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Trade Promotion Authority Renewal: An Issue We All Need to Help with up on the Hill

On the 2nd day of the NADEC Annual Conference coming up this May, there will be an important visit up on the Hill so that all of our attendees are able to spend some time with their respective Senate and House members. This visit will be preceded by a morning briefing conducted by NADEC's Chairman, Jonathan Szucs, along with 2 members of our Trade Policy Committee, Susanne Sterling (California) and Luke Lindberg (South Dakota). In addition to specific issues which you may wish to raise, there will be a handful of national issues which we know will be important for you to raise and discuss with your Congressionals. We will bring those to your attention during the briefing.

One of these critical, national issues will be the importance of renewing the President's Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) which lapsed nearly a two years ago, back in July, 2021. This inability of the Executive branch to meaningfully negotiate in the trade arena is one of the reasons why we have seen no new trade agreements since the USMCA. It has also impaired the restart or finalization the U.S./U.K. and U.S./E.U. FTA's.

The renewal of the TPA is essential and its lapse is hurting U.S. companies that rely on trade in order to export American -made goods.

There is an interesting backstory here that Luke Lindberg (one of our Trade Policy Committee members, President of South Dakota Trade as well as the former chief of staff at the Export-Import Bank of the United States) explains in an excellent piece he recently co-authored with Mr. Gary Black, the former Commissioner of Agriculture for the State of Georgia. You can access the full article entitled, "*2023 is the year to renew trade promotion authority,*" which was published in The Hill on January 21, 2023 here:

<https://thehill.com/opinion/finance/3822962-2023-is-the-year-to-renew-trade-promotion-authority/>

We commend both Luke and Gary for this timely and important piece and we know it will contribute to your understanding of one of the critical national issues that all of us need to be discussing with our respective members up on the Hill.