June 10, 2015

California Delegation U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Re: California Ag Coalition Urges Support For TPA

Dear California Representative:

We write to express our strong support for prompt passage of Trade Promotion Authority (TPA), which will accelerate current and future trade negotiations and ensure that California's food and agricultural sector remains competitive in a global marketplace.

Farm and food exports have a positive multiplier effect throughout California's economy. According to the USDA, Every \$1 in U.S. farm exports stimulates an additional \$1.22 in business activity. With California agricultural exports totaling \$21 billion in 2013, this economic activity creates jobs. Exports in 2014 supported over one million full-time jobs; more than half of these were created in the past ten years, thanks to increased agricultural trade.

Renewed TPA will give U.S. negotiators the ability to achieve the best deals possible with other countries. Without TPA, no country will be willing to make the toughest concessions to us if they fear that Congress will subsequently demand more.

Nations around the world – our global agricultural competitors – are negotiating bilateral trade deals. If competitors gain free access to our biggest markets while we continue to face substantial import barriers, our markets and the U.S. jobs that go along with them will inevitably disappear. Standing still on trade is simply falling behind. Trade agreements such as those being negotiated with eleven other countries under the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and with the European Union under the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP), cannot achieve U.S. goals without TPA.

In order for trade agreements to become a reality, Congress needs to pass TPA. We strongly urge you to support California's agricultural sector and vote YES for TPA.

Sincerely,

African American Farmers of California Agricultural Council of California Allied Grape Growers Almond Hullers & Processors Association American Pistachio Growers **Blue Diamond Growers** California Agricultural Export Council California Association of Wheat Growers California Association of Winegrape Growers California Bean Shippers Association California Canning Peach Association California Cattlemen's Association California Cherry Export Association California Citrus Mutual California Cotton Ginners Association California Cotton Growers Association California Dairies, Inc.

California Farm Bureau Federation California Fresh Fruit Association California Grain and Feed Association California Pear Growers Association California Poultry Federation California Rice Commission California Seed Association California Table Grape Commission California Warehouse Association Farmers' Rice Cooperative Land O'Lakes Inc **National Hmong American Farmers** Nisei Farmers League **Sunkist Growers** Western Agricultural Processors Association Western Growers Western United Dairymen