



STATE OF MARYLAND
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

ROBERT L. EHRlich, JR.
GOVERNOR

December 12, 2003

Ambassador Robert B. Zoellick
The United States Trade Representative
600 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20508

Dear Ambassador Zoellick,

The State of Maryland authorizes the U.S. Trade Representative to offer access to the Maryland State government procurement market in new trade agreements that USTR is currently negotiating. 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. Maryland will undertake the same commitments with regard to these new agreements that it has already undertaken under the WTO Agreement on Government Procurement.

Very truly yours,

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.
Governor