June 20, 2019

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader McConnell, Leader McCarthy, and Leader Schumer,

As governors, we support smart and strategic trade agreements that promote economic growth in our states and expand opportunities for our workers, farmers, and manufacturers. Nearly 25 years after the passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement, it is time to update our trade policies with two of our most critical trading partners. The United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) is a comprehensive, 21st century trade agreement that protects workers across the nation, establishes a level playing field among the United States and our partners, and encourages free and fair trade.

Completion of the trade agreement is critical to our states as we seek to boost economic development and encourage new investment that leads to job creation. The USMCA modernizes our trade agreement with Canada and Mexico to account for stronger protections for trade secrets, intellectual property, anticorruption, and digital trade. The USMCA also expands access to markets for our farmers and ranchers and reduces barriers for agricultural markets. Beyond that,
the USMCA strengthens prohibitions on the importation of goods produced by forced labor and ensures stronger protections for migrant workers.

As chief executives of our states, we urge Congress to pass the USMCA quickly so American workers can begin reaping the benefits of improved trade with our North American neighbors. Passing the agreement quickly will give our small and large businesses the stability and predictability they need to expand, invest, and create more jobs.

We are committed to working with you as well as the President to ensure that the USMCA is ratified this Congress. We look forward to expanding the opportunities for our states to engage and prosper in international trade while continuing our longstanding partnerships with Canada and Mexico.

Sincerely,

Governor Eric Holcomb  
State of Indiana  

Governor Kay Ivey  
State of Alabama  

Governor Mike Dunleavy  
State of Alaska  

Governor Doug Ducey  
State of Arizona  

Governor Asa Hutchinson  
State of Arkansas  

Governor Ron DeSantis  
State of Florida  

Governor Brian Kemp  
State of Georgia  

Governor Brad Little  
State of Idaho  

Governor Kim Reynolds  
State of Iowa  

Governor Matt Bevin  
Commonwealth of Kentucky  

Governor Larry Hogan  
State of Maryland  

Governor Charlie Baker  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts  

Governor Phil Bryant  
State of Mississippi  

Governor Mike Parson  
State of Missouri  

Governor Pete Ricketts  
State of Nebraska
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Governor Chris Sununu
State of New Hampshire

Governor Doug Burgum
State of North Dakota

Governor Ralph Torres
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Governor Mike DeWine
State of Ohio

Governor Kevin Stitt
State of Oklahoma

Governor Henry McMaster
State of South Carolina

Governor Kristi Noem
State of South Dakota

Governor Bill Lee
State of Tennessee

Governor Greg Abbott
State of Texas

Governor Gary Herbert
State of Utah

Governor Phil Scott
State of Vermont

Governor Jim Justice
State of West Virginia

Governor Mark Gordon
State of Wyoming