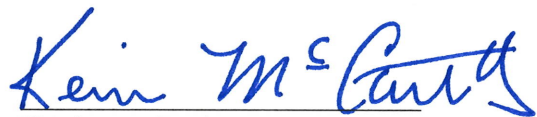
Doug Jones
U.S. Senator



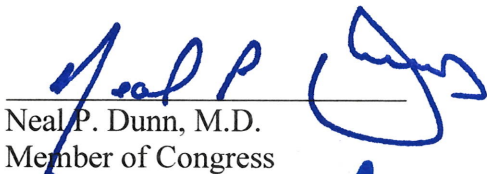
Lindsey O. Graham
U.S. Senator



Rick Scott
U.S. Senator



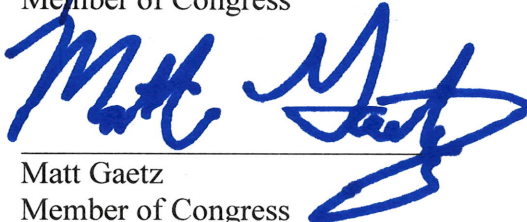
Kevin McCarthy
Member of Congress



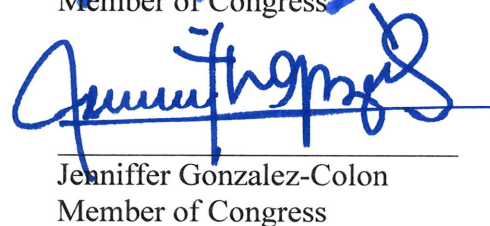
Neal P. Dunn, M.D.
Member of Congress



Mario Diaz-Balart
Member of Congress



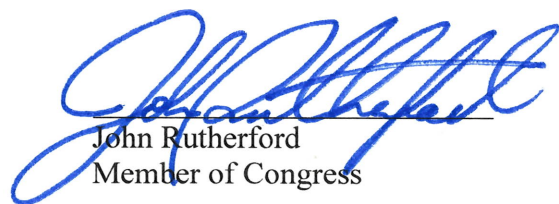
Matt Gaetz
Member of Congress



Jennifer Gonzalez-Colon
Member of Congress



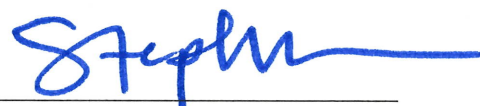
Matt Cartwright
Member of Congress



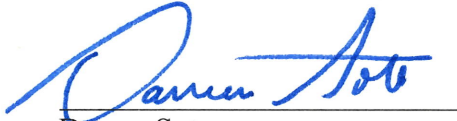
John Rutherford
Member of Congress



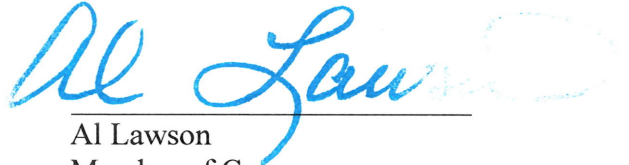
Daniel Webster
Member of Congress



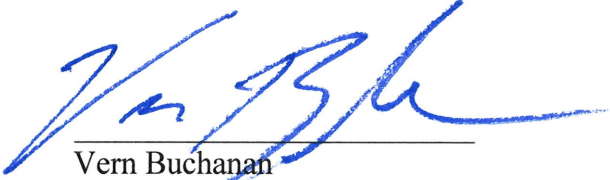
Stephanie Murphy
Member of Congress



Darren Soto
Member of Congress



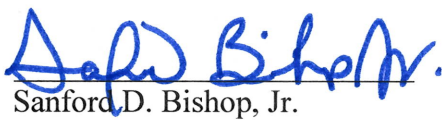
Al Lawson
Member of Congress



Vern Buchanan
Member of Congress



Fred Upton
Member of Congress



Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress



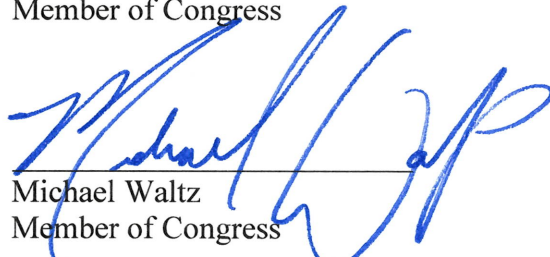
Gus M. Bilirakis
Member of Congress



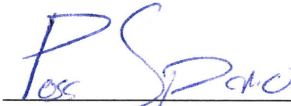
Austin Scott
Member of Congress



Earl L. 'Buddy' Carter
Member of Congress



Michael Waltz
Member of Congress



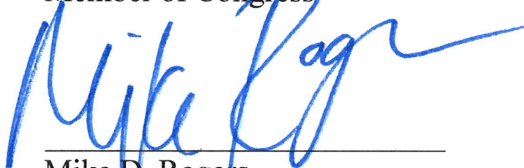
Ross Spano
Member of Congress



Drew Ferguson
Member of Congress



Debbie Mucarsel-Powell
Member of Congress



Mike D. Rogers
Member of Congress



Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress



Bruce Westerman
Member of Congress



Mark Meadows
Member of Congress

Donna E Shalala

Donna Shalala
Member of Congress

W. Gregory Steube

W. Gregory Steube
Member of Congress

Bill Posey

Bill Posey
Member of Congress

Jeff Van Drew

Jeff Van Drew
Member of Congress

Debbie Wasserman Schultz

Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress

Devin Nunes

Devin Nunes
Member of Congress

Charlie Crist

Charlie Crist
Member of Congress

Kathy Castor

Kathy Castor
Member of Congress

Jim Costa

Jim Costa
Member of Congress

Frederica S. Wilson

Frederica S. Wilson M.C.
Member of Congress

Ted Deutch

Ted Deutch
Member of Congress

Lois Frankel

Lois Frankel
Member of Congress

Val B. Deming

Val Butler Demings
Member of Congress

TJ Cox

TJ Cox
Member of Congress