

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 11, 2026

The Honorable Jamieson Greer  
U.S. Trade Representative  
Office of the U.S. Trade Representative  
600 17th Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20508

Dear Ambassador Greer,

In 2018, Congress worked with the Trump Administration to renegotiate the 1994 North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), ultimately instituting the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA). Now that the agreement has been in effect for five years, Congress and the Administration have the opportunity to review the trilateral pact, examining where it has been successful and where it is in need of further improvements. In advance of the USMCA's mandatory review period this summer, we write to provide USTR with critical insights from our states to better inform these upcoming negotiations.

As you and others in the Administration are undoubtedly aware, Mexico and Canada are two of our most trusted trading partners. These enduring relationships with our neighbors have become economically significant for the United States. In fact, in 2024, Mexico and Canada accounted for \$945.6 billion and \$917.4 billion in total trade value, respectively, together making up nearly a third of all U.S. international trade activity that year. Moreover, Mexico and Canada are the first or second-largest destinations for goods exports for more than 40 U.S. states, including Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. It is critical to maintain a working North American alliance to support our workers in these integrated supply chains and stand up against adversaries like the Chinese Communist Party.

Unfortunately, actions taken this year by the Administration have introduced chaos instead of making strides to address the structural challenges necessary to support critical industries and improve the economic security of workers across the continent. Improved domestic incentives within USMCA's framework and manufacturing incentives like the tax credits from the Inflation Reduction Act have been replaced with blanket tariffs and uncertainty. Longstanding relationships with some of our most trusted partners have changed drastically with the snap of a finger. As Senators representing manufacturing states, we agree that changes to our economic and trading landscape and relationships need improvement. Our current landscape is the result of policy choices and through policy choices, we must demand better. The way that it is best done is through a holistic industrial strategy that includes targeted tariffs to achieve strategic trade goals, enforcing trade laws we have on the books, and the robust renegotiation of trade deals to get a better deal for American manufacturers, consumers, and workers.

As you participate in the USMCA review period, we urge you to focus on structural improvements that bolster domestic manufacturing up and down our supply chains, ensure competitiveness with overseas competitors like China, and provide security, support, and stability for our domestic workforce. We note your remarks to the Senate Finance and House Ways and Means Committees begin to address some of these issues and encourage you to continue to work with Congress throughout the review.

Among USTR's top priorities should be looking for ways to bolster U.S. manufacturing, which continues to offshore at discouraging rates. While the USMCA took steps to strengthen the North American auto industry and its workers – where updated rules of origin requirements helped drive increases in U.S. production– the truth is more is still needed to reshore our manufacturing sector, from the automotive to the aerospace industry and beyond, and create good jobs, including union jobs, across the country and continent. USTR should seek to make changes that further incentivize domestic and North American sourcing of materials up and down supply chains and prevent offshoring of American jobs. Any agreement that does not address this problem is a non-starter. Changes should ensure that the dispute mechanism system is working as intended and that enforcement procedures are effective in holding each party to its commitments under the deal. Your Administration should engage with key public and private stakeholders to ensure that what is being agreed to will be beneficial in practice for manufacturers and workers across the country.

USMCA must also be strengthened to meet the threats posed by Chinese competition, particularly Chinese cars. The economic and national security risks of Chinese vehicles entering the North American market are no longer a future threat – they are here today. Shortcomings in the Agreement have allowed Chinese manufacturers, including in the automotive supply chain, to strategically position themselves in the North American market, rapidly investing in Mexico-based manufacturing and vehicle production. More recently, Prime Minister Carney announced in January that Canada would allow Chinese electric vehicles into the Canadian market at a low tariff rate, rather than the 100% tariff rate that Canada had previously imposed in 2024. During upcoming negotiations, USTR must pursue changes that both ensure that foreign entities cannot utilize the agreement to circumvent new or existing trade laws. If this Administration is serious about onshoring our critical supply chains, it must prevent our adversaries from gaining preferential access to our markets. We also believe a renegotiation should be used as a platform to improve North American coordination in rebuffing the predatory trading practices of adversaries like China across critical industries. Doing so will not only strengthen U.S. businesses and workers but also ensure a more competitive and resilient future for North America.

This upcoming negotiation period also presents an opportunity to focus on fortifying and improving the agreement's existing labor standards. The omission of strong and enforceable labor standards was a glaring weakness of NAFTA. As such, we were encouraged by USMCA's provisions aimed at instituting a baseline standard of workers' rights designed to protect U.S. workers from unfair competition. This included a prohibition on the import of goods produced by forced labor and new commitments related to violence against workers, migrant worker protections, and workplace discrimination. However, we have concerns that the Government of Mexico is not in compliance with the USMCA's labor commitments, particularly with regard to the core obligation to effectively enforce its new labor laws. Moving forward, we urge you and your team to not only evaluate the effectiveness of USMCA's existing provisions in ensuring strong labor standards, but to assess and improve the new Rapid Response Labor Mechanism and Mexico's enforcement process.

We also believe a successful agreement is only possible when our workers' unions, including the United Auto Workers (UAW), the United Steel Workers (USW), and the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM), have a seat at the negotiating table, allowing for full consideration of their proposals. As part of this consideration, we urge you to prioritize ways to further strengthen working conditions, ensure job security, and raise labor standards, including wage, health, safety, and environmental standards, for American workers across sectors. We also ask that any future agreement consider improved labor rights and quality of life for all North American workers, not just American

workers, to secure the success of USMCA's labor standards. We understand these goals cannot necessarily be accomplished by the review and possible renegotiation of the USMCA on its own. We ask that you work with Congress to develop, pass, and implement the legislation needed to ensure these critical goals are accomplished.

While the U.S. is facing extreme competition from China and other global competitors, finding ways to strengthen opportunities for trade and investment in North America will be critical to defending our domestic supply chains and lifting up workers. An improved USMCA can be a key cornerstone of that effort, and we stand ready to help make that a reality. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



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Gary C. Peters  
United States Senator



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Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senator



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Tammy Baldwin  
United States Senator



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Tina Smith  
United States Senator



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Elissa Slotkin  
United States Senator