



December 18, 2019

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Minority Leader McCarthy:

On behalf of the National Retail Federation (NRF), I am writing to express our support for House passage of the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA). This agreement provides significant updates to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), which has benefitted U.S. retailers, workers and consumers for the past two decades.

By way of background, NRF is the world's largest retail trade association, representing discount and department stores, home goods and specialty stores, Main Street merchants, grocers, wholesalers, chain restaurants and internet retailers from the United States and more than 45 countries. Retail is the nation's largest private sector employer, supporting one in four U.S. jobs – 42 million working Americans. Contributing \$2.6 trillion to annual GDP, retail is a daily barometer for the nation's economy.

NRF supports the administration's efforts to modernize NAFTA to reflect today's business environment. We are encouraged by some of the new and updated provisions, especially related to digital trade and customs and trade facilitation. These modernized provisions will help ensure that USMCA reflects today's global economy and will continue to benefit the U.S. economy.

Passage of USMCA is key to providing continued growth for U.S. companies that rely on the North American market for goods and services, including retailers and restaurants that operate in Canada and Mexico.

On behalf of America's retailers, we urge Congress to approve USMCA and support the millions of American jobs that rely on North American trade. **NRF may consider votes on USMCA and related procedural motions as Opportunity Index Votes for our annual voting scorecard.**

Sincerely,

David French
Senior Vice President
Government Relations

cc: Members, United States House of Representatives

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