



May 15, 2017

Hon. Robert Lighthizer
United States Trade Representative
600 17th Street NW
Washington, DC 20508

Dear Ambassador Lighthizer:

We write to offer our congratulations on your confirmation to serve as the next United States Trade Representative. We have no doubt that your depth of experience in international trade matters will serve the nation well as we embark on a new era of global commerce.

Please know that the Border Trade Alliance is ready and willing to lend its over 30 years of experience in North American cross-border trade issues to you and your team as you assess your office's near and long-term action items, specifically as they relate to the North American Free Trade Agreement.

The BTA was a staunch supporter of NAFTA at the time of the agreement's negotiation and implementation, and we remain so today.

We recognize, however, that after nearly a quarter century of existence there are areas of the agreement that are due for an update. As your office sets about preparing for NAFTA's modernization and renegotiation with Canada and Mexico, we encourage you to establish an inclusive stakeholder process that ensures the input of organizations that have seen both the benefits and shortcomings of NAFTA throughout its history.

On issues ranging from energy, to financial services, to infrastructure, to customs operations, the BTA looks forward to sharing its recommendations with you and our trade partners on how we can ensure that North America remains the most competitive economic region in the world.

Congratulations again on your confirmation. We are excited to work with you and hope you won't hesitate to contact us if we may be of any assistance to your office.

Sincerely,

Russell L. Jones
Chairman

Britton Clarke
President