

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

January 26, 2015

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500-003

Dear Mr. President,

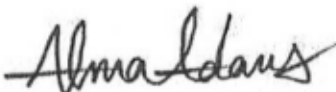
As a new member of Congress, I look forward to working with you to establish trade policies that will create jobs and continue to move our economy forward. However, I want to make clear my concerns with reauthorizing "Fast-Track" Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) for the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). I fear that reauthorizing Fast Track will undermine Congress's ability to determine the nation's economic priorities.

TPP is the most sweeping trade agreement in U.S. History since passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Since TPP is a living agreement that responds to changes in the market, it is important that it is subject to congressional oversight. While fluid trade agreements are beneficial to U.S. exporters, the lessons of NAFTA remind us that they are not always beneficial to our hardworking men and women. That is why congressional oversight is crucial.

In North Carolina, over 27,000 jobs in manufacturing and supporting industries were lost due to previous trade agreements. For example, the closure of one plant, Pillowtex, cost my constituents nearly 6,000 jobs. The debilitating effects of previous free trade agreements are still impacting North Carolinians. My district alone is battling a 13.9 percent unemployment rate and as their elected representative it is my responsibility to address this and work towards achieving the same reduction in unemployment that you have for the nation.

In closing, workers in North Carolina and throughout our entire country cannot afford another devastating wave of job losses. Constituents expect their members of Congress to ensure that international trade agreements are fair. Therefore, I remain committed to working with you and my colleagues in Congress to ensure that America makes fair trade deals that create jobs in the U.S., boost our economy, and create an even playing field for American workers.

Respectfully,



Alma Adams
Member of Congress