

June 6, 2013

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

The Government of India (“GOI”) is discriminating against a wide range of U.S. exports, jeopardizing domestic jobs, and putting at risk a growing bilateral trading relationship worth more than \$60 billion last year. Our associations, which collectively represent small, medium, and large U.S. companies throughout every major sector of the U.S. economy – from manufacturing to agriculture to services – believe the United States must push for fair trade with India.

Over the last year, the courts and policymakers in India have engaged in a persistent pattern of discrimination designed to benefit India’s business community at the expense of American jobs. The GOI recently demanded that as much as 100 percent of its market for certain information technology and clean energy equipment must be satisfied by firms based domestically. Administrative and court rulings have repeatedly ignored internationally recognized rights – imposing arbitrary marketing restrictions on medical devices and denying, breaking, or revoking patents for nearly a dozen lifesaving medications.

These actions and others constitute a disturbing trend that may continue and even expand to other products, sectors, and countries. Already there are indications that other countries are considering similar measures. Such actions are completely at odds with recognized global norms and raise troubling questions about India’s compliance with its international obligations to protect ideas, brands, and inventions and to treat imported goods no less favorably than domestic products.

These actions are unacceptable for a responsible middle-income country and rising global power to treat its second-largest export trading partner. They are counterproductive to India’s stated goals to attract capital and to develop its own innovative economy. Forcing local production and seeking to profit and create jobs through the rejection of basic property rights undermines India’s ability to achieve the type of long-term foreign investment that is so essential for sustainable economic growth and job creation.

It is time the GOI ended discrimination against our nation’s exporters and took steps to ensure it is not repeated in the future. To achieve this result, we urge the U.S. government immediately to initiate bilateral engagement at the highest levels and to coordinate closely with the European Union and other like-minded economies. If this engagement is not fruitful, we ask the U.S. government to respond purposefully, using all available trade tools and diplomatic engagement.

Reversing discrimination and restoring trust would be a win-win – enabling domestic exporters to further invest in India's future and helping India grow its economy and create opportunities for its people. We look forward to working with you toward that end.

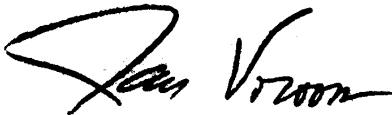
Sincerely,



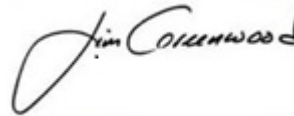
Jay Timmons
President and CEO
National Association of Manufacturers



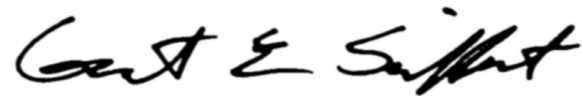
Thomas J. Donohue
President and CEO
U.S. Chamber of Commerce



Jay Vroom
President and CEO
CropLife America



Jim Greenwood
President and CEO
BIO



Grant Seiffert
President
Telecommunications Industry Association



John Castellani
President and CEO
PhRMA



Peter Robinson
President and CEO
United States Council for International Business



Calman Cohen
President
Emergency Committee for American Trade



John Endean
President
American Business Conference



Evan Gaddis
President & CEO
National Electrical Manufacturers Association



Stephen Yurek
President and CEO
Air-Conditioning, Heating, and
Refrigeration Institute



Kevin Messner
Vice President, Policy & Government
Relations
Association of Home Appliance
Manufacturers



Jerry Call
Executive Vice President
American Foundry Society



Brian C. Toohey
President & CEO
Semiconductor Industry Association



Gary W. Price
Chief Executive Officer
Dental Trade Alliance



William A. Reinsch
President
National Foreign Trade Council



Rhone Resch
President & CEO
Solar Energy Industries Association

Cc: The Honorable John Kerry
 The Honorable Jacob Lew
 The Honorable Cameron Kerry
 The Honorable Miriam Sapiro
 The Honorable Mike Froman