

W O R C

Western Organization of Resource Councils

WORC has adopted the following Trade Bill of Rights to set forth a set of standards for implementing trade agreements and negotiations that benefit farmers, ranchers and consumers of any country impacted by those agreements.

WORC TRADE BILL OF RIGHTS

Adopted June 7, 2003

Preamble

The Western Organization of Resource Councils (WORC) supports a trade system that strengthens the health, environment, food sovereignty, working conditions and labor rights of all countries. Vibrant national economies are essential to a healthy global community and for this reason we support trade laws, agreements and treaties that guarantee the following rights and principles:

Body

- Article I. The right and ability of any nation and its political subdivisions to maintain and operate policies and programs that protect the interests of public health, safety, welfare and services.
- Article II. Adherence to transparent competitive market principles and enactment of adequate anti-trust/anti-dumping remedies in order to prevent and counteract instances of market collusion, predatory practices, and declining market competition.
- Article III. The inspection and testing of imported commodities and products to assure that they are mined, grown and/or produced under standards that are consistent with all domestic laws and regulations.
- Article IV. The importer and/or seller of any commodity, product, or service is liable for any violation of domestic laws and regulations.
- Article V. The jurisdiction and venue for legal challenges to, and violations of domestic laws and regulations shall reside in the pertinent domestic court.
- Article VI. All imported products, services, and commodities shall be purchased in an open, competitive and transparent market system.
- Article VII. All imported products have an identified fair market value that may be used as the basis for a tax to maintain and build the national infrastructure.
- Article VIII. The application of quotas and/or tariffs on any commodity or product of any country when currency exchange rate differences put domestic producers at a competitive disadvantage.
- Article IX. The laws, jurisdiction, or sovereignty of a country and its political subdivisions are not undermined by trade treaties or agreements.
- Article X. Trade treaties and agreements are negotiated and enacted through a transparent democratic process.