



# WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P.O. BOX 8952 • MADISON, WI 53708

September 3, 2019

Senator Ron Johnson  
328 Hart SOB  
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Tammy Baldwin  
709 Hart SOB  
Washington, DC 20510

Representative Bryan Steil  
1408 Longworth HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Mark Pocan  
1421 Longworth HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Ron Kind  
1502 Longworth HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Gwen Moore  
2252 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Jim Sensenbrenner  
2449 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Glenn Grothman  
1427 Longworth HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Sean Duffy  
1714 Longworth HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Mike Gallagher  
1230 Longworth HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Wisconsin Congressional Delegation,

As members of the Wisconsin Assembly Committee on Agriculture and as representatives of hardworking farmers throughout Wisconsin, we write to ask for you to support passage of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), and to push Speaker Nancy Pelosi to hold a vote on the USMCA as soon as possible in the House of Representatives.

We have seen all too clearly in recent years how under the current NAFTA framework, Canadian agricultural policies can hurt Wisconsin farmers. Currently, Canada's milk classes 6 and 7 have virtually shut out of foreign competition for ultra-filtered milk, hurting our farmers. In 2017, Canada's milk class 7 directly resulted in Grassland Dairy dropping 75 Wisconsin dairy farm families. This was a devastating blow to our farmers, with rippling effects felt throughout the industry.

Thankfully, under the USMCA Canada's milk classes 6 and 7 will be eliminated, opening up markets for Wisconsin's dairy producers. Additionally, under the new agreement, Canada has agreed to treat American wheat fairly, grading it no less favorably than Canadian wheat. Canada has also agreed to expand market access to American poultry and eggs.

Quick passage of the USMCA is also important for Wisconsin farmers because it updates NAFTA for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Farmers know that staying up on changing technology is vital to surviving in the agriculture industry. The USMCA addresses new advances in agricultural biotechnology, and establishes modern sanitary and phytosanitary standards.

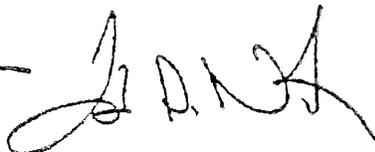
Above all, we know that passage of the USMCA will be good for our economy. In 2017, Wisconsin exported over \$10 billion worth of goods to Canada and Mexico. Removing existing barriers and modernizing NAFTA with the USMCA will allow for that number to be even higher in future years, leading to more jobs here at home. The International Trade Commission estimates the USMCA would increase agricultural and food exports, adding an additional \$2.2 billion to the U.S. economy. This will add to the nearly 12% of the Wisconsin workforce already working in the agriculture and food processing sector today.

Wisconsin farmers should not have to wait any longer for the benefits that the USMCA will bring. On behalf of our constituents, we urge you to support the quick passage of the USMCA, and ask for you to call on Speaker Pelosi to schedule a vote in the House of Representatives without delay.

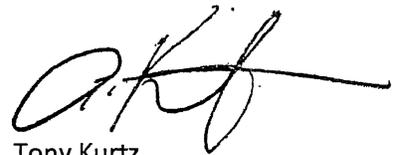
Sincerely,



Gary Tauchen  
State Representative  
6<sup>th</sup> Assembly District



Todd Novak  
State Representative  
51<sup>st</sup> Assembly District



Tony Kurtz  
State Representative  
50<sup>th</sup> Assembly District



Travis Tranel  
State Representative  
49<sup>th</sup> Assembly District



Joel Kitchens  
State Representative  
1<sup>st</sup> Assembly District



Nancy VanderMeer  
State Representative  
70<sup>th</sup> Assembly District



Jeffrey Mursau  
State Representative  
36<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

James Edming  
State Representative  
87<sup>th</sup> Assembly District



Treig Pronschinske  
State Representative  
92<sup>nd</sup> Assembly District



Jon Plumer  
State Representative  
42<sup>nd</sup> Assembly District