

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-3001**

PLEASE REPLY TO:

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January 12, 2015

The President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500-0003

Dear Mr. President,

I write to express my deep commitment to working together with you to establish trade policies that will continue to foster American job growth and economic development. However, I have serious reservations about potentially undermining Congress's ability to determine the nation's economic priorities by reauthorizing "Fast-Track" Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) for the passage of Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) in their current forms.

Having served for years as a leader in the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, President of the Southern New Jersey Building Trades Council, and President of the Southern New Jersey AFL-CIO Central Labor Council, I am acutely aware of the dangers of unbalanced trade agreements. I have seen firsthand the side effects of previous "Free Trade" agreements like the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), the World Trade Organization (WTO), and the US-Korea Free Trade Agreement (KORUS). In my area alone there has been a net loss of 19,500 manufacturing jobs with multiple companies having to close their doors entirely since those agreements came into force. Not only are these job losses devastating on the workers and their families, the loss of jobs at these magnitudes have catastrophic effects on the local economies as well as state and federal coffers which provide assistance programs. These trade deals were not the fair and balanced approach we were promised. Although it is undeniable many of these agreements have increased trade, they came with the price tag of over five million American manufacturing jobs lost.

As we are in the midst of negotiating one of the largest trade deals in human history, our nation continues to see an increasing number of manufacturing jobs move overseas. This is not the time to ask Congress to forfeit its responsibilities as The People's representatives and stewards of the economy. The trade deals we make in their name must not merely offer the promise of future economic benefits; they must be fair to those who are currently working hard at their jobs. We must continue laying foundations to grow the middle class of the future while ensuring that today's workforce is protected and provided with job security. We must not risk our nation's economic progress in exchange for the mere chance of future growth.

After the effects of NAFTA, WTO, and KORUS, American workers expect members of Congress, as their representatives, to ensure that our international trade agreements treat them fairly. Therefore, I remain committed to working with you and my colleagues in Congress to ensure that America makes fair trade deals that continue to create jobs in the U.S., boost economic activity, and treat American workers are fairly.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Donald Norcross", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Donald Norcross  
Member of Congress