

Wisconsin Cheese Makers Association: Statement on Senate passage of USMCA

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MADISON, WI – The Wisconsin Cheese Makers Association (WCMA) today applauded members of the Senate, following passage of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA).

“Approval of this trade deal is a major victory for American dairy processors, as both Mexican and Canadian consumers are essential to the stability and growth of our industry,” said John Umhoefer, WCMA Executive Director.

WCMA members have long advocated for USMCA, which maintains tariff-free trade with Mexico, while increasing access to Canadian markets. In 2018, U.S. dairy exports to Mexico were valued at \$1.4 billion. U.S. dairy product sales in Canada totaled \$731 million that same year. Together, the countries account for more than one-third of all U.S. dairy exports.

“Free-flowing trade with neighboring nations will provide a measure of security for dairy farmers and their processor partners that is sorely needed,” said Umhoefer. “We thank lawmakers and Administration officials who recognized the urgency of action on USMCA, and we look forward to its implementation.”

President Donald Trump has signaled he will sign USMCA next week.