FOIA Number: 2017-0401-F

FOIA MARKER

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Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 11854

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Folder Title:
Fast Track - File Created 8/12/97: Arkansas Business Leaders - September 23, 1997

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
S	66	3	10	3

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet
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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. letter	Kelly Dearing to Steven Ronnel; RE: Personally Identifiable Information [partial] (1 page)	09/18/1997	b(6)
002. form	RE: The White House Federal Credit Union (2 pages)	10/20/1997	Personal Misfile

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Special Envoy for the Americas
Steven J. Ronnel
OA/Box Number: 11854

FOLDER TITLE:

Fast Track - File Created 8/12/97: Arkansas Business Leaders - September 23, 1997

2017-0401-F
db4736

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

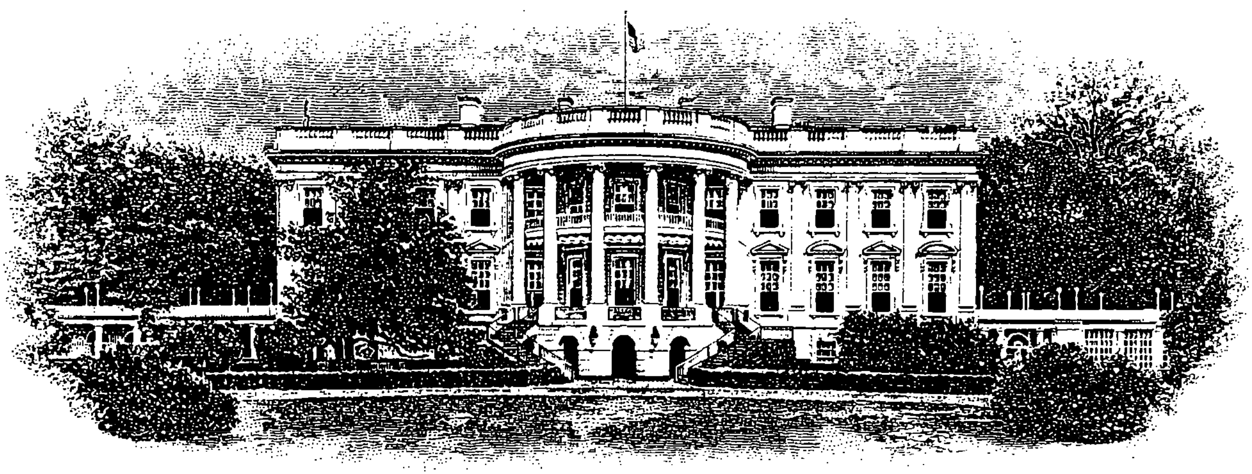
P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.
PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).
RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

The White House



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

FAST TRACK BRIEFING FOR ARKANSAS BUSINESS LEADERS

Tuesday, September 23, 1997
The Roosevelt Room
9:30 - 10:15am

Arkansas Business Leaders:

Mr. Hartsell Wingfield
TCBY International

Mr. Dan DiMicco
Nucor Steel

Ms. Mary Good
Venture Capitol Investors

Mr. Jerry Mauldin
Entergy

Mr. Charles Murphy
Murphy Oil Co.

Mr. Andrew Whisenhunt
Arkansas Farm Bureau

Ambassador Jim Cheek

Mr. John Ed Anthony
Anthony Timberlands

Mr. Herb Rule
Rose Law Firm

Mr. Don Hatfield
Arkansas Systems, Inc.

Ms. Lauren McDonald
Arkansas Industrial Development Commission

Administration attendees:

The Honorable Thomas F. (Mack) McLarty
Special Envoy for the Americas

Mr. Steve Ronnel
Special Advisor to the President and
Senior Advisor to the Special Envoy

Mr. Peter O'Keefe
Special Assistant to the President for
Public Liaison and Business Outreach

Mr. Jay Berman
Special Counselor to the President

Mr. Robert Kyle
Special Assistant to the President for
International Economic Affairs

(1) Eric (3) Resl
(2) Steve

The New York Times

Founded in 1851

ADOLPH S. OCHS, *Publisher 1896-1935*
ARTHUR HAYS SULZBERGER, *Publisher 1935-1961*
ORVIL E. DRYFOOS, *Publisher 1961-1963*
ARTHUR OCHS SULZBERGER, *Publisher 1963-1992*

Mr. Clinton Deserves 'Fast Track'

President Clinton begins an important battle with Congress this week for renewal of "fast track" authority, the right to submit trade agreements to Congress for a speedy vote without amendments. Without fast-track protection, countries will not negotiate trade accords with Washington for fear of endless revision. Not surprisingly, protectionist forces within both parties would be happy to block the no-amendment rule, even though every President over the past 20 years has used the rule to open up foreign markets and also bring down prices for American consumers.

The Administration needs fast track to complete negotiations within the World Trade Organization on opening markets to foreign-provided services, tightening copyright protections and prying open government contracts to bids by foreign companies. Fast track is also needed to negotiate trade agreements with Chile and other South American countries. They are already negotiating deals with Europe, Mexico and Canada that would give exports from those countries favored access.

Opponents ranging from isolationists to pro-union liberals indict trade pacts with environmentally lax and low-wage countries. The claim is that these countries steal American jobs and drive down living standards of American workers. But trade itself does not create or destroy jobs. The American economy will operate near full employment as long as Federal Reserve and budgetary policies remain sensible. Trade does shift jobs from apparel and other low-paying industries into high-paying export industries. The transition can be rough, but the long-term benefits are substantial.

Nor are low foreign wages the scourge that the forces led by the House majority leader, Richard Gephardt, proclaim. Low wages largely reflect low productivity, providing no net benefit to foreign manufacturers. Nor would higher foreign wages help American companies. Rising production costs would be offset by a falling exchange rate, leaving the net cost of imports to American buyers largely unchanged.

That said, the Administration goes too far in claiming that trade helps everyone. The influx into the United States of clothing and other goods produced with low-skilled labor has modestly pushed the wages of unskilled workers further behind the wages of skilled workers. But rising inequality should not be confused with falling living standards. After taking account of lower prices for imported goods and the availability of jobs in a fully employed economy, very few Americans actually lose.

Though labor and environmental conditions are rarely related directly to trade, the United States should condition trade pacts on a country's willingness to adopt agreements that provide basic international protections, like prohibitions on child labor and rights for union organizers. As in the trade accord with Mexico, Washington ought to insist that countries, like Chile, strictly enforce their own environmental laws.

Bill Archer, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, proposes a reasonable compromise that would allow the Administration to incorporate into the text of a fast-track accord labor and environmental conditions that directly affect trade in specific products. The details remain to be worked out, but the Archer plan offers an opportunity to fashion a sensible fast-track plan that can be made acceptable to Democrats.

Clinton Presidential Records
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Fast Track: Renewal of Traditional Trading Authority

September 1997

ARKANSAS IS MOVING FORWARD WITH MORE JOBS AND TRADE

Arkansas Is Moving In The Right Direction

- **Unemployment Is Down.** The unemployment rate in Arkansas has declined from 6.7% in January 1993 to 5.5% in July 1997.
- **117,000 New Jobs In Arkansas.** Since 1993, 117,700 new jobs were created in Arkansas.
- **Exports From Arkansas Are Up 96%.** In the first 6 months of 1997, Arkansas' goods exports were running at a rate of $2.4 billion -- up 96% since 1992. Arkansas' exports of manufactured products were also up 96% from $1.2 billion to $2.3 billion in 1997*.
- **28,100 Jobs In Arkansas Are Supported By Trade.** Jobs supported by goods exports increased 58% -- up 10,000 to 28,100 in 1997*-- paying an average of 15% more than non-trade related jobs.
- **Food Product Exports Are Up 162%.** Food product exports have increased 162% since 1993 from $320 million to over $840 million in 1997*-- creating more higher paying jobs for more people in Arkansas.
- **11,500 New Construction Jobs In Arkansas.** 11,500 new manufacturing jobs were created in Arkansas since 1993.
- **Household Incomes Are Up $1,500 In Arkansas.** Since 1993, real median household income in Arkansas has increased by $1,515 -- from $24,299 in 1993 to $25,814 in 1995.

* All figures for 1997 are annualized based on exports for the first 6 months.

America Is Moving In The Right Direction; Now Is Not The Time To Turn Back

President Clinton's three part economic strategy of cutting the deficit, investing in our people through education and training and opening more markets to U.S. goods is working. Now is the time to continue that progress by renewing fast track authority to help create more jobs that pay more.

- **13 Million New Jobs.** The economy has created nearly 13 million new jobs under President Clinton. Private sector job growth rate nearly 8 times greater than during previous Administration.
- **Unemployment Rate Down To 24-Year Low.** In 1992, the unemployment rate was 7.5%. Today it is under 5% -- as low as it's been at any time in the last 24 years.
- **1.7 Million New Export-Related Jobs -- Paying On Average 15% Higher Wages.** Since President Clinton took office, the number of export-related jobs has increased by 1.7 million.
- **Family Income Up $1,600.** After stagnating for 20 years, family incomes are rising again. Since 1993, the income of the typical American family increased by $1,631, after adjusting for inflation.
- **Exports Are Up By Nearly 50%.** Since the beginning of 1993, exports from the U.S. have grown by nearly 50% -- up $318 billion -- after adjusting for inflation. Exports have accounted for 38% of the overall growth in the economy since 1993.
- **Renewed Growth In Key Industries.** After a decade of enormous job losses in construction, manufacturing, and autos, these industries have made a remarkable recovery -- more than one million new jobs combined under President Clinton.
- **Smallest Deficit Among Major Economies.** Under President Clinton, the deficit has been cut by more than 80% -- from a record $290 billion in 1992 to an expected $37 billion this year.

The White House At Work
Tuesday, September 16, 1997

PRESIDENT CLINTON SUBMITS LEGISLATION TO RENEW TRADITIONAL TRADE AUTHORITY AND EXTEND AMERICA'S PROSPERITY INTO THE NEXT CENTURY

"Today, I take the next step in our strategy to extend America's prosperity into the next century. I have submitted legislation to the Congress that will renew the traditional authority, granted to presidents of both parties since 1974, to negotiate new trade agreements that open foreign markets to goods and services made by American workers."

-- President Clinton, Statement on fast track, 9/16/97

President Clinton submitted legislation to Congress today that restores the President's traditional authority to negotiate trade agreements and break down barriers to American exports. This negotiating authority legislation will help keep our economy on the right track and create good American jobs, while honoring our commitment to our workers and environment.

- **Open Trade is Critical to America's Continued Prosperity.** The American economy is on the move again. The President's three-part economic strategy -- cutting the deficit to spur private sector investment, investing in critical priorities like education and training, and opening markets abroad -- is a proven success. Since President Clinton took office, the American economy has generated nearly 13 million new jobs, unemployment is below 5%, wages are up, and the deficit has been cut by more than 85%. America is in the midst of a longer period of sustained growth than any other major economy in the world; one-third of our growth depends on overseas trade.

- **American Exports Create Millions of High-Paying Jobs.** Our aggressive export strategy has paid off for American companies and workers. America is once again the world's largest exporter, the largest producer of semiconductors, and the largest producer of automobiles. Exports support over 11.5 million jobs in the United States, including one in five manufacturing jobs. Over the last four years alone, exports have created 1.7 million new jobs -- jobs that typically pay 15 percent more than non-export-related jobs.

- **We Must Continue To Break Down Foreign Trade Barriers.** To keep our economy on the right track, we need to give the President the power that every President since Ford has had to break down unfair foreign barriers to American exports. This legislation restores the President's power to negotiate agreements that will help American businesses compete and win.

- **Legislation Honors President Clinton's Commitment to America's Workers and Our Environment.** As we expand trade, the President is committed to pursuing three objectives: (1) to break down unfair foreign trade barriers and create good American jobs; (2) to promote and advance worker rights; and (3) to promote responsible environmental protections. That is why this President Clinton is the first president ever to make labor and the environment part of America's trade agenda. And that is why this legislation includes a specific negotiating instruction to improve labor rights and environmental protection abroad -- the first-ever reference to the environment in fast track legislation. Granting the President this fast track authority will level the playing field for America's workers and affirm our commitment to protecting the environment.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release September 16, 1997

TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES:

I am pleased to transmit a legislative proposal entitled the "Export Expansion and Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act of 1997." Also transmitted is a section-by-section analysis.

This proposal would renew over 60 years of cooperation between the Congress and the executive branch in the negotiation and implementation of market-opening trade agreements for the benefit of American workers and companies.

The sustained, robust performance of our economy over the past 5 years is powerful proof that congressional-executive cooperation works. We have made great strides together. We have invested in education and in health care for the American people. We have achieved an historic balanced budget agreement. At the same time, we have put in place trade agreements that have lowered barriers to American products and services around the world.

Our companies, farms, and working people have responded. Our economy has produced more jobs, more growth, and greater economic stability than at any time in decades. It has also generated more exports than ever before. Indeed, America's remarkable economic performance over the past 5 years has been fueled in significant part by the strength of our dynamic export sector. Fully 96 percent of the world's consumers live outside the United States. Many of our greatest economic opportunities today lie beyond our borders. The future promises still greater opportunities.

Many foreign markets, especially in the developing world, are growing at tremendous rates. Latin American and Asian economies, for example, are expected to expand at three times the rate of the U.S. economy over the coming years. Consumers and industries in these countries prize American goods, farm products, services, and the many expressions of American inventiveness and culture. While America is the world's greatest exporting nation, we need to do more if we want to continue to expand our own economy and produce good, high-wage jobs.

We have made real progress in breaking down barriers to American products around the world. But many of the nations with the highest growth rates almost invariably impose far higher trade barriers than we do. We need to level the playing field with those countries. They are the nations whose markets hold the greatest potential for American workers, firms, and agricultural producers.

Today, the United States is the world's strongest competitor. The strength of the U.S. economy over the past several years is testimony to the creativity, productivity, and ingenuity of American firms and workers. We cannot afford to squander our great advantages by retreating to the sidelines and watching other countries conclude preferential trade deals that shut out our goods and services. Over 20 such agreements have been concluded in Latin America and Asia alone since 1992. The United States must continue to shape and direct world trading rules that are in America's interest and that foster democracy and stability around the globe.

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I have pledged my Administration to this task, but I cannot fully succeed without the Congress at my side. We must work in partnership, together with the American people, in securing our country's future. The United States must be united when we sit down at the negotiating table. Our trading partners will only negotiate with one America -- not first with an American President and next with an American Congress.

The proposal I am sending you today ensures that the Congress will be a full partner in setting negotiating objectives, establishing trade priorities, and in gaining the greatest possible benefits through our trade agreements. The proposal expands upon previous fast-track legislation to ensure that the Congress is fully apprised and actively consulted throughout the negotiating process. I am convinced that this collaboration will strengthen both America's effectiveness and leverage at the bargaining table.

Widening the scope of consultations will also help ensure that we will take all of America's vital interests into account. That is particularly important because today our trade agreements address a wider range of activities than they once did. As we move forward with our trade agenda, we must continue to honor and reinforce the other values that make America an example for the world. I count chief among these values America's longstanding concern for the rights of workers and for protection of the environment. The proposal I am transmitting to you recognizes the importance of those concerns. It makes clear that the agreements we conclude should complement and reinforce those values.

Ever since President Franklin Roosevelt proposed and the Congress enacted America's first reciprocal trade act in the depths of the Great Depression, the Congress and the President have been united, on a bipartisan basis, in supporting a fair and open trading system. Our predecessors learned from direct experience the path to America's prosperity. We owe much of our own prosperity to their wisdom. I urge the Congress to renew our longstanding partnership by approving the proposal I have transmitted today.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

THE WHITE HOUSE,
September 16, 1997.

# # #

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release September 16, 1997

FACT SHEET

The Export Expansion and Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act of 1997

Today, President Clinton transmitted to the Congress the "Export Expansion and Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act of 1997." This proposal is designed to renew "fast-track" procedures for trade agreements requiring congressional approval and implementation as well as to renew the President's authority to proclaim tariff reductions in return for tariff reduction commitments by U.S. trading partners.

Background

The proposal reactivates a partnership between the President and the Congress that dates back over 6 decades. Recognizing that the high protective U.S. tariff walls it established in 1930 had only served to deepen the Depression, the Congress 4 years later enacted the first reciprocal trade agreements act. In that act, the Congress gave the President authority to negotiate mutual tariff reductions with our trading partners. The Congress renewed that authority repeatedly over the years, and successive Presidents used the authority to dramatically reduce tariff barriers around the world.

"Fast track," first put in place under the Ford Administration, is a further expression of the partnership between the President and the Congress in bringing down barriers to U.S. exports. Under fast track the Congress and the President work together, ensuring that the United States can effectively negotiate away foreign tariff barriers to U.S. products as well as non-tariff barriers -- such as quotas, protectionist product standards, and subsidies -- which foreign governments have increasingly substituted for tariffs to exclude U.S. products. Fast track lapsed along with most of the President's tariff reduction authority 3 years ago.

The President's Proposal

The President's proposed legislation serves to reunite the Congress and the President in trade negotiations. The President's proposal ensures that the Congress is fully integrated into the formulation of U.S. goals, strategies, and decision-making for each trade negotiation subject to fast-track procedures. Because the Congress and the President are united under the proposal, it tells U.S. trading partners that the United States speaks at the bargaining table with one voice and that the Congress will not seek to reopen trade agreements after they are negotiated.

The proposal also renews the President's longstanding tariff-cutting authority. The proposal adds a provision that will allow the President to implement new tariff harmonization or elimination agreements on a sectoral or regional basis, consistent with World Trade Organization rules.

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The proposal calls for the President's tariff reduction authority and the new fast-track procedures to remain in effect until October 1, 2001. The President may request an extension of his tariff-cutting authority and "fast-track" procedures through September 30, 2005, subject to disapproval by either House of the Congress.

A summary of the key provisions of the proposal follows.

Negotiating Objectives

The proposal sets out "overall" and "principal" trade negotiating objectives for the President. The objectives call on U.S. negotiators to seek, for example:

-- To reduce trade barriers and trade distortions that limit market opportunities for U.S. exports, including those aspects of foreign government policies and practices directly related to trade.

-- To reduce foreign government barriers that discriminate or impose unreasonable regulatory barriers on U.S. service providers.

-- To reduce artificial or trade-distorting barriers to U.S. foreign investment.

-- To obtain adequate and effective protection for U.S. intellectual property rights and increased access to foreign markets for U.S. businesses that rely on intellectual property.

-- To make the proceedings of international trade bodies more open to public view.

-- To secure fairer and more open trading conditions for U.S. agricultural products.

-- To promote through the World Trade Organization internationally recognized worker rights and sustainable development.

Trade Agreements Covered by the President's Proposal

The President may negotiate and bring back to the Congress for fast-track congressional approval and implementation trade agreements addressing tariff barriers, nontariff barriers, or both.

-- Thus, fast track could be used to carry out agreements concluded under the trade negotiating agenda set out in the congressionally approved agreements administered by the World Trade Organization -- for example, to further reduce tariff and nontariff barriers to agricultural trade.

-- The President could use his renewed "proclamation authority" to carry out a sectoral agreement, similar to the recent "Information Technology Agreement", which is reducing tariffs that foreign governments impose on billions of dollars of U.S. computer, electronic, and semiconductor products sold around the world.

-- Finally, fast track could be used for bilateral or regional free-trade arrangements.

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Making the Congress a Partner in Trade Negotiations

In order for an implementing bill to qualify for fast-track procedures, the President must comply with numerous notice and consultation provisions designed to ensure that the Congress is a full partner with the President in critical trade negotiations. These provisions enable the Congress to set priorities, provide advice, and exercise oversight at all stages of the negotiations and after the agreement is concluded. That ensures that congressional views will be fully reflected both in the final agreement and in the manner in which the agreement is carried out. Moreover, if the Congress concludes that the President has not adequately consulted the Congress regarding a proposed agreement, the proposal creates an expedited procedure for the Congress to refuse to apply fast-track procedures.

-- The President must provide written notice to the Congress before initiating negotiations and must spell out in writing his principal objectives for the negotiations.

-- The President must consult with the Congress as negotiations progress and again before an agreement is concluded. To enhance these consultations, the proposal calls on U.S. negotiators to keep official congressional advisors fully informed regarding the negotiations.

-- Before signing an agreement, the President must inform the Congress of any other ~~agreements~~ agreement he has concluded or intends to conclude with the country or countries concerned. He must also state his plans for implementing the trade agreement and whether the agreement will require additional legislation beyond that subject to fast-track procedures.

-- The proposal requires the President to describe at the time he submits implementing legislation to the Congress how he intends to use existing regulatory and administrative authority to carry out the agreement. He must also explain in writing how the agreement meets congressionally mandated negotiating objectives and serves U.S. economic interests.

-- Under well-established practice, the President collaborates with the Congress in drafting the implementing legislation and the legislation is subject to informal public hearings and "mark-ups" by all congressional committees of jurisdiction before its introduction.

Enhancing the Role of the Public and the Private Sector

The proposal adds to existing law by ensuring that the public is fully informed of the negotiations and that the President receives advice from both the private sector and the public concerning the negotiations.

-- The President must solicit views from the public, and the United States International Trade Commission, regarding any proposal to change U.S. tariffs. In addition, under the proposal, the President must notify the public of any agreement in advance of signing it.

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-- The proposal adds to the existing requirement that the President must seek the views of congressionally authorized private sector advisory committees during the course of the negotiations. These groups include advisory committees on goods, services, agriculture, intellectual property, labor, U.S. foreign investment, intergovernmental affairs, and the environment. The proposal ensures that these committees will also examine and provide their views to the Congress and the President on any proposed agreement -- before it is signed.

Fast-Track Procedures

Provided the President observes each of the proposal's notice, consultation, and other procedures in connection with the negotiation of a trade agreement, the agreement and its implementing legislation are subject to fast-track consideration in the Congress. Fast-track rules call for the Congress to vote on qualifying trade agreements and implementing legislation without amendment within 60 "legislative days" -- typically a period of several months or more.

Under the President's proposal, new statutory provisions or other changes in U.S. law required to carry out a trade agreement may be included in fast-track implementing legislation only if the changes are both: (1) necessary or appropriate to implement the agreement; and (2) related to trade. These requirements prevent fast-track bills from being used to enact non-trade provisions.

Tariff-Cutting Authority

Under the renewed "proclamation authority," the President would be authorized to carry out agreements that reduce by up to 50 percent U.S. tariffs that currently exceed 5 percent *ad valorem*. The President would be able to eliminate duties of 5 percent or less. The proposal adds a provision that will allow the President to implement new tariff harmonization or elimination agreements on a sectoral or regional basis, consistent with World Trade Organization rules.

# # #

Section-by-Section Analysis

Section 1. Short Title.

Section 2. Negotiating Objectives.

Section 2 of the proposal sets out the "overall" and "principal" objectives that will guide the President in negotiating future trade agreements covered by the proposal. This format parallels that of section 1101 of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988, which in turn was based on a similar structure in the Trade Act of 1974. These objectives address, among other subjects, trade barriers and distortions, including these aspects of foreign government policies and practices directly related to trade; trade in services; U.S. foreign investment; intellectual property; transparency; agriculture; and the protection of worker rights and the environment through specified multilateral institutions.

Section 2(c) calls on U.S. negotiators to take important domestic policy objectives, such as the protection of human health and the environment and national security, into account when negotiating fast-track trade agreements. Negotiators are also instructed to ensure that the United States will retain the ability to vigorously enforce U.S. trade laws. In addition to the other Congressional consultation requirements set out in the proposal, section 2(c) instructs U.S. negotiators to ensure that designated congressional advisors are kept fully informed during the course of trade negotiations.

Section 3. Proclamation Authority and Fast-Track Implementing Proposals.

Section 3(a) provides the President with authority to reduce U.S. tariff rates under specified circumstances -- without seeking further approval from the Congress -- in return for concessions from U.S. trading partners. Much of the language on this subject is derived from earlier versions of tariff proclamation authority, with antecedents dating back to the mid-1930s. The proposal adds a provision that will allow the President to implement reciprocal, tariff harmonization or elimination agreements on a sectoral or regional basis, consistent with World Trade Organization rules.

Section 3(b) provides that the President may negotiate and bring back to the Congress for approval and implementation under the fast-track procedures set out in section 151 of the Trade Act of 1974 certain trade agreements addressing tariff barriers, non-tariff barriers, or both. Those procedures call for the Congress to vote on agreements and their implementing legislation without amendment and within a fixed time period. Changes in U.S. law required to carry out a trade agreement may be included in fast-track implementing legislation only if the changes are both necessary or appropriate to implement the agreement and are related to trade. For an implementing bill to be subject to fast-track Congressional review, the President must adhere to numerous notice and consultation requirements included in the proposal.

Under the proposal, the President's tariff proclamation authority, as well as fast-track procedures for implementing legislation, will be in effect until October 1, 2001. On request from the President, proclamation authority and fast-track procedures may be extended through September 30, 2005, subject to disapproval by either House of Congress.

Sections 4 and 5. Notice, Consultations, and Implementation.

Sections 4 and 5 contain a number of provisions requiring the President to notify and consult with the Congress before and during trade negotiations. These provisions ensure that the Congress is fully integrated into the formulation of U.S. goals, strategies, and decision-making for each trade negotiation. Section 5 establishes an expedited procedure for Congress to withdraw fast track if it finds that the Administration is not adequately consulting the Congress on trade negotiations.

Certain of the notice and consultation requirements included in sections 4 and 5 are drawn from equivalent provisions in the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988. For example, the President must provide advance notice to the Congress before initiating a negotiation and must consult with the Congress before an agreement is concluded. The President must also describe in detail at the time he submits implementing legislation to the Congress how he intends to use existing regulatory and administrative authority to carry out the agreement.

In addition, the proposal provides for Congress and the President to receive advice from the relevant private sector advisory committees concerning any agreement that the President has negotiated -- before it is signed. The advisory committees cover a broad range of sectors and policy matters, including manufactured goods, agricultural commodities, services, intellectual property, foreign investment, labor, and the environment. Under existing law, the President must also consult with these committees regarding his objectives and bargaining positions in the negotiations. In addition, the President must solicit advice from the United States International Trade Commission, as well as views from the public, in connection with an agreement that would change U.S. tariff levels.

The proposal adds new consultation requirements to further enhance Congressional oversight of the negotiation process for fast-track trade agreements. For example, the President must spell out for the Congress before negotiations begin his specific negotiating objectives and is required to consult with the Congress over the course of the negotiations. The President also must inform the Congress of any other agreements -- in addition to the trade agreement -- he intends to conclude. The President must also state whether the trade agreement will need to be implemented in part by legislation that is not subject to fast-track procedures.

Section 6. On-going Negotiations.

The proposal waives the requirement for the President to provide advance notification to the Congress of certain negotiations initiated prior to enactment of the proposal. These include negotiations commenced in 1995 with the Government of Chile on a comprehensive trade agreement and certain negotiations under the World Trade Organization that are currently underway or that may be initiated before the President's proposal is enacted. The requirement for the President to provide notice to, and consult with, the Congress over the course of the negotiations will continue to apply to these negotiations.

Section 7. Conforming Amendments.

The proposal makes changes to other statutes necessary to ensure that earlier provisions of law applicable to fast-track trade agreements continue to apply. For example, these amendments ensure that the public and private sector views are solicited regarding any trade negotiations initiated under the proposal.

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A BILL

To establish procedures for notice, consultations, and implementation with regard to certain trade agreements, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION. 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Export Expansion and Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act of 1997".

SEC. 2. TRADE NEGOTIATING OBJECTIVES.

(a) OVERALL TRADE NEGOTIATING OBJECTIVES. - The overall trade negotiating objectives of the United States for agreements subject to the provisions of section 3 are -

(1) to obtain more open, equitable, and reciprocal market access;

(2) to obtain the reduction or elimination of barriers and distortions that are directly related to trade and decrease market opportunities for United States exports or

distort United States trade;

(3) to further strengthen the system of international trading disciplines and procedures, including dispute settlement;

(4) to foster economic growth, raise living standards, and promote full employment in the United States and to enhance the global economy; and

(5) to address those aspects of foreign government policies and practices regarding labor, the environment, and other matters that are directly related to trade and decrease market opportunities for United States exports or distort United States trade.

(b) PRINCIPAL TRADE NEGOTIATING OBJECTIVES. -

(1) TRADE BARRIERS AND DISTORTIONS. - The principal negotiating objectives of the United States regarding trade barriers and other trade distortions are to expand competitive market opportunities for United States exports and to obtain fairer and more open conditions of trade by reducing or eliminating tariff and nontariff barriers and policies and practices of foreign governments directly related to trade that decrease market

opportunities for United States exports or distort United States trade.

(2) TRADE IN SERVICES. - The principal negotiating objective of the United States regarding trade in services is to reduce or eliminate barriers to international trade in services, including regulatory and other barriers that deny national treatment and unreasonably restrict the establishment and operations of service suppliers.

(3) FOREIGN INVESTMENT. - The principal negotiating objective of the United States regarding foreign investment is to reduce or eliminate artificial or trade-distorting barriers to United States foreign investment by -

(A) reducing or eliminating exceptions to the principle of national treatment;

(B) freeing the transfer of funds relating to investments;

(C) reducing or eliminating performance requirements and other unreasonable barriers to the establishment and operation of investments;

(D) establishing standards for expropriation and compensation for expropriation consistent with United States legal principles and practice; and

(E) providing meaningful procedures for resolving investment disputes.

(4) INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY. - The principal negotiating objectives of the United States regarding trade-related intellectual property are -

(A) to further promote adequate and effective protection of intellectual property rights, including through -

(i) ensuring full implementation of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights referred to in section 101(d)(15) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (19 U.S.C. 3511(d)(15)), and achieving improvements in the standards of that Agreement;

(ii) providing strong protection for new and emerging technologies and new methods of transmitting and distributing products embodying intellectual property;

(iii) preventing or eliminating discrimination with respect to matters affecting the availability, acquisition, scope, maintenance, use, and enforcement of intellectual property rights; and

(iv) providing strong enforcement of intellectual property rights, including through accessible, expeditious, and effective civil, administrative, and criminal enforcement mechanisms; and

(B) to secure fair, equitable, and nondiscriminatory market access opportunities for United States persons that rely upon intellectual property protection.

(5) TRANSPARENCY. - The principal negotiating objective of the United States with respect to transparency is to obtain broader application of the principle of transparency through -

(A) increased and more timely public access to information regarding trade issues and the activities of international trade institutions; and

(B) increasing the openness of dispute settlement proceedings, including under the World Trade Organization.

(6) AGRICULTURE. - The principal negotiating objective of the United States with respect to agriculture is to achieve fairer and more open conditions of trade in agricultural commodities by -

(A) reducing or eliminating tariffs or other charges that decrease market opportunities for United States exports;

(B) reducing or eliminating subsidies that decrease market opportunities for United States exports or distort agricultural markets to the detriment of the United States;

(C) developing, strengthening, and clarifying rules that address practices that unfairly decrease United States market access opportunities or distort agricultural markets to the detriment of the United States, including -

(i) unfair or trade-distorting activities of state trading enterprises and other administrative mechanisms;

(ii) unjustified restrictions or commercial requirements affecting new technologies, including biotechnology;

(iii) unjustified sanitary or phytosanitary restrictions;

(iv) other unjustified technical barriers to trade; and

(v) restrictive rules in the administration of tariff rate quotas.

(7) WORKER RIGHTS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION. - The principal negotiating objectives of the United States regarding worker rights and protection of the environment are, through the World Trade Organization, -

(A) to promote respect for internationally recognized worker rights, including with regard to child labor;

(B) to secure a review of the relationship of internationally recognized worker rights to the provisions, objectives, and instruments of the World

Trade Organization with a view to ensuring that the benefits of the trading system are available to all workers;

(C) to adopt, as a principle of the World Trade Organization, that the denial of internationally recognized worker rights should not be a means for a country or its industries to gain competitive advantage in international trade;

(D) to promote sustainable development; and

(E) to seek to ensure that trade and environmental protection are mutually supportive, including through further clarification of the relationship between them.

The United States will also seek to establish in the International Labor Organization a mechanism for the systematic examination of, reporting on, and accountability for the extent to which member governments promote and enforce core labor standards.

(c) GUIDANCE FOR NEGOTIATORS. -

(1) In pursuing the negotiating objectives described in subsection (b), United States negotiators shall take into

account United States domestic objectives including, but not limited to, the protection of health or safety, essential security, environmental, consumer or employment opportunity interests and the law and regulations related thereto.

(2) In the course of negotiations conducted under this Act, the United States Trade Representative shall -

(A) consult closely and on a timely basis with, and keep fully apprised of the negotiations, the congressional advisers on trade policy and negotiations appointed under section 161 of the Trade Act of 1974; and

(B) take into account the need for the United States to retain the ability to enforce rigorously its trade laws in order to ensure that United States workers, agricultural producers, and firms can compete on fair terms and enjoy the benefits of reciprocal trade concessions.

(d) ADHERENCE TO OBLIGATIONS UNDER URUGUAY ROUND AGREEMENTS. - In determining whether to enter into negotiations with a particular country, the President shall take into account the extent to which that country has implemented, or has accelerated the implementation of, its obligations under the Uruguay Round Agreements (as defined in section 2 of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act).

SEC. 3. TRADE AGREEMENTS PROCEDURES.

(a) AGREEMENTS REGARDING TARIFF BARRIERS. -

(1) IN GENERAL. - Whenever the President determines that one or more existing duties or other import restrictions of any foreign country or the United States are unduly burdening and restricting the foreign trade of the United States and that the purposes and policies of this Act will be promoted thereby, the President -

(A) before October 1, 2001 (or October 1, 2005, if fast track procedures are extended under subsection (c)), may enter into trade agreements with foreign countries; and

(B) may, subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), proclaim -

(i) such modification or continuance of any existing duty,

(ii) such continuance of existing duty-free or excise treatment, or

(iii) such additional duties,

as the President determines to be required or appropriate to carry out any such trade agreement.

(2) LIMITATIONS. - No proclamation may be made under paragraph (1) that -

(A) reduces any rate of duty (other than a rate of duty that does not exceed 5 percent ad valorem on the date of the enactment of this Act) to a rate of duty which is less than 50 percent of the rate of such duty that applies on such date of enactment;

(B) provides for a reduction in duty on an article to take effect on a date that is more than 10 years after the first reduction that is proclaimed to carry out a trade agreement with respect to such article; or

(C) increases any rate of duty above the rate that applied on January 1, 1996.

(3) AGGREGATE REDUCTION; EXEMPTION FROM STAGING. -

(A) AGGREGATE REDUCTION. - Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the aggregate reduction in the rate of duty on any article which is in effect on any day pursuant to a trade agreement entered into under paragraph (1) shall not exceed the aggregate reduction which would have been in effect on such day if -

(i) a reduction of 3 percent ad valorem or a reduction of one-tenth of the total reduction, whichever is greater, had taken effect on the effective date of the first reduction proclaimed under paragraph (1) to carry out such agreement with respect to such article, and

(ii) a reduction equal to the amount applicable under clause (i) had taken effect at 1-year intervals after the effective date of such first reduction.

(B) EXEMPTION FROM STAGING. - No staging is required under subparagraph (A) with respect to a duty reduction that is proclaimed under paragraph (1) for an article of a kind that is not produced in the United States. The United States International Trade Commission shall advise the President of the identity of articles that may be exempted from staging under this subparagraph.

(4) ROUNDING. - If the President determines that such action will simplify the computation of reductions under paragraph (3), the President may round an annual reduction by an amount equal to the lesser of -

(A) the difference between the reduction without regard to this paragraph and the next lower whole number; or

(B) one-half of 1 percent ad valorem.

(5) OTHER LIMITATIONS. - A rate of duty reduction or increase that may not be proclaimed by reason of paragraph (2) may take effect only if a provision authorizing such reduction or increase is included within an implementing bill provided for under section 5 and that bill is enacted into law.

(6) OTHER TARIFF MODIFICATIONS. -

(A) Subject to the consultation and layover requirements of section 115 of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act, the President may proclaim the modification of any duty or staged rate reduction of any duty set forth in Schedule XX, as defined in section 2(5) of that Act, if the United States agrees to such modification or staged rate reduction in a negotiation for the reciprocal elimination or harmonization of duties under the auspices of the World Trade Organization or as part of an interim agreement leading to the formation of a regional free-trade area.

(B) Paragraphs 1-5 of this subsection shall not limit the authority provided to the President in subparagraph (A) or in section 111(b) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act.

(b) AGREEMENTS REGARDING TARIFF AND NON-TARIFF BARRIERS. -

(1) IN GENERAL. - Whenever the President determines that -

(A) one or more existing duties or other import restrictions of any foreign country or the

United States, or any other barrier to, or other distortion of, international trade unduly burdens or restricts the foreign trade of the United States or adversely affects the United States economy; or

(B) the imposition of any such import restriction, barrier, or distortion is likely to result in such a burden, restriction, or effect;

and that the purposes and policies of this Act will be promoted thereby, the President may, before October 1, 2001 (or October 1, 2005, if fast track procedures are extended under subsection (c)), enter into trade agreements with foreign countries providing for -

(i) the reduction or elimination of such duty, restriction, barrier, or other distortion, or

(ii) the prohibition of, or limitation on the imposition of, such barrier or other distortion.

(2) CONDITIONS. - A trade agreement may be entered into under this subsection only if such agreement makes progress in meeting the applicable objectives described in section 2(b).

(3) BILLS QUALIFYING FOR "FAST TRACK" PROCEDURES. -

(A) The provisions of section 151 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended by subparagraph (B) of this paragraph, (in this Act referred to as "fast track procedures") apply to implementing bills (as defined in subsection (b)(1) of such section) submitted with respect to trade agreements entered into under section (3)(b) of this Act.

(B) Section 151(b)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974 is amended by striking subparagraph (C) and inserting -

"(C)(i) if changes in existing laws or new statutory authority is required to implement such trade agreement or agreements or such extension, provisions which are necessary or appropriate to implement such trade agreement or agreements or extension and which are related to trade, either repealing or amending existing laws or providing new statutory authority; and

(ii) provisions necessary for purposes of complying with section 252 of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 in implementing the applicable trade agreement."

(c) APPLICATION AND EXTENSION OF "FAST TRACK" PROCEDURES. -

(1) IN GENERAL. - Except as provided in section 5(b) -

(A) fast track procedures apply to implementing bills submitted with respect to trade agreements entered into under subsection (b) before October 1, 2001; and

(B) fast track procedures shall be extended to implementing bills submitted with respect to trade agreements entered into under subsection (b) after September 30, 2001, and before October 1, 2005, if (and only if) -

(i) the President requests such extension under paragraph (2); and

(ii) neither House of the Congress adopts an extension disapproval resolution under paragraph (5) before October 1, 2001.

(2) REPORT TO CONGRESS BY THE PRESIDENT. - If the President is of the opinion that fast track procedures should be extended to implementing bills described in paragraph (1)(B), the President shall submit to the Congress, not later than July 1, 2001, a written report that contains a request for such extension, together with -

(A) a description of all trade agreements that have been negotiated under subsection (b) and the anticipated schedule for submitting such agreements to the Congress for approval;

(B) a description of the progress that has been made in negotiations to achieve the purposes and policies of this Act, and a statement that such progress justifies the continuation of negotiations; and

(C) a statement of the reasons why the extension is needed to complete the negotiations.

(3) REPORT TO CONGRESS BY THE ADVISORY

COMMITTEE. - The President shall promptly inform the Advisory Committee for Trade Policy and Negotiations established under section 135 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2155) of the President's decision to submit a report to the Congress under paragraph (2). The Advisory Committee shall submit to the Congress as soon as practicable, but not later than August 1, 2001, a written report that contains -

(A) its views regarding the progress that has been made in negotiations to achieve the purposes and policies of this Act; and

(B) a statement of its views, and the reasons therefor, regarding whether the extension requested under paragraph (2) should be approved or disapproved.

(4) REPORTS MAY BE CLASSIFIED. - The reports submitted to the Congress under paragraphs (2) and (3), or any portion of the reports, may be classified to the extent the President determines appropriate.

(5) EXTENSION DISAPPROVAL RESOLUTIONS. -

(A) For purposes of this subsection, the term "extension disapproval resolution" means a resolution of either House of the Congress, the sole matter after the resolving clause of which is as follows: "That the ____ disapproves the request of the President for the extension, under section 3(c)(1)(B)(i) of the Export Expansion and Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act of 1997, of the provisions of section 151 of the Trade Act of 1974 to any implementing bill submitted with respect to any trade agreement entered into under section 3(b) of the Export Expansion and Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act of 1997 after September 30, 2001.", with the blank space being filled with the name of the resolving House of the Congress.

(B) Extension disapproval resolutions -

(i) may be introduced in either House of the Congress by any member of such House; and

(ii) shall be jointly referred, in the House of Representatives, to the Committee on Ways and Means and the Committee on Rules.

(C) The provisions of sections 152(d) and (e) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2192(d) and (e)) (relating to the floor consideration of certain resolutions in the House and Senate) apply to extension disapproval resolutions.

(D) It is not in order for -

(i) the Senate to consider any extension disapproval resolution not reported by the Committee on Finance;

(ii) the House of Representatives to consider any extension disapproval resolution not reported by the Committee on Ways and Means and the Committee on Rules; or

(iii) either House of the Congress to consider an extension disapproval resolution after September 30, 2001.

SEC. 4. NOTICE AND CONSULTATIONS.

(a) NOTICE AND CONSULTATION BEFORE NEGOTIATION. - The President, at least 90 calendar days before initiating negotiations on any agreement that is subject to the provisions of section 3(b), shall -

(1) provide written notice to the Congress of the President's intent to enter into the negotiations and set forth therein the date the President intends to initiate such negotiations, the specific United States objectives for the negotiations, and whether the President intends to seek an agreement or changes to an existing agreement; and

(2) before and after submission of the notice, consult regarding the negotiations with the Committee on Finance of the Senate and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and such other committees of the House and Senate as the President deems appropriate.

(b) CONSULTATION WITH CONGRESS BEFORE AGREEMENTS ENTERED INTO. -

(1) CONSULTATION. - Before entering into any trade agreement under section 3(b), the President shall consult with -

(A) the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate; and

(B) each other committee of the House and the

Senate, and each joint committee of the Congress, which has jurisdiction over legislation involving subject matters which would be affected by the trade agreement.

(2) SCOPE. - The consultation described in paragraph (1) shall include consultation with respect to -

(A) the nature of the agreement;

(B) how and to what extent the agreement will achieve the applicable purposes and policies of this Act; and

(C) plans regarding the implementation of the agreement under section 5, including whether the agreement includes subject matter for which supplemental implementing legislation may be required which is not subject to fast track procedures; and

(D) any other agreement or agreements the President has entered into or intends to enter into with the country or countries in question.

(c) ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS. - The report required under section 135(e)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974 regarding any trade agreement entered into under section 3(b) of this Act shall be provided to the President, the Congress, and the United States Trade Representative not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which the President notifies the Congress under section 5(a)(1)(A) of the President's intention to enter into the agreement.

SEC. 5. IMPLEMENTATION OF TRADE AGREEMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL. -

(1) NOTIFICATION AND SUBMISSION. - Any agreement entered into under section 3(b) shall enter into force with respect to the United States if (and only if) -

(A) the President, at least 90 calendar days before the day on which the President enters into the trade agreement, notifies the House of Representatives and the Senate of the President's intention to enter into the agreement, and promptly thereafter publishes notice of such intention in the Federal Register;

(B) within 60 calendar days after entering into the agreement, the President submits to the Congress a description of those changes to existing laws that the President considers would be required in order to bring the United States into compliance with the agreement;

(C) after entering into the agreement, the President submits a copy of the final legal text of the agreement, together with -

(i) a draft of an implementing bill;

(ii) a statement of any administrative action proposed to implement the trade agreement; and

(iii) the supporting information described in paragraph (2); and

(D) the implementing bill is enacted into law.

(2) SUPPORTING INFORMATION. - The supporting information required under paragraph (1)(C)(iii) consists of -

(A) an explanation as to how the implementing bill and proposed administrative action will change or affect existing law; and

(B) a statement -

(i) asserting that the agreement makes

progress in achieving the applicable purposes and policies of this Act; and

(ii) setting forth the reasons of the President regarding -

(I) how and to what extent the agreement makes progress in achieving the applicable purposes and policies referred to in clause (i), and why and to what extent the agreement does not achieve other applicable purposes and policies;

(II) whether and how the agreement changes provisions of an agreement previously negotiated;

(III) how the agreement serves the interests of United States commerce; and

(IV) why the implementing bill and proposed administrative action are required or appropriate to carry out the agreement.

(3) RECIPROCAL BENEFITS. - To ensure that a foreign country which receives benefits under a trade agreement entered into under section 3(b) is subject to the obligations imposed by such agreement, the President shall recommend to Congress in the implementing bill and statement of administrative action submitted with respect to such agreement that the benefits and obligations of such agreement apply solely to the parties to such agreement, if such application is consistent with the terms of such agreement. The President may also recommend with respect to any such agreement that the benefits and obligations of such agreement not apply uniformly to all parties to such agreement, if such application is consistent with the terms of such agreement.

(b) LIMITATIONS ON FAST TRACK PROCEDURES. -

(1) FOR LACK OF CONSULTATIONS. -

(A) Fast track procedures shall not apply to any implementing bill submitted with respect to a trade agreement entered into under section 3(b) if both Houses of Congress separately agree to a procedural disapproval resolution within any 60 calendar-day period.

(B) For purposes of this paragraph, the term "procedural disapproval resolution" means a resolution of either House of the Congress, the sole matter after the resolving clause of which is as follows: "That the President has failed or refused to consult with the Congress on trade negotiations and trade agreements in accordance with section 4(b) of the Export Expansion and Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act of 1997 and, therefore, the provisions of section 151 of the Trade Act of 1974 shall not apply to any implementing bill submitted with respect to any trade agreement entered into under section 3(b) of the Export Expansion and Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act 1997.".

(2) PROCEDURES FOR CONSIDERING RESOLUTIONS. -

(A) PROCEDURAL DISAPPROVAL RESOLUTIONS -

(i) in the House of Representatives -

(I) shall be introduced by the

chairman or ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means or the chairman or ranking minority member of the Committee on Rules;

(II) shall be jointly referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and the Committee on Rules; and

(III) may not be amended by either Committee; and

(ii) in the Senate shall be original resolutions of the Committee on Finance.

(B) The provisions of section 152(d) and (e) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2192(d) and (e)) (relating to the floor consideration of certain resolutions in the House and Senate) apply to procedural disapproval resolutions.

(C) It is not in order for the House of Representatives to consider any procedural disapproval resolution not reported by the Committee on Ways and Means and the Committee on Rules.

(c) RULES OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATE. - Subsection (b) of this section and section 3(c) are enacted by the Congress -

(1) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the House of Representatives and the Senate, respectively, and as such are deemed a part of the rules of each House, respectively, and such procedures supersede other rules only to the extent that they are inconsistent with such other rules; and

(2) with the full recognition of the constitutional right of either House to change the rules (so far as relating to the procedures of that House) at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as any other rule of that House.

SEC. 6. TREATMENT OF CERTAIN TRADE AGREEMENTS.

(a) NEGOTIATIONS UNDER THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION. - The provisions of section 4(a) shall not apply to agreements that result from negotiations -

(1) under the auspices of the World Trade Organization regarding trade in information technology products, or;

(2) or work programs initiated pursuant to a Uruguay Round Agreement, as defined in section 2 of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act,

that were commenced before the date of the enactment of this Act, and the applicability of fast track procedures to such agreements shall be determined without regard to the requirements of section 4(a).

(b) AGREEMENT WITH CHILE. - If an agreement to which section 3(b) applies is entered into with Chile after the date of the enactment of this Act and results from negotiations that were commenced before such date of enactment the provisions of section 4(a) shall not apply to such agreement and the applicability of fast track procedures to such agreement shall be determined without regard to the requirements of section 4(a).

SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) DEFINITIONS. - For purposes of this Act:

(1) The term "core labor standards" means -

(A) freedom of association;

(B) the right to organize and bargain collectively;

(C) a prohibition on forced labor;

(D) a prohibition on exploitative child labor; and

(E) a prohibition on discrimination in employment.

(2) The term "distortion" includes, but is not limited to, a subsidy.

(3) The term "foreign country" includes any foreign instrumentality. Any territory or possession of a foreign country that is administered separately for customs purposes, shall be treated as a separate foreign country.

(4) The term "internationally recognized worker rights" has the meaning ascribed to that term in section 507(4) of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended.

(5) The term "trade" includes, but is not limited to -

(A) trade in both goods and services, and

(B) foreign investment by United States persons, especially if such investment has implications for trade in goods and services.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS. - Title I of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2111 and following) is amended as follows -

(1) Section 151(b)(1) (19 U.S.C. 2191(b)(1)) is amended by replacing "section 1103(a)(1) of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988" with "section 5(a)(1) of the Export Expansion and Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act of 1997".

(2) Section 131 (19 U.S.C. 2151) is amended -

(A) in subsection (a) -

(i) in paragraph (1), by replacing "section 123 of this Act or section 1102 (a) or (c) of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988" with "section 3(a) or (b) of the Export Expansion and Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act of 1997"; and

(ii) in paragraph (2), by replacing "section 1102(b) or (c) of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988" with "section 3(b) of the Export Expansion and Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act of 1997"; and

(B) in subsection (b), by replacing "section 1102(a)(3)(A) of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988" with "section 3(a)(3)(A) of the Export Expansion and Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act of 1997"; and

(C) in subsection (c), by replacing "section 1102 of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988," with "section 3 of the Export Expansion and Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act of 1997".

(3) Sections 132, 133(a), 134(a), and 162(a) (19 U.S.C. 2152, 2153(a), 2154(a), and 2212(a)) are each amended by replacing "section 1102 of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988", each time it appears, with "section 3 of the Export Expansion and Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act of 1997".

(4) Section 134(b) (19 U.S.C. 2154(b)) is amended by replacing "section 1102 of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988" with "section 3 of the Export Expansion and Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act of 1997".

(5) Section 135(a)(1)(A) (19 U.S.C. 2155(a)(1)(A)) is amended by replacing "section 1102 of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988" with "section 3 of the Export Expansion and Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act of 1997".

(6) Section 135(e) (19 U.S.C. 2155(e)) is amended -

(A) in paragraph (1), by replacing "section 1102 of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988", each time it appears, with "section 3 of the Export Expansion and Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act of 1997", and by replacing "section 1103(a)(1)(A) of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988" with "section 5(a)(1)(A) of the Export Expansion and Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act of 1997"; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by replacing "section 1101 of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988" with "section 2 of the Export Expansion and Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act of 1997".

(c) APPLICATION OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS. - For purposes of applying sections 125, 126, and 127 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2135, 2136(a), and 2137) -

(1) any trade agreement entered into under section 3 shall be treated as an agreement entered into under section 101 or 102, as appropriate, of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2111 or 2112); and

(2) any proclamation or Executive order issued pursuant to a trade agreement entered into under section 3 shall be treated as a proclamation or Executive order issued pursuant to a trade agreement entered into under section 102 of the Trade Act of 1974.

Arkansas
Business Leaders
Sept. 23, 1997

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P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

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b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

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Mr. Steven J. Ronnel
Special Advisor to the President
and Senior Advisor to the Special
Envoy for the Americas
The White House
Washington, DC

Dear Steve:

Here is the information you requested on the Washington Delegation arriving Monday, September 22:

[001]

NAME	DATE OF BIRTH	SOCIAL SECURITY #
1 Anthony, John Edwin		
2 Cheek, James R.		
3 DiMicco, Daniel R.		
4 Hatfield, Donald Blair		
5 Mauldin, Jerry L.	(b)(6)	
6 McDonald, Lauren E.		
7 Murphy, Charles H. Jr.		
8 ~~Rule, Herbert C.~~		
9 Whisenhunt, Andrew		
10 Wingfield, Hartsell C.		

Please let me know if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,

Kelly Dearing

Kelly Dearing
Administrative Assistant

/kd 11 Good, Mary L. (b)(6)

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Steven J. Ronnel
OA/Box Number: 11854

FOLDER TITLE:

Fast Track - File Created 8/12/97: Arkansas Business Leaders - September 23, 1997

2017-0401-F
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RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.
PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).
RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

AMBASSADOR JAMES R. CHEEK

PHONE (501) 225-8452
FAX (501-225-4148

31 Saint Andrews Drive
Little Rock, AR 72212

Fax Message To:

Steve Ronnell 9/9/97
Office of Mac McLarty

Further to my voice mail this morning herewith are relevant papers re trip to Wash. DC Sept. 23 -- all FYI. Look forward to talking with you to update you. Jim

Catering office → Ron Guy
7-1285 – (fax 393-1256)

AMBASSADOR JAMES R. CHEEK

PHONE (501) 225-8452
FAX (501-225-4148

31 Saint Andrews Drive
Little Rock, AR 72212

Fax Message To: Jennifer Weens
Scheduler for Rep. Jay Dickey
FAX: (202) 225-1314

Further to my message of September 9 on your voice mail, I am forwarding herewith the following papers related to our request for an appointment with Rep. Dickey on September 23, 1997:

1. Copy of the letter of invitation which was sent to CEOs of leading Arkansas companies inviting them to participate in our group and join in meeting with our congressional delegation in Washington, D.C. on September 23 This letter explains the purpose of our visit and objective of our meetings with individual members of Congress.

2. List of the confirmed and pending participants in our group as of September 9. We have nine confirmed and expect 2-3 more to confirm by the end of this week.

Following our breakfast and briefing at the White House with Mac McLarty, we plan to begin meetings on the Hill with our congress members at 10:30 am for about 30 minutes each. We hope to finish the six meetings by late afternoon since some of our group have to return to Arkansas that evening (Sept. 23). As of morning Sept. 9, we have confirmed meetings at 11:30 am, 1:00 pm, 1:30 pm, and 2:30 pm--all other times are open.

Your assistance in arranging an appointment with Rep. Dickey will be much appreciated by our group. You can reach me at (501) 225-8452 in Little Rock.

CONFIRMED ATTENDEES FOR SEPT. 22-23 ARKANSAS/WASHINGTON DELEGATION

Hartsell Wingfield
President
TCBY International
1200 TCBY Tower
425 W. Capitol Ave.
Little Rock, AR 72201
Tel: 501-688-8577
Fax: 501-688-8251

Ambassador James R. Cheek
Ambassador in Residence U.A.L.R.
31 St. Andrews Dr.
Little Rock, AR 72212
Tel: 501-225-8452
Fax: 501-225-4148

Mr. Daniel R. DiMicco
Vice President/General Manager
Nucor/Yamata Steel
P.O. Box 1228
Blytheville, AR 72316
Tel: 870-762-5500
Fax: 870-762-1130

Mr. John Ed Anthony
Anthony Timberlands
P.O. Box 20129
Hot Springs, AR 71903
Tel: 501-262-5425
Fax: 501-262-9535

Ms. Mary Good
Venture Capitol Investors
400 W. Capitol Ave., Ste. 2323
Little Rock, AR 72201
Tel: 501-372-5900
Fax: 501-372-8181

~~Mr. Herb Rule~~
~~Rose Law Firm~~
~~120 E. 4th St.~~
~~Little Rock, AR 72201~~
Tel: 501-375-9131
Fax: 501-375-1309

Mr. Jerry Mauldin
Vice Chairman
Entergy
P.O. Box 551
Little Rock, AR 72203
Tel: 377-4000
Fax: 377-3500

Mr. Don Hatfield
President and Chief Executive Officer
Arkansas Systems, Inc.
17500 Chenal Parkway
Little Rock, AR 72211
Tel: 218-7300
Fax: 218-7302

Mr. Charles Murphy
First United Bancshares
Murphy Oil Co.
200 N. Jefferson
El Dorado, AR 71730
Tel: 870-862-4961
Fax: 870-862-5299

UNCONFIRMED ATTENDEES

Mr. Richard Bell
Chief Executive Officer
Riceland Foods, Inc.
P.O. Box 927
Stuttgart, AR 72160
Tel: 870-673-5328
Fax: 870-673-5667

→ Farm Bureau
Washington

Mr. Bobby Martin
Chief Executive Officer
Wal-Mart International
702 S.W. 8th Street
Bentonville, AR 72716
Tel: 501-273-8900
Fax: 501-273-4329

Mr. J. B. Hunt
J. B. Hunt Trucking
P.O. Box 130
Lowell, AR 72745
Tel: 501-820-0000
Fax: 501-820-8397

~~Mr. Don Tyson~~
~~Tyson Foods~~
~~P.O. Box 2020~~
~~Springdale, AR 72765~~
~~Tel: 501-290-4000~~
Fax: 501-290-4028

~~Mr. Jack Fleischauer~~
~~Chairman, President and C.E.O.~~
~~First Commercial Bank~~
~~P.O. Box 1471~~
~~Little Rock, AR 72203~~
~~Tel: 501-371-7001~~
~~Fax: 501-371-6525~~

~~Mr. Craig Niemiec~~
~~Chief Executive Officer~~
~~AllTel Information Systems~~
~~4001 N. Rodney Parham Rd.~~
~~Little Rock, AR 72212~~
~~Tel: 220-5100~~
Fax: 220-4666

Lauren E. McDonald
~~Mr. Del Boyette~~ ~~Executive Director~~ Director, Trade and International Investments
Arkansas Economic Development Commission
One State Capitol Mall
Little Rock, AR 72201
Tel: 501-682-2052
Fax: 501-682-7691

Andrew Whitzenhudt

Thank you for coming to Washington in support of free and fair trade and to encourage the Arkansas Congressional Delegation to support "fast track" legislation. Your visit was highly successful and we believe you made a direct, positive impact on each Member of Congress from our state. Mack McLarty and Jay Berman were quite impressed with the quality, dedication, and effectiveness of your team.

I am pleased to report that a fast track bill has passed both the Senate Finance Committee (by a vote of 16-1) and the House Ways and Means Committee (by a vote of 24-14). The next (and most challenging) tests will arrive in a few weeks when fast track comes to a vote in the Senate and the House of Representatives. We need every vote from Arkansas and we are working to win the full support of our delegation. As we quickly approach the end of the Congressional session, we hope you will continue helping us in this regard, especially with members who are undecided.

Thank you again for dedicating your time and effort to this important debate over the future of American leadership in the global economy.

Sincerely,

Steve Ronnel

Pls prepare letters on WH letterhead for my signature.
Thank you
- Steve

TUESDAY, SEPT., 23 APPOINTMENTS FOR ARKANSAS DELEGATION

Time	Location	Member of Congress
10:30 am	Dirksen 245	Senator Tim Hutchinson
11:30 am	Rayburn 2453	Congressman Jay Dickey
12:30 pm	Longworth 1535	Congressman Asa Hutchinson
1:00 pm	Longworth 1319	Congressman Vic Snyder
1:30 pm	Longworth 1407	Congressman Marlon Berry
2:30 pm	Dirksen 229	Senator Dale Bumpers

CONTACT INFORMATION

Member Congress	Scheduler	Phone/Fax(all 202 a.c.)
Rep. Dickey	Jennifer Weens	225-3772/225-1314
Sen. Hutchinson	Heather Larrison	224-2353/228-3973
Rep. Hutchinson	Diana Ludlow	226-8062/225-5713
Rep. Snyder	Mary Starr Ross	225-2506/225-5903
Rep. Berry	Courtney Claybaugh	225-4076/225-5602
Sen. Bumpers	Henry Woods	224-4843/224-6435

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August 13, 1997

Via Fax: 202-456-2464
4 Pages

Mr. Steven J. Ronnel
Special Advisor to the President
and Senior Advisor to the Special
Envoy for the Americas
The White House
Washington, DC

Dear Steve:

Hartsell asked that I send you the attached letters that he received for your information.

Sincerely,

Kelly Dearing

Kelly Dearing
Administrative Assistant

/kd

Mark,

Let's discuss

TCBY INTERNATIONAL • TCBY TOWER • 425 WEST CAPITOL AVENUE, SUITE 1200 • LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201-3409
TELEPHONE: (501) 688-8229 • FAX: (501) 688-8251

DALE BUMPERS
ARKANSAS

COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
SMALL BUSINESS

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0401

July 24, 1997

RECEIVED
AUG 11 1997
H. WINGFIELD

Hartsell Wingfield
President
TCBY International
425 West Capitol Avenue
Suite 1200
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201-3405

Dear Hartsell:

Thank you for your letter in support of "fast track" authority for the President, and thank you for your service as Chairman of the U.S. Department of Commerce Arkansas District Export Council.

As you know, I supported NAFTA and GATT when Congress considered those agreements. I believe free trade is vital to the health of the U.S. economy, and it is important that we have a clear framework with other countries to limit potential abuses.

I do believe, however, that we should extend our trade agreements in a careful, deliberative fashion to ensure that those chosen for preferential trade relations with the U.S. are committed to fair trade as well as free trade. With that in mind, I am looking forward to the debate on "fast track" and Chile's accession to NAFTA, and I will certainly keep your comments in mind as that occurs.

Please keep in touch.

Sincerely,

Dale

Dale Bumpers

DB:jhb

TIM HUTCHINSON
ARKANSAS

COMMITTEES:
ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS
LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0403

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
245 DIRKSEN SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
(202) 224-2353

STATE OFFICE:
2527 FEDERAL BUILDING
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72201
(501) 324-6336

July 31, 1997

RECEIVED
AUG 11 1997
H. WINGFIELD

Mr. Hartsell Wingfield
TCBY Tower
425 West Capitol Avenue Suite 1200
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Dear Mr. Wingfield:

Thank you for contacting my office to express your support for fast-track trade authority. I appreciate the opportunity to hear from you on this issue.

As you know, fast track gives the President authority to negotiate trade deals, which can only be voted up or down by Congress and not endlessly amended. Let me say that I support the approval of fast-track authority in that it would benefit our foreign and domestic policy.

In the 104th Congress, there was an attempt to pass similar legislation. However, the Administration and Congressional leaders could not agree on whether or not to include labor and environmental measures into the fast-track procedure. Currently, Congress is scheduled to debate this legislation sometime in September. You may be assured that I will do what I can to help pass this vital legislation.

Again, thanks for taking the time to express your concerns about this issue. If I can be of assistance in the future, please feel free to contact me.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,

Tim Hutchinson
United States Senator

TH:ma

JAY DICKEY
4TH DISTRICT, ARKANSAS

COMMITTEE:
APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE
TRANSPORTATION
LABOR—HHS—ED

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

WASHINGTON, DC
2453 RAYBURN H.O.B.
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-3772
FAX: (202) 225-1314

PINE BLUFF
100 EAST 8TH AVENUE
SUITE 2521
PINE BLUFF, AR 71601
(501) 536-3376
(800) 223-2220
FAX: (501) 536-4058

HOT SPRINGS
100 RESERVE
SUITE 201
HOT SPRINGS, AR 71901
(501) 623-5800
(800) 541-6365
FAX: (501) 623-5365

June 25, 1997

RECEIVED
JUL - 8 1997
H. WINGFIELD

Mr. Hartsell Wingfield
President
TCBY International
425 West Capitol Avenue
Suite 1200
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Dear Mr. Wingfield:

Thank you for contacting me regarding your support for fast track authority for the President in trade negotiations.

Although freer trade provides many advantages to the United States, we must remain vigilant in preventing other countries from taking advantage of our open policies. My staff and I are currently in the process of studying the implications of granting fast track authority to the President. If it is good for Arkansans, you can be assured it will receive my full support.

If you have any further questions regarding this or any other issue, do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

Jay Dickey

bc

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Check
Follow in Sept.

HARTSELL WINGFIELD
PRESIDENT

June 18, 1997

Via Fax: 202-456-2215
11 PAGES

Mr. Steven J. Ronnel
Special Advisor to the President
and Senior Advisor to the Special
Envoy for the Americas
The White House
Washington, DC

Dear Steve:

As promised, please see the attached letters that I sent to Senator Dale Bumpers, Senator Tim Hutchinson, Congressman Vic Snyder, Congressman Jay Dickey, and Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich.

I hope the letters aren't too long, but I wanted to make my point as clearly as I could. I hope that they will serve a useful purpose.

On a more personal note, could you give me an update on your ability to do something "special" for my daughter, son-in-law, and their two friends. As mentioned, any help that you can give will certainly be appreciated. Did I give you all of the information that you required for them?

Sincerely,

Hartsell Wingfield

HW/kd

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HARTSELL WINGFIELD
PRESIDENT

June 16, 1997

Senator Dale Bumpers
229 Dirksen Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Bumpers:

I am writing to you in my capacity as Chairman of the United States Department of Commerce Arkansas District Export Council.

I will keep this short and to the point: We need your help in ensuring that the President is granted "fast track" authority for negotiating trade agreements. This coming March, the President will be traveling to Latin America to meet with the heads of state of many of our Latin American trading partners. Without fast track authority, the President's trip will be placed in a tremendously inappropriate position concerning bilateral trade. Because of the expiration of the fast track authority, Chile has already negotiated a fair trade agreement with Canada, making Canadian products 11% less expensive than U.S. products being imported into Chile. With the expansion of Mercosur, the preferential trade given to other countries in Latin America by their trading partners, and now to Canada, will place the United States in the extremely unenviable position of trying to compete, yet being unable to, because of trade barriers.

In the coming months, you will receive many facts concerning the need for fast track authority for the President. Some of the rhetoric that will be shared in opposition to granting this authority to the President will be the NAFTA. If you carefully review the information concerning the NAFTA, you will find that the execution of the NAFTA has been one of the single best responses by the United States toward international trade throughout its history. Total North American trade has increased 43% during the NAFTA's first three years. U.S. exports to Mexico have grown over 37% from 1993 to 1996; and, during the fourth quarter of 1996 are growing at an annual rate of $64 billion. Additionally, U.S. market share in Mexico increased from 69% of total Mexican imports in 1993 to 76% in 1996. These are incredible gains that were only possible with the passage of

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NAFTA. Unfortunately, you will also hear that because of the NAFTA, there is now a trade deficit with Mexico. Frankly, whether we have a trade deficit or a trade surplus with any particular country is academic as long as total trade increases, which it has with Mexico. Additionally, a trade deficit would be natural for the United States, since we are a consumption economy and consume far more than any other country. The NAFTA has created a situation where the United States has grown its economy and jobs because of the total increase in trade from the United States to Mexico. The fact that this trade has also strengthened the Mexican economy is verifiable through the various statistics available. The NAFTA has been a true win-win situation that occurred only because of the fact that the Clinton Administration has pursued free trade worldwide in a time when other countries are pursuing free trade allegiances also.

If the United States does not react favorably, we will become an island unto ourselves with very few trading partners. The situation which occurred among Chile, Canada and the United States will be repeated worldwide as the United States is placed in a disadvantaged position, having to sell its goods and services at a higher price because of imposed import restrictions.

Senator Bumpers, the United States District Export Council, made up of business leaders throughout the United States, recently met in California and unanimously voted its strong recommendation for the U.S. Congress to grant the President fast track authority. Please listen to the varied business leaders that this will affect most. There is simply not a sound argument to prevent the President from having fast track authority.

Senator Bumpers, I am speaking on behalf of all exporters in the State of Arkansas when I sincerely ask that you support the fast track authority for the President and do so quickly.

Sincerely,

Hartsell Wingfield

HW/kd

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HARTSELL WINGFIELD
PRESIDENT

June 18, 1997

Senator Tim Hutchinson
245 Dirksen Building
Washington, DC 20510

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TELEPHONE: (501) 688-8577 • FAX: (501) 688-8251

Senator Tim Hutchinson
June 18, 1997
Page 2

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Senator Hutchinson, I am speaking on behalf of all exporters in the State of Arkansas when I sincerely ask that you support the fast track authority for the President and do so quickly.

Sincerely,

Hartsell Wingfield

Hartsell Wingfield

HW/kd

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HARTSELL WINGFIELD
PRESIDENT

June 18, 1997

Congressman Vic Snyder
1319 Longworth Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Snyder:

I am writing to you in my capacity as Chairman of the United States Department of Commerce Arkansas District Export Council.

I will keep this short and to the point: We need your help in ensuring that the President is granted "fast track" authority for negotiating trade agreements. This coming March, the President will be traveling to Latin America to meet with the heads of state of many of our Latin American trading partners. Without fast track authority, the President's trip will be placed in a tremendously inappropriate position concerning bilateral trade. Because of the expiration of the fast track authority, Chile has already negotiated a fair trade agreement with Canada, making Canadian products <u>11%</u> less expensive than U.S. products being imported into Chile. With the expansion of Mercosur, the preferential trade given to other countries in Latin America by their trading partners, and now to Canada, will place the United States in the extremely unenviable position of trying to compete, yet being unable to, because of trade barriers.

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Sincerely,

Hartsell Wingfield

HW/kd

"TCBY"

The Country's Best Yogurt®

HARTSELL WINGFIELD
PRESIDENT

June 18, 1997

Congressman Jay Dickey
2453 Rayburn Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Dickey:

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Sincerely,

Hartsell Wingfield

HW/kd

"TCBY"
The Country's Best Yogurt®

HARTSELL WINGFIELD
PRESIDENT

June 16, 1997

Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich
2428 Rayburn Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Gingrich:

I am writing to you in my capacity as Chairman of the United States Department of Commerce Arkansas District Export Council. Shortly, Congress will be voting on granting the President fast track authority as he prepares to join other leaders of the Americas in March of next year to discuss bilateral trade. It is extremely important that the President be granted fast track authority in order to preclude other countries taking the same action that Chile took recently in granting favorable trade policies toward Canada, which basically caused United States products to cost 11% more when shipped to Chile than do Canadian products. This occurred because the United States did not take aggressive action in approving Chile as the fourth member of the NAFTA. The unfavorable trade position with Chile will be duplicated worldwide if the United States pursues the policy of isolationism.

Speaker Gingrich, as fast track authority is debated, some will try to bring up the NAFTA as a reason for not giving the President fast track authority. They will say that since NAFTA, the United States now has a trade deficit, rather than a trade surplus, with Mexico. Please do not fall into the trap of believing such comments or certainly not reiterating these comments to others. The total North American trade has increased more than 43% in the first three years of NAFTA. U.S. exports to Mexico grew by 37% from 1993 to 1996, reaching a record $57 billion. During the fourth quarter of 1996, our exports to Mexico are growing at an annualized rate of $64 billion. Additionally, the U.S. market share in Mexico increased from 69% of total Mexican imports in 1993 to 76% in 1996. In other words, not only has total North American trade increased, but the actual dollars exported from the United States to Mexico has increased. Whether there is a deficit or a surplus makes little difference when jobs are created here in the United States and taxes are paid here in the United States on products exported to Mexico. We are a consumption economy.

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We always have been and we always will be. That is an advantage that the United States has over many countries. Because we are a consumption economy, there are times when we will consume more than we are able to export. It is my firm belief that as long as total trade increases, which it always does when market barriers are reduced, then it becomes a win-win situation for both countries involved. With the growth of the Mercosur Alliance and other alliances worldwide, the United States will become isolated if it does not aggressively pursue bilateral free trade opportunities.

Speaker Gingrich, I am a Republican because I believe in the Republican philosophies. Perhaps the most specific of those is the belief in a free market economy not encumbered by governmental regulations. From my perspective, barriers to free trade do not support Republican philosophies. We must set aside partisan politics in the best interest of our country, and granting the President fast track authority is perhaps the best single way that we can do so.

Recently, members of District Export Councils from around the United States traveled to California for its annual meeting. The unanimous recommendation of these members, business leaders who are currently involved in export around the United States, was to recommend to the Congress that they approve fast track authority for the President. These are business leaders currently involved in exporting, and they believe fast track authority would be in their best interest. They are the people who grow jobs here in the United States because of their exporting capabilities. Please work to support them in their efforts by quickly granting the President fast track authority. There are many, many points with which I disagree with Mr. Clinton. This is not one of them.

Sincerely,

Hartsell Wingfield

HW/kd

FAST TRACK BRIEFING FOR ARKANSAS BUSINESS LEADERS

Tuesday, September 23, 1997
The Roosevelt Room
9:30 - 10:15am

Arkansas Business Leaders:

Mr. Hartsell Wingfield
TCBY International

Mr. Dan DiMicco
Nucor Steel

Ms. Mary Good
Venture Capitol Investors

Mr. Jerry Mauldin
Entergy

Mr. Charles Murphy
Murphy Oil Co.

Mr. Andrew Whisenhunt
Arkansas Farm Bureau

Ambassador Jim Cheek

Mr. John Ed Anthony
Anthony Timberlands

Mr. Herb Rule
Rose Law Firm

Mr. Don Hatfield
Arkansas Systems, Inc.

Ms. Lauren McDonald
Arkansas Industrial Development Commission

Administration attendees:

The Honorable Thomas F. (Mack) McLarty
Special Envoy for the Americas

Mr. Steve Ronnel
Special Advisor to the President and
Senior Advisor to the Special Envoy

Mr. Peter O'Keefe
Special Assistant to the President for
Public Liaison and Business Outreach

Mr. Jay Berman
Special Counselor to the President

Mr. Robert Kyle
Special Assistant to the President for
International Economic Affairs