

What's Missing from the New U.S. Trade Deal?

NO new U.S. job creation...

NO protection from offshoring...

NO exclusion of foreign investor rights that undermine environmental and health laws...

NO defense of Buy America laws...

NO protection of prevailing wage laws...

...NO DEAL!

Working People Oppose Bush-Congress Trade Deal

We call on Congress to create a trade model that deals with the realities of the 21st century and allows America's workers, not just corporations and CEOs, to enjoy the benefits of today's global economy.

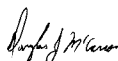

Anna Burger
Chair
Change to Win

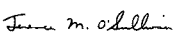

Edgar Romney
Secretary-Treasurer
Change to Win


Joseph T. Hansen
International President
United Food and Commercial Workers Union

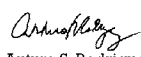

James P. Hoffa
General President
International Brotherhood of Teamsters


Geraldyn Lutty
International Vice President
United Food and Commercial Workers Union


Douglas J. McCarron
General President
United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America


Terence M. O'Sullivan
General President
Laborers' International Union of North America


Bruce Raynor
General President
UNITE HERE


Auturo S. Rodriguez
President
United Farm Workers of America


Andrew L. Stern
International President
SEIU



May 11, 2007

Teamsters Oppose Trade Deal That Sells Out American Workers

Official Statement by Teamsters General President Jim Hoffa

(Washington, D.C.) – Teamsters General President Jim Hoffa released the following statement today about new trade policy guidelines forged by House Democratic leaders in Congress and the Bush administration:

To my great disappointment, House Democratic leaders in Congress joined with the Bush administration yesterday to announce a trade “deal” that sells out American workers.

I am baffled as to why there is such eagerness to give this president—who is unwilling to enforce current labor and trade laws—a victory by continuing to pass more NAFTA/CAFTA-like trade models that send good-paying jobs overseas.

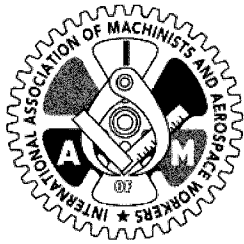
The deal, which is wrongly dubbed “A New Trade Policy For America,” does nothing to protect American jobs or help create more jobs at home. The race to the bottom will only continue.

Therefore, this “deal” is NO DEAL for the Teamsters or American workers, and we will fight like hell to oppose this shortsighted agreement.

There are many members of Congress who know the reality of having their communities destroyed and broken as a result of bad trade and globalization policies. So I question why there was so much urgency to have a “deal,” especially without the support and backing of all of organized labor and the workers we represent.

We are pleased that these negotiations have resulted in enforceable labor and environmental chapters, including making core International Labor Organization standards enforceable. But this will not prevent the offshoring of jobs, nor will it lead to the creation of jobs. The Democratic majority should have delivered more to American workers.

Available at: http://www.teamster.org/07news/nr_070511_1.asp



May 14, 2007

Machinists Union Opposed to More Flawed Trade Deals

Washington D.C. - The International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM) today announced it will vigorously oppose any trade deal that fails to fully incorporate internationally recognized labor standards as defined by the International Labor Organization (ILO) Conventions.

“The actual text of the agreement has not yet been made available and widely varying reports of its contents raise serious and troubling questions,” said IAM International President Tom Buffenbarger. “Any agreement must be clear and unambiguous with respect to *all* of its provisions.”

Based on initial reports, the IAM is highly suspicious that the trade deal is seriously deficient in many respects. In addition to concerns over internationally recognized labor standards and adequate enforcement mechanisms, the IAM is also raising questions over other provisions of the proposed trade deal, including procurement and investment issues.

“The Machinists Union will vigorously oppose any trade agreement that does not benefit our members,” said IAM International President Tom Buffenbarger. “This Administration has demonstrated all too often its unwillingness to defend workers’ interests and enforce our trade laws.”

The IAM is one of the largest industrial trade unions in the U.S., representing more than 700,000 active and retired members under more than 4,000 contracts in transportation, aerospace, manufacturing, shipbuilding, electronics and defense related industries. For more information, visit www.goiam.org.

Available at: <http://www.goiam.org/content.cfm?cID=10482>



Taking the Initiative

Carl Pope

- Sierra Club Executive Director

Tuesday, May 15, 2007

Are These Trade Agreements Free or Fair?

Washington, DC – Late last week Washington was buzzing about a trade “deal” between the Congressional Democratic leadership and the White House. The deal is based on a “concept paper” and has been commonly described as an agreement to include labor and environmental rights in future trade agreements. The business community has been singing the praises of this document while environmentalists and labor groups have been expressing reactions ranging from the skeptical to the downright hostile. Democrats from high tech exporting states are singing its praises; those from manufacturing states are dubious.

It appears, although I’m far from certain, that the agreement most directly impacts the pending trade agreements with Peru and Panama; the concern is that it may also be extended to much more controversial deals with South Korea and Colombia. On the positive side, the deal apparently does eliminate the loophole in earlier agreements by which international treaties on the environment could be violated with impunity by both parties. It also includes new language aimed at stopping the illegal logging – especially of mahogany – from Peru, and gives the environmental provision the same level of enforcement as the other parts of the agreement (although not the same as the extreme rights granted to corporations to directly attack environmental and public health measures. More on this below).

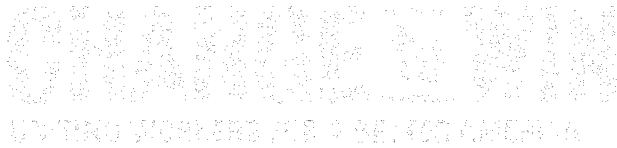
But fundamentally what the brewing controversy shows is just how far trade agreements had migrated from any reasonable balance. These deals have not been about free trade for some time, but about trade managed for the benefit of multinationals. As a result, trade has, its strongest advocates now concede, been bad for the American economy since 1995. Yesterday’s *New York Times* hailed the good news of a shrinking trade deficit, but in a stunning “by the by” the *Times* also said that, as a result, the narrowed gap “would allow trade to contribute to economic growth in the United States for the first time in more than a decade.” That’s right – the traded economists the *Times* quoted stated quite calmly that since 1995 trade has, overall, slowed down US economic growth. Why? Because the deals we have been negotiating have been so heavily stacked in favor of corporations that want to produce overseas and import into the US.

What do I mean by saying these agreements are unbalanced? Well, if a signatory to a typical trade agreement violates the patent protection rights of a US drug manufacturer to provide cheaper life saving medicines for its population, the drug company can bring a legal action against it. But if the same country brings down drug prices for import into the US by using forced labor, a union can’t do anything about it. If Peru revokes a logging concession granted to US timber companies, regardless of the fairness of the original agreement, the timber company can sue for damages. But if the same US timber company illegally logs Peruvian mahogany and imports it into the US, a sustainable US hardwood competitor can’t file for damages – even under the proposed, “environmentally more friendly” terms being talked about.

Certain laws – those which protect businesses – are given a special priority, and companies can use trade agreements to sue governments for cash compensation if a pesky environmental or public health measure stand in the way of their profits. Neither unions nor environmental groups have the rights given to businesses to make sure that worker's rights and the environment are protected; for this they would have to depend on the US government which, under its present leadership, is hardly a reliable cop on the beat.

The agreements reached on Peru and Panama do seem to represent progress, and we applaud the Democratic leadership for their work. But we are starting from such a bad baseline – trade deals which are neither free nor fair – that we have a long way to go, much further than Washington has agreed to this week.

Available at: <http://www.sierraclub.org/carlpope/2007/05/are-these-trade-agreements-free-or-fair.asp>



May 11, 2007

Labor Opposes Bush-Congress Trade Deal

The following is a statement by Anna Burger, Chair of Change to Win:

WASHINGTON DC – “On behalf of the six million members of Change to Win unions and its Leadership Council, we are disappointed that House Democratic leaders joined with the Bush Administration yesterday to announce a trade deal that is more free than fair.

The agreement does not represent the basis for the type of new U.S. trade policy that this nation desperately needs. Despite improvements in labor and environmental standards, workers remain at risk because the proposal fails to address how to protect U.S. jobs or create new ones. It undermines our prevailing wage and Buy America laws. And it hands foreign firms operating here more privileges over U.S. companies. For working America, that is not a deal.

Quick policy fixes won’t help workers achieve the American Dream in the 21st century– they need a whole new trade model equipped to meet the realities of today’s global economy.

Without significant changes, this agreement opens the door for subsequent harmful trade policies that resemble NAFTA/CAFTA – trade deals that have led to the loss of millions of good jobs at home, a surge in undocumented immigration, the soaring trade deficit, declining wages, and a deterioration of labor standards.

Change to Win stands for fair trade that promotes prosperity at home and abroad so that workers can achieve the American Dream in an era of globalization. Fair trade helps create standards that will stimulate development, protect and create new U.S. jobs, and maintain high wage standards around the globe – the Peru/Panama trade agreement falls far short of this.

It’s time for an alternative approach to this current failed model. We call on Congress to get back to work craft meaningful policies in current and future trade negotiations. We need to ensure that workers, not just corporations and CEOs, fairly share in the benefits of today’s global economy.”

Available at: <http://www.changetowin.org/for-the-media/press-releases-and-statements/labor-opposes-bush-congress-trade-deal.html>



May 11, 2007

Statement by AFL-CIO President John Sweeney on U.S. Trade Policy Developments

America's trade policy has been broken for decades. Living standards have been depressed. Families have been squeezed. Our trade deals have cost millions of jobs and encouraged exploitation of workers and the environment.

I commend Chairman Rangel for the substantial progress made in improving workers' rights and environmental standards in the Peru and Panama Free Trade Agreements. But our trade policy will not be fixed overnight. The Bush Administration's consistent unwillingness to enforce trade violations against nations like Jordan and China reminds us there is no guarantee the executive branch will enforce any new rights workers may gain through these negotiations. And President Bush has negotiated a flawed agreement with gross human rights violator Colombia and a losing, one-sided agreement with South Korea.

We agree with Speaker Pelosi and Chairman Rangel that the progress on workers' rights and the environment does not clear the way for other flawed agreements, and we will vigorously oppose the Colombia and South Korea agreements and renewal of Fast Track trade authority.

While recognizing the real progress made in the approach taken with Peru and Panama on workers' rights and the environment, we reserve final judgment until we have reviewed the agreements in their entirety.

We also remain concerned that the agreement fails to adequately address issues related to the outsourcing of U.S. jobs and the ability of foreign corporations to challenge U.S. laws, among others.

One standard will guide the AFL-CIO: U.S. trade policy must serve the interests of America's working families and workers around the globe.

Available at: <http://www.aflcio.org/mediacenter/prsptm/pr05112007a.cfm>



Monday, May 14, 2007

Reaction from Public Health, AIDS Organizations to Democratic Leadership-Bush Administration Announcement on Trade Policy

On Friday May 11, the House Democratic leadership and the Bush Administration announced an agreement on trade issues, including patent and access-to-medicines-related provisions of trade agreements with Peru and Panama.

We remain concerned that while some first steps have been taken to lessen the harm of U.S. trade agreements, it is still the case that, if passed by Congress, these trade agreements with Peru and Panama will restrict rather than expand access to lifesaving medicines.

The first thing that must be said about the agreement is: nothing definitive can be said until more details emerge, and final textual amendments are presented. In the case of trade agreements, details and specificity are of crucial importance.

A better process would have involved a transparent discussion of key issues, and an opportunity for more structured input and comment on unfolding details from Members of Congress and the public. That better process could only have yielded a better outcome.

On the substance, it appears the Democratic leadership has taken some first steps to make U.S. trade agreements less harmful to public health. It is not true, as some news accounts have suggested, that the May 11 deal will limit brand-name drug companies' patent and related monopolies. In a best-case scenario, what the deal will do is limit the extent to which U.S. trade agreements expand brand-name drug companies' monopolies.

However, arguing about how to make trade deals "less harmful" is the wrong framework. When it comes to public health, the United States should aspire to a higher standard: first, and at minimum, to do no harm; and second, to use international agreements to address access-to-medicines, efficient innovation of medical technologies and other pressing global public health priorities. Trade agreements modified in accord with the May 11 announcement will fail to meet that test.

More will be required in order to meet previously guaranteed rights that countries can prioritize public health and take measures to guarantee access to medicines for all. The Democratic leadership was not able to eliminate all of the life-threatening provisions in U.S. trade agreements, which themselves build on a World Trade Organization framework that is already heavily biased to favor Big Pharma.

For example, the preservation of data exclusivity alone is a gigantic gift to Big Pharma. Data exclusivity -- rules preventing generics from relying on clinical test data from brand-name companies -- is Big Pharma's top agenda item for trade deals, and a major impediment to generic competition. In addition, the reported time limits and exceptions to data exclusivity announced on May 11 may be narrower than initially reported.

Moreover, it is very dangerous to give any additional latitude to an administration that has shown itself to operate in bad faith on access-to-medicines issues. Just last month, USTR placed Thailand on the "priority watch" list for lawfully issuing compulsory licenses. Formal rights preserved in free trade agreements are of limited value if USTR is going to apply informal pressure, use the Special 301 process, and coerce countries during trade agreement implementation phases -- all to undermine access-to-medicines initiatives.

Developing countries should be free from agreements and USTR pressures that restrict their rights to use all available flexibilities for accessing more affordable generic medicines to meet their public health needs. Members of Congress should insist on a new approach to access to medicines issues with trading partners, rather than accepting a partial package of reforms.



May 11, 2007

USW Raises Serious Concerns about Proposed Trade Deal Reached with Bush Administration

Pittsburgh – The United Steelworkers (USW) is raising serious concerns about a proposed agreement on trade reached yesterday between the Bush administration and the House Democratic leadership.

In a statement issued today, the USW said, “We are deeply disappointed that neither the Democratic caucus nor the Labor Movement were fully briefed about the details of the proposed agreement before those who negotiated it were publicly proclaiming its virtues.

“Until we have been fully briefed and have reviewed the details of the agreement, we will withhold judgment on how much progress, if any, has actually been achieved. But, from what we have learned so far, unlike protections provided for corporations and intellectual property, the enforcement of labor and environmental standards would be left to the devices of the Bush administration, which refused for more than six years to pursue its first, modest steps to rein in China’s violations of our trade rules.

“Unless we have assurances that the trade deals currently before Congress, including renewal of Fast Track authority, will not be left to the devices of the Bush administration, we will be hard pressed to support this agreement.”

Available at: <http://www.uswa.org/uswa/program/content/4016.php>



May 14, 2007

Statement by Defenders of Wildlife, Earthjustice, Friends of the Earth, Sierra Club Regarding Trade and Environment Deal

It is time for a fundamentally new direction for our trade policy. We commend the Democratic leadership for achieving important environmental progress in the Peru and Panama Free Trade Agreements (FTAs), particularly by requiring enforcement of certain environmental treaties and by addressing trade in illegally-logged timber, especially mahogany. The timber-related provisions can be particularly important for Peru's Amazon region, one of the most biologically diverse areas on the planet and home to thousands of endangered and threatened species.

While we are encouraged by the progress made on environmental concerns, we will evaluate the entire text of the Peru and Panama FTAs once the agreements are finalized in negotiations to assess their implications for environmental protection. We also strongly believe that environmental protections and protections for worker rights and human rights must go hand-in-hand.

Indeed, this is just the start of a process to ensure that trade agreements support, rather than undermine, environmental protection. Although last week's agreement reflects progress on environmental issues in the Peru and Panama FTAs, it is not a sufficient template for trade agreements generally or for presidential trade negotiating authority. FTAs will still provide foreign corporations the right to directly attack public health and environmental measures, and will not fully protect environmental laws from other trade challenges.

There is much work to be done to achieve the reforms of both substance and process necessary to make U.S. trade policy consistent with sustainable development and environmental protection. We will therefore vigorously oppose any efforts to extend or renew the current model of negotiating authority.

President Bush has established the worst environmental record in modern history, particularly on matters of worldwide concern such as global warming. In light of the administration's six years of inaction on and disregard for pressing environmental concerns, we will examine closely whether it is sincere in moving forward on trade and environmental protection.

Available at: <http://www.sierraclub.org/pressroom/releases/pr2007-05-15.asp>



May 15, 2007

Peru, Panama Trade Deals Don't Address Cattle Industry Concerns

Washington, D.C. – Last week, the House Ways and Means Committee (Committee) announced it had reached an agreement with the Administration regarding the Peru and Panama Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) that would allow both deals to move forward through Congress. Unfortunately, the Committee included absolutely no language that would address U.S. agricultural concerns – specifically those of the U.S. live cattle industry – and none of the U.S. Trade Representative's (USTR's) fact sheets deal with agricultural concerns either.

The primary objective of the Committee, it appears, was to strengthen environmental and labor standards in these two FTAs, and future FTAs.

“It is critically important that when Congress and USTR actually change the text of these FTAs that they include language that will serve the U.S. cattle industry,” said R-CALF USA Region VII Director Eric Nelson, who also chairs the group's International Trade Committee.

“R-CALF members feel strongly that Trade Promotion Authority (TPA), or Fast-Track Authority, should not be granted to the President,” Nelson continued. “We want Congress to retain authority to amend specific provisions in trade agreements that would harm the U.S. cattle industry, though the remainder of the agreement might appear to benefit other industries.

R-CALF USA has been working with USTR to seek the following general improvements that are important to the U.S. cattle industry:

1. The classification of cattle and beef as perishable and cyclical items, and considered like/kind products.
2. The establishment of quantity and price safeguards.
3. The strengthening of rules of origin (born, raised and slaughtered).
4. The upward harmonization of import health and safety standards.

“Several years ago, Congress instructed USTR to improve import relief mechanisms to recognize the unique characteristics of perishable and cyclical products, including livestock and meat products,” Nelson pointed out. “The Trade Act of 2002 lists this goal among the principal congressional negotiating objectives for all trade agreements.

“In the Peru FTA, Peru negotiated a safeguard for its imports of U.S. beef, but the U.S. did *not* obtain any reciprocal safeguards on its imports of beef from Peru, despite the clear instructions from Congress to improve those import relief mechanisms for these products,” he continued. “If Peru were to ramp up its exports to the U.S. and ship more than its quota allocation of beef to the

United States, quantity and price safeguards would be the last line of defense to shield U.S. cattle producers from abrupt increases in supplies and declines in prices.

“R-CALF also is concerned that the Peru FTA will grant preferential access to Peruvian beef products even if they are derived from cattle shipped into Peru from third countries – including Brazil with a herd of more than 190 million cattle – which greatly expands the potential supply of cattle that could be slaughtered and exported to the U.S.,” Nelson said. “The U.S. should include in *all* FTAs a ‘born, raised and slaughtered (BRS) rule of origin’ for beef to ensure that third countries can’t exploit the preferential market access benefits intended for our FTA partners.

“Also of concern is the presence of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) in that region, and R-CALF wants to make sure that U.S. import restrictions applicable to FMD-affected countries not be subject to revision,” he commented.

“With each of these elements in place, the potential harm to our domestic cattle industry can be minimized,” Nelson concluded. “These steps also will help build support in the domestic cattle industry for fair and balanced trade, as well as help safeguard the livelihoods of thousands of independent U.S. cattle producers.”

Since 2000, R-CALF USA membership-set policy has been: 1) to oppose all further fast-track trade negotiating authority; 2) to make certain that strong health and safety standards are in place for imported live and processed product; 3) to put international trade policy in the hands of our elected officials in Washington, D.C.; and, 4) to work with groups to facilitate U.S. withdrawal from trade organizations and treaties that usurp the power of Congress or weaken the U.S. Constitution or our national sovereignty.

Note: To view the Committee’s letter to USTR and its changes to the Peru and Panama FTAs, as well as USTR’s fact sheets, please visit the “International Trade” link at www.r-calfusa.com.

Available at: <http://www.r-calfusa.com/News%20Releases/051507-peru.htm>

UNITED STATES BUSINESS & INDUSTRY COUNCIL (USBIC)

Fighting for American Companies and American Jobs Since 1939

May 11, 2007

Domestic Manufacturers Group Says “New Trade Policy” Ignores Producers’ and Workers’ Real Interests

WASHINGTON, D.C. The “New Trade Policy” compromise announced yesterday by House Democratic leaders, House Republicans, and the Bush administration will become a simple sell-out of U.S. producer and worker interests if not quickly accompanied by more fundamental changes in America’s global trade strategy, the U.S. Business and Industry Council (USBIC) charged today.

According to USBIC President Kevin L. Kearns, “Trying to raise world labor and environmental standards through trade policy is a worthy goal. Unfortunately, given the number of third world trading partners and the size of their combined populations, the measures proposed in the New Trade Policy are completely unenforceable. To date the United States has not been able to enforce current trade agreements with provisions on, for example, subsidies or theft of intellectual property. Why would anyone expect a better track record on labor and environmental provisions simply because they too become part of trade agreements? More fundamental changes to trade policy are necessary to accomplish our goals of restoring a healthy manufacturing and technology base, as well as a rising standard of living for all Americans.”

Added Kearns, “This New Trade Policy completely ignores numerous other and vastly more important problems with U.S. trade policy and world trade patterns that are endangering not only America’s economic future, but also the sustainability of the entire global trading system.”

“The biggest such problems,” explained Kearns, “are currency manipulation, pervasive subsidies, intellectual property theft, discrepancies in tax systems (particularly Value Added Tax rebates), and numerous other non-tariff barriers used by most foreign governments to distort world production patterns and trade flows - usually at the expense of U.S. domestic companies and their workers. Further, Washington’s decision to focus trade expansion on low-income countries unable to afford U.S. products, as well as regions addicted to export-led growth strategies, represents a failed approach.”

The latter approach inevitably has helped boost the U.S. trade deficit to already dangerous levels because it involves countries too poor to become consumers of U.S.-made goods but able to become producers of goods destined for the U.S. market. Thus current U.S. trade policy, which is only marginally altered by the New Trade Policy, keeps moving the entire world economy ever closer to a dollar crash and deep depression.

Because of its narrow approach, argued Kearns, the New Trade Policy “is almost completely irrelevant to the interests of America’s domestic manufacturers, farmers, ranchers, and service providers and their employees - not to mention the global imperative of restoring healthy, balanced, and sustainable growth.”

“As a result,” he continued, “the new framework itself won’t change world trade flows one bit and doesn’t address the issues of unfair competitive practices faced every day by U.S. producers and their employees at home and abroad. Nor will it offset the enormous labor glut that is the main cause of rock-bottom third world wages. Therefore, the New Trade Policy won’t preserve or create a single high quality American job or reduce the trade deficit by a penny - much less boost incomes abroad enough to begin to re-balance trade flows.”

In addition, noted Kearns, "The most problematic provisions of the New Trade Policy deal with Strategic Worker Assistance and Training (SWAT), which are naive at best. Promising workers training for good replacement jobs may assuage some consciences but is misleading. Due to current trade policies, this nation is not now creating any jobs in internationally traded industries. These are the higher-paying, better-benefits jobs. Promising portability in health care and pensions likewise sounds good, but these two traditional benefits are being phased out as remaining American businesses try to survive in the globalized economy. As for improving education and technical skills, we have been trying to do so since the Soviets put up Sputnik fifty years ago. No one has yet figured out how to do so successfully. In fact, the best way to assure decent jobs, good incomes, and reasonable benefits is to preserve and expand manufacturing, technology, and high-tech service bases - as well as to see that our farmers and ranchers survive."

"No wonder ardent outsourcers ranging from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce to Republican Congressmen like Jim McCrery and Roy Blunt are so pleased," said Kearns. "They know that this deal will permit multinational companies to continue the unabated increase of their profits by hollowing out America's productive base."

Among the measures USBIC proposes to address America's biggest trade policy challenges include:

- Imposing a moratorium on all new U.S. trade agreements and rejecting renewal of fast track trade negotiating authority for President Bush until the United States figures out how to reduce our massive current account imbalances, to enforce effectively existing trade agreements, and to make trade policy work for all Americans.
- Identifying currency manipulation - along with a host of other similar practices - as a substantial and actionable trade subsidy, and applying countervailing duties against imports from offending countries. This goal could be accomplished through prompt passage of the Ryan-Hunter currency manipulation bill or similar, broader measures that attack subsidies across the board.
- Promptly passing the bipartisan border equalization tax measure about to be introduced by Reps. Bill Pascrell (D-NJ), Michael Michaud (D-ME), Duncan Hunter (R-CA), and Walter Jones (R-NC). This bill would redress the inequities faced by U.S.-based producers by the World Trade Organization's failure to address the trade distortions created by foreign Value Added Tax systems and their rebates to exporters.
- Placing a cap on U.S. trade deficit by limiting it to one percent of GDP. Separate measures introduced in the last Congress by Rep. Michael Michaud (D-ME) and Sen. Byron Dorgan (D.-ND) would prevent the U.S. trade deficit from spiraling out of control and restore the balances necessary to preserve the world trading system.

According to Kearns, "The New Trade Policy represents a small, but likely ineffective, step in the right direction. If we really want to solve the problem of our massive current account deficits and the wrenching dislocations they cause, much stronger medicine is necessary. The longer we wait to take effective action, the more difficult it becomes. USBIC strongly supports the efforts of genuine trade reformers among House Democrats to use the above-mentioned and other related measures to hold their leaders accountable for their promises to turn U.S. trade policy into an engine of domestic growth, not to continue as an incentive to offshoring factories and jobs."

The U.S. Business and Industry Council, founded in 1933, is a national business organization representing roughly 1,500 small and medium-sized domestic U.S. companies, predominantly manufacturers.

Available at: http://www.americaneconomicalert.org/view_art.asp?Prod_ID=2762