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December 18, 2025

Ambassador Jamieson Greer United States Trade Representative Executive Office of the President 600 17th Street NW Washington, DC 20508

Dear Ambassador Greer:

I write to express my serious concerns with USTR's recent communication to the World Trade Organization (WTO) purporting to repudiate basic rules of the road for international trade that have supported a level playing field for American exporters and producers for decades. Congress has incorporated these principles into U.S. law, and a USTR communication that was prepared and submitted without informing Congress—much less consulting with Congress—does not change the U.S. position.

On December 15, 2025, USTR submitted, on behalf of the United States, a communication to the WTO that indicated, among other things, that the United States no longer supports the principle of most-favored nation (MFN) treatment. MFN is aimed at preventing discriminatory trade practices and promoting equal treatment among trading partners, for example, by ensuring countries are generally applying the same tariff rates to the same products. MFN has been integral to U.S. trade policy and a core principle of the international trading system for nearly 80 years, and it ensures that U.S. goods and services can compete on a level playing field in international markets without being targeted with unfair tariffs or regulations. MFN treatment by and among our trading partners provides certainty and stability for our farmers, businesses, and manufacturers, whether they rely on international supply chains for inputs for U.S.-made goods, or whether they export goods and services around the world. While I have long urged USTR to pursue meaningful WTO reforms, including to better address problems like non-market policies and unfair trade practices, the rejection of MFN would be counterproductive to those efforts, as it would inject profound instability and uncertainty into the international trade environment.

MFN principles are intended to prevent escalating trade wars that harm American industries, threaten jobs, and drive up consumer prices. They have been approved by Congress and enshrined in U.S. law, and Donald Trump's legally dubious claim that he can use emergency authority to unilaterally dictate tariff rates for each country—which is currently under review at

the Supreme Court—does not change the United States' position. Congress has constitutional authority over trade, and if there is going to be a change in this long-standing U.S. trade policy, it must come from Congress, not statements by USTR in Geneva.

Sincerely,

Ron Wyden

United States Senator

Ranking Member, Committee

on Finance