

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 17, 2019

Ambassador Robert Lighthizer
Office of the United States Trade Representative
600 17th St NW
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Ambassador Lighthizer:

We write to you today about ongoing negotiations between the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) and the Government of India over a series of trade issues, including the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) program.

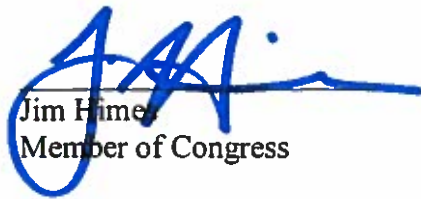
There are legitimate complaints about Indian policies that negatively affect U.S. companies trying to access its market, including a number of longstanding issues that have been subject to intergovernmental talks for years. As you know, several U.S. industries filed petitions under GSP's market access criterion, which were accepted for review in April 2018. Ultimately, failure to make sufficient progress on the issues led to termination of India's GSP eligibility on June 5, 2019.

We take these complaints seriously and share your strong desire to see them resolved. We are encouraged to see continued engagement between the Administration and the newly elected Government of India that assumed office in late May, including visits by senior USTR and Indian officials over the summer. The change in government provides a fresh opportunity to address outstanding concerns, and we hope that new Indian officials will offer concrete solutions that improve market access for American companies and workers.

We also have a strong desire to see GSP eligibility for India reinstated. Should there be progress in negotiations, we hope you will use the tools provided by the GSP statute as warranted, such as partial reinstatement. An "early harvest" approach would ensure that long-sought market access gains for U.S. industries are not held up by negotiations over remaining issues, thereby providing swift relief for both American exporters and importers. Resolving some individual issues quickly could build momentum for future successes.

We look forward to working with you on trade policies that support American companies and workers, including improved market access for U.S. exports to India and reinstated GSP eligibility for U.S. imports from India. Just as U.S. industries are harmed by lack of fair and reciprocal access to India's market, American companies and workers also are harmed by new tariffs due to GSP termination. The costs are real for our constituents and growing every day. We urge you to continue negotiations and consider an "early harvest" to help American jobs that depend on two-way trade between the United States and India.

Sincerely,



Jim Himes
Member of Congress



Ron Estes
Member of Congress




Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress




Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress



Doug LaMalfa
Member of Congress



Jackie Walorski
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Member of Congress

Pete Olson


Pete Olson
Member of Congress

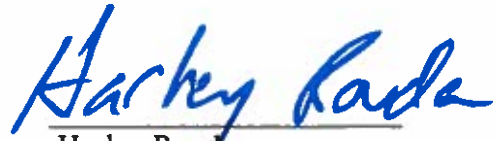
C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger

Dutch Ruppersberger
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Harley Rouda
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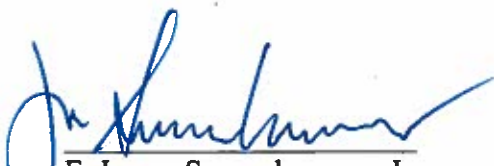

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