



July 12, 2006

The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert
Speaker
US House of Representatives

The Honorable Bill Frist
Majority Leader
United States Senate

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
US House of Representatives

The Honorable Harry Reid
Minority Leader
United States Senate

As members of a coalition of more than 140 American companies, farm groups, associations, and public interest organizations, we strongly support the passage of H.R.5602, the legislation granting Permanent Normal Trade Relations (PNTR) status for Vietnam. The United States and Vietnam concluded bilateral negotiations on Vietnam's accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO) on May 14, 2006, and officially signed the agreement on May 31. The legislation to grant PNTR to Vietnam was introduced in the House and the Senate on June 13. We urge you to support its passage and to do so by the August recess.

Congressional approval of PNTR for Vietnam is necessary for the U.S. business community to take full advantage of the benefits that will be granted to all WTO members after Vietnam's accession. Without PNTR, the United States will be the only WTO member country that will not have access to new market openings for goods and services. With a young and vibrant population of 83 million, Vietnam is one of the fastest growing economies in the world and is the fastest growing market for U.S. products in Asia. Upon joining the WTO, Vietnam will eliminate domestic subsidies, cut tariffs and reduce trade barriers on a wide range of manufactured goods, farm products, and services. WTO membership also compels Vietnam to abide by international laws and practices, and thereby, levels the playing field to enable American companies and products to compete more effectively. Vietnam's accession to the WTO will present great opportunities for American businesses, workers, farmers and consumers.

Timely approval of PNTR is essential not only to U.S. business interests and the overall U.S. trade agenda, but also to U.S. foreign policy interests. These include regional security, cooperation on POW/MIA, continued dialogues and progress on religious and human rights, labor, and other bilateral issues. It is important for the United States to demonstrate its support for Vietnam's reformers in their efforts to strengthen the rule of law and integrate Vietnam into the global economy. With President Bush scheduled to visit Vietnam this November during the APEC Summit, this is a critical time for the U.S. Congress to show support and initiate a significant step forward in the U.S.-Vietnam relationship.

US-Vietnam WTO Coalition

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We would like to thank you for your favorable consideration and look forward to working with you on expeditious approval of PNTR for Vietnam.

Sincerely,

1. 3M
2. A. H. Schreiber Co.
3. Abbott
4. ACE-INA
5. Advanced Medical Technology Association
6. AES Corporation
7. Alticor
8. AmCham Hanoi
9. America Vietnam Ventures
10. American Apparel & Footwear Association
11. American Chamber of Commerce in Hanoi
12. American Chemistry Council
13. American Council of Life Insurers
14. American Electronics Association
15. American International Group
16. Anheuser-Busch International
17. Ann Taylor Stores Corp.
18. APL Limited
19. Astro Apparel Inc.
20. AT&T
21. Automotive Trade Policy Council
22. Bankers' Association for Finance and Trade
23. Bauer Nike Hockey
24. Bernard Chaus Inc.
25. Biscotti, Inc.
26. Boeing Company
27. BP America
28. Business Roundtable
29. C&M International
30. California Chamber of Commerce
31. Cargill Incorporated
32. Caterpillar
33. CATINAT
34. Chevron
35. Citigroup Inc.
36. Coalition of Service Industries
37. Cole Haan
38. Colgate-Palmolive (Viet Nam) ltd.
39. Concorde Apparel, LLC
40. ConocoPhillips
41. Consumers for World Trade

42. Converse
43. DaimlerChrysler
44. Design Resources, Inc.
45. Diageo
46. Direct Selling Association
47. Discovery Communications, Inc.
48. Distilled Spirits Council of the United States
49. Dow Chemical Company
50. DuPont Far East Inc.
51. EDS
52. Emby Hosiery Corp.
53. Emergency Committee for American Trade
54. Exeter Brands Group
55. Express Delivery & Logistics Association
56. Exxon Mobil Corporation
57. FedEx Express
58. Fontheim International, LLC
59. Footwear Distributors and Retailers of America
60. Ford Motor Company
61. Fund for Reconciliation and Development
62. Gap Inc.
63. General Electric Company
64. General Motors Corporation
65. GlaxoSmithKline
66. Grocery Manufacturers Association
67. Haggar Clothing Co.
68. Harley-Davidson Motor Company
69. Herbalife International of America, Inc.
70. Hewlett-Packard
71. Hormel Foods
72. Hurley
73. IBM Corporation
74. IDG Ventures Vietnam
75. Infinity Seafoods, Inc.
76. Intel
77. International Association of Drilling Contractors
78. Information Technology Association of America
79. Information Technology Industry Council
80. JCPenney
81. Jockey International, Inc.
82. Johnson & Johnson Vietnam
83. JPMorgan Chase
84. Kimberly-Clark Vietnam
85. Leading Lady
86. Levi Strauss & Co.
87. Levy Group

88. Liberty Mutual Group
89. Liz Claiborne Inc.
90. Lockheed Martin
91. Lollytogs Ltd.
92. Marsh
93. McDermott
94. Merck & Co., Inc.
95. MetLife
96. Motorola, Inc.
97. National Association of Manufacturers
98. National Electrical Manufacturers Association
99. National Foreign Trade Council
100. National Oilseed Processors Association
101. National Pork Producers Council
102. National Retail Federation
103. Nestle USA
104. New York Life Insurance Company
105. News Corporation
106. Nike
107. Northwest Horticultural Council
108. Oracle Corporation
109. Oriflame
110. Oxford Industries, Inc.
111. Paul Davril Inc.
112. PepsiCo International
113. Phillips-Van Heusen Corporation
114. Procter & Gamble
115. Retail Industry Leaders Association
116. Rogers & Meador LLP
117. Samuels International Associates, Inc.
118. Securities Industry Association
119. Shell
120. South China Seafood Company
121. Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association
122. SSA Marine
123. Sunrider International
124. Target
125. Telecommunications Industry Association
126. TimeWarner
127. Toyota Motor North America, Inc.
128. Travel Goods Association
129. U.S. Association of Importers of Textiles and Apparel
130. United Technologies Corporation
131. UPS
132. US Chamber of Commerce
133. US-ASEAN Business Council

134. US-Vietnam Chamber of Commerce
135. US-Vietnam Trade Council
136. Vets With A Mission
137. Vietnam Partners LLC
138. Vietnam Silicon Valley Network
139. Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation
140. Wheat Export Trade Education Committee

Cc: The Honorable Charles Grassley, the Honorable Max Baucus, the Honorable William Thomas and the Honorable Charles Rangel