



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

rick perry

GOVERNOR

November 21, 2003

The Honorable Robert B. Zoellick
United States Trade Representative
600 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20508

Dear Ambassador Zoellick:

Thank you for your letter about your ongoing trade negotiations. I appreciate your work in this important area and believe Texas will benefit greatly from new trade opportunities through the creation of more jobs for Texans and further growth of the Texas economy.

I am pleased to formally authorize you to offer access to the Texas State government procurement market in new trade agreements that are currently being negotiated. These include trade agreements with Morocco, Australia, the countries of the Central American Common Market (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua), the South African Customs Union (Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa and Swaziland), and the Free Trade Agreement of the Americas. Texas will undertake the same commitments with regard to these new agreements that it has already undertaken under the WTO Agreement on Government Procurement.

Thank you again for your letter and all your work on developing new trade opportunities for the United States and Texas.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature of Rick Perry in black ink.

Rick Perry
Governor

RP:lgp