

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 11, 2020

The Honorable Robert Lighthizer
U.S. Trade Representative
Executive Office of the President
600 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Ambassador Lighthizer:

We write to express our strong support for President Trump's robust and active U.S. trade agenda in 2020. As you carry out this agenda, we urge you to protect American innovators by negotiating and enforcing high intellectual property (IP) standards globally, and we look forward to partnering with you to achieve those objectives.

Strong, certain, and predictable IP rights have made the United States home to the world's leading innovators across all sectors. These industries rely on IP rights to invent and manufacture cutting-edge products and technologies and create millions of high-paying jobs. Continued U.S. leadership in these sectors requires constant and targeted protection of American IP abroad. To that end, the year ahead offers many significant opportunities to make clear that the United States will not allow discriminatory IP practices or unfair market access barriers that limit opportunities for innovative U.S. goods and services.

In the near term, the U.S. Trade Representative's (USTR) forthcoming Special 301 Report offers a crucial chance to highlight the continued commitment to promoting strong innovation and IP standards abroad. It should send a clear signal to our trading partners that the U.S. will not tolerate discriminatory acts and policies that violate American IP, freeride on U.S. innovation, or impose artificial price controls that limit U.S. companies' access to foreign markets.

We view the recently-announced Phase One agreement between the U.S. and China as a foundation from which to pursue additional global progress. We applaud the Administration for achieving this historic agreement, which commits China to address numerous longstanding concerns, including inadequate protection of American patents, copyrights, trademarks, trade secrets, and geographic indications. Negotiations with the United Kingdom, European Union, Japan, India, and others offer further opportunities to ensure that our trading partners value U.S. innovation and protect American IP. The successful conclusion and enforcement of ambitious trade agreements can increase U.S. exports and expand opportunities for workers employed in America's most cutting-edge industries.

We look forward to working with you this year to promote President Trump's ambitious trade agenda and to ensure that the United States remains the global leader in the world's most innovative and IP-intensive industries.

Sincerely,



JACKIE WALORSKI
Member of Congress



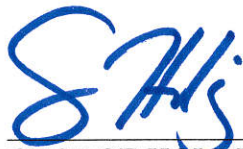
ADRIAN SMITH
Member of Congress



KENNY MARCHANT
Member of Congress



TOM REED
Member of Congress



GEORGE HOLDING
Member of Congress



DAVID SCHWEIKERT
Member of Congress



DARIN LAHOOD
Member of Congress



JODEY C. ARRINGTON
Member of Congress



A. DREW FERGUSON, IV
Member of Congress