

JODEY C. ARRINGTON
19TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

1107 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4005
FAX: (202) 225-9615

ABILENE OFFICE
500 CHESTNUT STREET, SUITE B19
ABILENE, TX 79602
(325) 675-9779
FAX: (325) 675-5038

LUBBOCK OFFICE
1312 TEXAS AVENUE, SUITE 219
LUBBOCK, TX 79401
(806) 763-1611
FAX: (806) 767-9168

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4319

COMMITTEE ON
WAYS AND MEANS
SUBCOMMITTEES:
SELECT REVENUE
SOCIAL SECURITY
TRADE

JOINT ECONOMIC
COMMITTEE

January 9, 2023

President Joseph R. Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Biden,

As you meet with the leaders of Mexico and Canada at the North American Leaders Summit held this week, I strongly encourage you to highlight the significance of the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (“USMCA”) since its’ inception and take a strong public position to defend American energy and agriculture workers and businesses against failures to honor USMCA obligations.

The passing of USMCA was a huge win for America and advanced the interests of our farmers, ranchers, and workers across the country. USMCA expanded and opened new markets for our agriculture and energy producers, created tens of thousands of jobs, leveled the playing field for American workers and businesses, and vastly grew our economy.

Furthermore, USMCA bolstered processes for investors, exporters, importers, and governments to address and resolve their disputes – 17 trade disputes have been addressed in its first two years of implementation which is more than in the first few years of the North American Free Trade Agreement. USMCA has so far proved North American trade to be more competitive, sustainable, and comprehensive. By taking a strong position in defending American energy and agriculture, you are reaffirming the overwhelming bipartisan Congressional support for the improved dispute settlement provisions within USMCA.

We cannot halt the momentum gained from the increased leadership of the United States on enforcing action against bad actors in the Mexican energy sector. Mexico continues to break off American existing and future investments in Mexican energy infrastructure. These actions threaten billions of dollars in U.S. investment, restrict U.S. operations in Mexico and cross-border energy transportation, and deprive Mexicans the choice to cheaper energy.

The United States cannot wait for the outcome of the energy dispute panel to decide on how to move forward with enforcing agriculture provisions related to biotechnology and dairy. U.S. action is of the utmost importance to avoid any disruption in U.S. corn exports to Mexico, who must adhere to a science- and risk-based regulatory approval process for all agricultural biotechnology products. Additionally, if Canada continues to violate dairy tariff-quota (TRQ) provisions in USMCA, the U.S. should be prepared to take retaliatory measures against the Canadian government.

As the Chief Executive of our nation, I implore you to take the opportunity to send a strong signal to our North American trading partners that there are repercussions for their problematic trade policies.

Cc: The Honorable Katherine Tai
United States Trade Representative

Sincerely,



Jodey C. Arrington