Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

August 1, 2016

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

As our constituents have repeatedly expressed, America has deep and widespread concern about international trade agreements' negative impact on American jobs, manufacturing, and the economy.

We believe a great deal more work is needed in renegotiations to ensure the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) works for American workers – and not just those of our trading partners.

A high-standard agreement is critical for the future of trade, since it not only includes the 12 currently participating countries, but is also a template which other countries can, and will, join in the future.

America is already losing millions of jobs to the TPP's current members – much of that driven by those countries' currency manipulation.

Notably, the TPP does not include enforceable rules to stop currency manipulators. Once America has given up the leverage of gaining full access to its consumer markets, the possibility of prohibiting currency manipulation – or reaching equitable agreements in many other areas – will be lost forever.

Additionally, the U.S. International Trade Commission's recent report on TPP ignored the devastating potential impact that foreign currency manipulation could have on American jobs. Even using this and other optimistic assumptions, the report estimated only anemic growth and meager job creation across all sectors of our economy – while projecting American manufacturing would shrink.

As a result of these and many other failures, the TPP must be renegotiated in order to address 21st century trade issues and ensure American workers a competitive level playing field in the global economy.

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Some in your Administration reportedly believe passage of TPP should be attempted following November's election. We respectfully, but strongly, disagree.

TPP will set the template for trade for the next generation. It will not only impact the current 12 member nations but also countries like South Korea and China that could join in the future. A "lame duck" Congress should not vote on an agreement of this consequence – it would be an end-run around the American people immediately following an election.

We urge you not to send TPP implementing legislation to Congress in 2016.

Sincerely,

Candice S. Miller
Member of Congress

Dave Trott
Member of Congress

Bill Shuster
Member of Congress

Tim Murphy
Member of Congress

Ed Whitfield
Member of Congress

Ted S. Yoho
Member of Congress