

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20508

JUN 22 2005

The Honorable Theodore R. Kulongoski
Governor
State Capitol
Salem, Oregon 97301-4047

Dear Governor Kulongoski:

I am writing to acknowledge your letter to Ambassador Zoellick relating to Oregon's decision to not cover its state procurement in the free trade agreements that we are negotiating with Panama and the Andean countries of Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru. As Ambassador Zoellick explained in his letter to you in January, Oregon's decision to not cover its procurement in these agreements means that Oregon businesses will not be assured of access to the sub-central government procurement of these countries.

As you know, I was officially sworn in on April 29, 2005. I am grateful and honored that President Bush has asked me to join his Cabinet as the United States Trade Representative. I plan to pursue an aggressive agenda with a focus on opening new markets, enforcing our trade agreements and trade laws, spreading economic freedom, and working in close partnership with Congress.

I look forward to working with you in this position and learning about issues that are important to you. Please keep in touch.

Sincerely,



Rob Portman