

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 14, 2020

The Honorable Robert E. Lighthizer
Ambassador
Office of the United States Trade Representative
600 17th Street, Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Ambassador Lighthizer:

We are pleased to see a new opportunity for the United States' trade agenda. With the United Kingdom's departure from the European Union, the stage is set for our two countries to negotiate a bold trade agreement.

The United States has no better ally than the United Kingdom. Our shared values, as well as our economic ties, make a trade agreement between our countries more than just economically beneficial. A trade agreement would reaffirm our longstanding alliance and demonstrate the vital role that trade agreements play in strengthening important strategic relationships.

We believe a U.S.-U.K. trade agreement should be a priority, and we thank you for your efforts to expedite these negotiations. Your work with the U.S.-U.K. Trade and Investment Working Group has been particularly helpful. We urge quick action, in part, because the United Kingdom has the greatest freedom of action now – it is in the interest of the United States to act before the European Union does. Prioritizing these negotiations will ensure American workers, farmers, and service providers have the best possible chance at earning new access to U.K. markets.

Furthermore, we believe that a U.S.-U.K. trade agreement should be comprehensive. The benefits of new market access in the United Kingdom are not limited to any one sector. Our nation's economies are two of the world's most innovative, and everyone from farmers to fishermen to autoworkers to companies that do business over the internet stand to gain. Thus, we believe only a comprehensive deal can deliver the most benefit for everyone, such as lower tariffs, agricultural market access, and a mutually agreeable tax treatment for digital services. In addition, a comprehensive agreement is the only way to fulfill Congress' Trade Promotion Authority negotiating objectives and

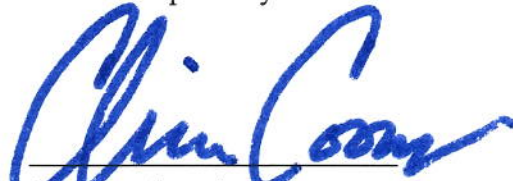
consultation requirements. In addition to consulting with Congress, we ask you and your team to consult with industry, labor, environment, and other stakeholders throughout the U.S.-U.K. trade agreement negotiations.

The 19th century Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli reputedly noted that the “secret of success in life is for a man to be ready for his opportunity when it comes.” We know the uniqueness of this opportunity, and we welcome a comprehensive U.S.-U.K. trade agreement. We thank you for your efforts to ready the United States for this partnership and look forward to working with you on this new trade priority.

Sincerely,



Rob Portman
United States Senator



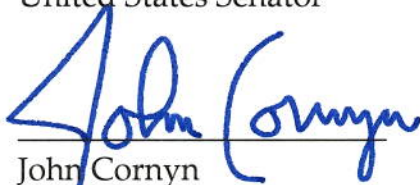
Christopher A. Coons
United States Senator



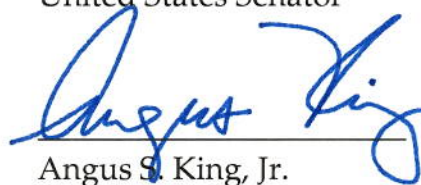
John Thune
United States Senator



Thomas R. Carper
United States Senator



John Cornyn
United States Senator



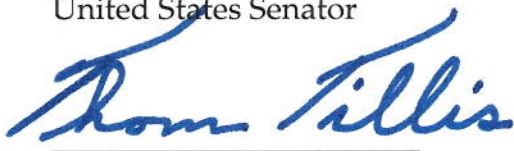
Angus S. King, Jr.
United States Senator



Richard Burr
United States Senator



John Barrasso, M.D.
United States Senator



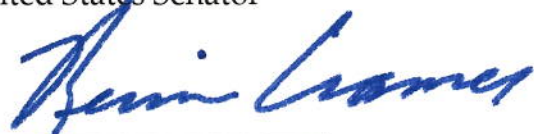
Thom Tillis
United States Senator



John Boozman
United States Senator



Dan Sullivan
United States Senator



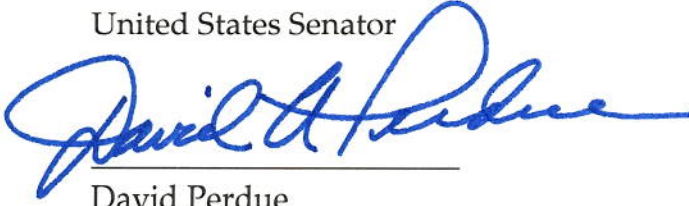
Kevin Cramer
United States Senator



Lisa Murkowski
United States Senator



Susan M. Collins
United States Senator



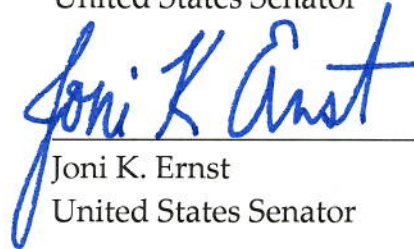
David Perdue
United States Senator



James M. Inhofe
United States Senator



John Hoeven
United States Senator



Joni K. Ernst
United States Senator



Jerry Moran
United States Senator