

February 13, 2018

US House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Member of Congress:

On the behalf of the Retail Industry Leaders Association (RILA), I write to request that you vote **YES** on H.R. 4979, which would renew the General System of Preferences (GSP) program for three years. The GSP program is an important program that helps to boost economic growth in the developing world by providing preferential duty-free entry for a variety of products.

By way of background, RILA is the trade association of the world's largest and most innovative retail companies. RILA members include more than 200 retailers, product manufacturers, and service suppliers, which together account for more than \$1.5 trillion in annual sales, millions of American jobs and more than 100,000 stores, manufacturing facilities and distribution centers domestically and abroad.

It is vital that businesses know they can rely on GSP to maintain stable supply chains and predictable duty savings under the GSP program. Duty-free entry into the United States for eligible products under the GSP program not only helps make U.S. manufacturers more competitive and allows U.S. retailers to provide a variety of consumer goods at more affordable prices for American families, but it also benefits the world's poorest countries. It is estimated that tens of thousands of American jobs depend on the GSP program.

RILA urges the House of Representatives to renew GSP as quickly as possible. If you should have any questions, please contact me at [hun.quach@rila.org](mailto:hun.quach@rila.org) or by phone at (703) 600-2041.

Sincerely,



Hun Quach  
Vice President, International Trade