



December 12, 2019

Dear Representative:

I am writing to urge you to support the United States, Mexico, Canada Agreement (USMCA).

OIA is the trade association for more than 1,400 companies across the United States, including suppliers, manufacturers and retailers of outdoor products. The outdoor recreation economy generates more than \$887 billion in consumer spending and accounts for 7.6 million American jobs in the United States. Our members produce some of the most innovative products that reach all corners of the globe, enriching people's lives by supporting healthy and active lifestyles.

Representing both importers and domestic manufacturers of outdoor products, OIA pursues a "balanced trade" agenda. This means that OIA supports the elimination of import tariffs on products where there is no viable domestic production. And for our Made in the USA members, we support policies to help them compete and transition to competition in a global economy.

As such, the outdoor industry had a significant interest in the re-negotiation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and we believe that USMCA will provide substantial benefits for outdoor businesses.

First, USMCA preserves reciprocal duty-free market access for outdoor apparel, footwear and equipment, providing incentives and stability for continued growth in the two-way trade of those products for domestic manufacturers and importers. Continued duty-free treatment of outdoor products will help outdoor businesses explore new sourcing options closer to home, lower costs, fuel innovation and create more jobs. It will also help our members maintain the high quality and high-performance standards their consumers expect at an economical price.

Likewise, domestic manufacturers have been able to take advantage of new opportunities in two of our largest export markets containing a growing number of outdoor enthusiasts. USMCA will help support new business opportunities and new outdoor products that will promote economic growth and US jobs.

Finally, labor rights and protecting the environment are core values to the outdoor industry. In fact, outdoor companies are at the forefront of developing sustainable supply chains that protect the environment and ensure fair labor practices.



We greatly appreciate the fact that USMCA includes provisions on the environment and labor rights in the core text of the agreement that match international standards and are subject to the same dispute settlement procedures as other enforceable obligations. We applaud the administration and Congress for agreeing to strengthen these provisions even further along with additional commitments on robust enforcement.

The outdoor recreation economy is a substantial driver of the US economy and supports healthy communities and healthy economies across the country. Passage and implementation of USMCA will help support this powerful economic engine and we look forward to your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patricia Rojas-Ungar". The signature is contained within a thin black rectangular border.

Patricia Rojas-Ungar
Vice President of Government Affairs
Outdoor Industry Association