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MEDIA ADVISORY:

On Eve of First Round of Talks, House Democrats and Union, Civil Society Representatives Call for a NAFTA Renegotiation Deal They Can Support

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WHAT: Press call at which congressional Democrats, unions and civil society organizations will urge the administration to negotiate a new North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) deal they can support. Speakers include **U.S. Reps Rosa DeLauro (D-Conn.)** and **Tim Ryan (D-Ohio)**; **Celeste Drake, trade policy specialist with the AFL-CIO**; and **Lori Wallach, director Public Citizen’s Global Trade Watch**.

Congressional Democrats, unions and other civil society organizations have long demanded a specific set of changes to NAFTA that, ironically, are necessary to deliver on President Donald Trump’s campaign pledges to make NAFTA “much better” for working people. Absent the removal of NAFTA’s investor privileges and Buy American procurement waiver that promote job offshoring, and absent the addition of strong, enforceable labor and environmental standards and tighter rules of origin, a new deal will not deliver on Trump’s promises to bring down the NAFTA trade deficit or create more American manufacturing jobs. But corporate supporters of the trade status quo and Republican congressional leaders oppose those very changes and seek to revive the Trans-Pacific Partnership by adding elements of that deal Trump opposes to NAFTA.

As the first round of NAFTA renegotiations start Wednesday in Washington, D.C., the administration must decide which approach it will take. At the press call, leaders of the campaign that denied the TPP a congressional majority will call on the administration to create a deal that they can support, which is also the deal that could deliver on Trump’s political pledges. The speakers will discuss the necessary changes to NAFTA, the congressional majority that could pass a deal based on such an approach and the

likelihood that a deal based on the TPP model demanded by corporate interests and GOP congressional leaders would be unable to garner a congressional majority.

WHO: U.S. Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-Conn.)

U.S. Rep. Tim Ryan (D-Ohio)

Celeste Drake, trade policy specialist, AFL-CIO

Lori Wallach, director, Public Citizen's Global Trade Watch