



November 12, 2019

U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative:

On behalf of Associated Builders and Contractors, a national construction industry trade association with 69 chapters representing more than 21,000 members, I write to express ABC's support for the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement.

Earlier this year, the administration's decision to remove Section 232 tariffs on steel and aluminum from Canada and Mexico helped mitigate a major hurdle to this critical trade deal, and ABC appreciates the efforts of many members of Congress in addressing this impediment to negotiations.

The USMCA is an important agreement that will strengthen the United States' relationships with its two largest trading partners, ensuring fairer trade and freer markets for the construction industry. With less than one month of legislative days remaining through the end of the year, it is critical that the House and Senate ratify this deal for the American people.

The construction industry continues to grow in our thriving economy, but we must provide the industry with access to affordable and readily available materials for critical projects that build our communities. Uncertainty in trade can lead to volatility that would hold back an otherwise thriving economy and, ultimately, the construction industry. ABC believes the USMCA will help to ensure certainty in the supply chain and reduce volatility in pricing for building materials from Mexico and Canada to further lift the economy, support more projects and help address the much-needed modernization of our nation's infrastructure.

ABC also believes that the USMCA will further benefit the United States, with estimates that it will add \$68.2 billion to the U.S. economy and create approximately 176,000 new jobs.

ABC urges members of Congress to support this trade agreement and work to ensure passage of the USMCA in 2019. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kristen Swearingen
Vice President, Legislative & Political Affairs