

January 26, 2021

The Honorable Ron Wyden, Chairman
The Honorable Mike Crapo, Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Finance
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Wyden and Ranking Member Crapo:

The undersigned food and agriculture trade associations respectfully urge confirmation of Katherine Tai to be U.S. Trade Representative.

Our associations represent the vast majority of the food and agriculture sector accounting for roughly one-fifth of the country's economic activity, directly supporting more than 23 million jobs – constituting nearly 15 percent of total U.S. employment.

Ms. Tai is eminently qualified and deeply familiar with the mission of the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative in opening foreign markets and reducing barriers for U.S. food and agriculture workers and exporters for the benefit of consumers in the U.S. and across the globe. We especially value Ms. Tai's demonstrated ability to build bipartisan support for trade policies. We submit that these capabilities are essential to the success of the next Trade Representative in addressing the most pressing trade policy issues, including trade relationship challenges with China and the European Union, as well as enforcement of existing trade agreements and tackling non-tariff barriers to trade. We believe that Ms. Tai has the experience and expertise to secure greater market access for U.S. products and ensure enforcement of clear and fair rules with our trade partners so U.S. food and agriculture workers and our industry sectors may fairly compete in the global economy.

Please feel free to call upon any of the undersigned associations to expand upon our rationale for supporting the nomination of Katherine Tai.

Sincerely,

Agribusiness Council of Indiana

Agricultural Retailers Association

Almond Alliance of California

American Bakers Association

American Beekeeping Federation

American Dairy Products Institute

American Farm Bureau Federation

American Feed Industry Association

American Fruit and Vegetable Processors and
Growers Coalition

American Seed Trade Association

American Soybean Association

American Sugar Alliance

Animal Health Institute

Association of Equipment Manufacturers

Biotechnology Innovation Organization

California Association of Winegrape Growers

California Cherry Export Association

California Fresh Fruit Association

California Grain and Feed Association

California League of Food Processors	Michigan Pork Producers Association
California Pear Growers Association	Midwest Food Products Associations, Inc.
California Table Grape Commission	Milk Producers Council
Colorado Dairy Farmers	Minnesota Grain and Feed Association
Consumer Brands Association	Minnesota Pork Producers Association
Corn Refiners Association	Missouri Pork Association
Cotton Warehouse Association of America	National Association of State Departments of Agriculture
Crop Insurance Professionals Association	National Association of Wheat Growers
Dairy Producers of New Mexico	National Confectioners Association
Distilled Spirits Council of the U.S.	National Corn Growers Association
Farmers for Free Trade	National Cotton Council
Florida Tomato Exchange	National Council of Farmer Cooperatives
FMI - Food Industry Association	National Fisheries Institute
Food Northwest	National Grain and Feed Association
Fresh Produce Association of the Americas	National Milk Producers Federation
Global Cold Chain Alliance	National Oilseed Processors Association
Hop Growers of America	National Pecan Federation
Illinois Pork Producers Assoc.	National Pork Producers Council
Imperial Valley Asparagus Growers Association	National Potato Council
Indiana Dairy Producers	National Sorghum Producers
Institute of Shortening and Edible Oils	National Turkey Federation
International Dairy Foods Association	Nebraska Grain and Feed Association
Iowa Pork Producers Association	New York Pork Producers
Iowa State Dairy Association	North American Export Grain Association
Kansas Dairy Association	North American Meat Institute
Kansas Grain and Feed Association	North American Millers' Association
Kansas Pork Association	North American Renderers Association
Leather & Hide Council of America	North Carolina Pork Council
Maryland & Virginia Milk Producers	Northeast Agribusiness and Feed Alliance
Meat Import Council of America, Inc.	Northwest Horticultural Council
Michigan Agri-Business Association	Ohio Pork Council
Michigan Apple Association	

Oklahoma Grain & Feed Association
Oregon Dairy Farmers Association
Oregon Feed and Grain Association
Organic Trade Association
Pacific Northwest Grain & Feed Association
Panhandle Peanut Growers Association
Pet Food Institute
Produce Marketing Association
Rocky Mountain Agribusiness Association
SNAC International
South Dakota Dairy Producers
South East Dairy Farmers Association
Southwest Council of Agribusiness
Sweetener Users Association
Tennessee Feed and Grain Association
Tennessee Pork Producers Association
Texas Grain and Feed Association
The Hardwood Federation
U.S. Apple Association
U.S. Dairy Export Council
U.S. Wheat Associates
United Fresh Produce Association
United States Peanut Federation
US Rice Producers Association
USA Poultry and Egg Export Council
USA Rice Federation
Virginia Pork Council
Washington Apple Commission
Western Growers
Western Peanut Growers Association
WineAmerica
Wisconsin Agri-Business Association