



Cochise County Board of Supervisors

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ARLETHE R. MORRISON
Clerk of the Board

October 8, 2019

RE: US-Mexico Border County Supervisors Urge Ratification of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement

Dear Members of the United States Congress:

On behalf of the undersigned County Supervisors of the communities along the US-Mexico border in the states of California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas, we are writing express our support for the ratification of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA).

The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) created the largest single free trade area in the world. Since its establishment, trade with Canada and Mexico has nearly quadrupled to \$3.5 billion per day or \$1.3 trillion annually. In 2018, bilateral trade between the southwest border states and our North American partners accounted for over \$407 billion. Additionally, more than 12 million American jobs depend on trade with Canada and Mexico, including over 2.7 million jobs in our four states.

Our ports of entry are catalysts for regional economic development. They are gateways for tremendous amounts of trade and tourism and the impacts of the ports of entry are felt far beyond their physical location at the border. In northbound traffic alone, 191.6 million people, 6.3 million commercial trucks, and 76.9 million personal vehicles crossed the border in 2018 through our border communities.

The USMCA meets the needs of the 21st-century economy by providing:

- Certainty for future investment in North America, ensuring North America remains the most desired market and place to invest in the world;
- Stronger Rules of Origin for products manufactured in North America;
- New provisions to protect intellectual property and trade in services; and
- New chapters that focus on digital trade and anti-corruption.

In communities along the US-Mexico border trade, tourism, and investment opportunities with Mexico are critically important for the economic development of the region and the quality of life of the residents we represent. Furthermore, a strong trade deal with Mexico and Canada is crucial for the economic future of the United States and will help our country remain a leader in the global economy. We ask that you work with your colleagues in Congress to ratify the USMCA as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Borer
Chairman

Ann English
Vice-Chairman

Peggy Judd
Supervisor