



GOVERNOR OF MISSOURI

JEFFERSON CITY

65102

JEREMIAH W. (JAY) NIXON  
GOVERNOR

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November 7, 2011

Mr. Ron Kirk  
United States Trade Representative  
Office of the Special Trade Representative  
Winder Building  
600 17<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20508

**Re: Trans-Pacific Partnership Negotiations**

Dear Mr. Kirk:

I write with respect to the next round of negotiations concerning the Trans-Pacific Partnership ("TPP"), and in doing so I am guided by fundamental principles: that products made in Missouri have open access to foreign markets and that companies in Missouri are not at a competitive disadvantage with their foreign counterparts. In writing this letter, I am not opining on the TPP itself, but I am writing based on the assumption that TPP negotiations are moving forward.

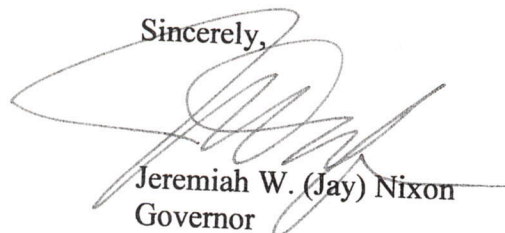
Specifically, to ensure a strong export market and a level playing field for Missouri products, it is important that the TPP negotiations not be expanded to include additional countries without such countries first demonstrating a lengthy, proven track record of opening their markets to American exports.

Missouri is home to the best workforce and some of the finest companies in the world, facts which are substantiated by recent statistics and events. In 2010, Missouri exports totaled \$12.9 billion, a 35% increase over 2009, and exports are up an additional 14% this year. In addition, two historic events have taken place in recent weeks that establish that the rebirth of the American automotive industry is taking place right here in Missouri. On October 21, 2011, Ford

Motor Company announced that it would invest \$1.1 billion, add 1,600 new jobs, including a second shift for the F-150 pick-up truck, establish an integrated stamping facility and build the Transit van for the first time ever in the U.S. at its Kansas City, Missouri Assembly plant. Last Thursday, General Motors announced that it would invest \$380 million, add 1,660 new jobs, including a second shift for its Savana and Express vans and build the Chevy Colorado pick-up truck at its Wentzville, Missouri plant. These investments by Ford and GM, which reaffirm Missouri's rightful place as a leader in the automotive industry, are even more notable because they are made by companies that compete globally. It is therefore important that the countries negotiating the TPP not be expanded in ways that could disadvantage Ford, GM, and other manufacturers investing in Missouri. Products made in Missouri deserve open access to foreign markets and a level playing field in the global marketplace.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon", written over a horizontal line.

Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon  
Governor