



TO: The Honorable Members of the Pennsylvania Congressional Delegation

FROM: Alex Halper, Director, Government Affairs

DATE: January 5, 2022

RE: Support Bicameral Congressional Trade Authority Act

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I write on behalf of the PA Chamber of Business and Industry to urge support for the Bicameral Congressional Trade Authority Act.

Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 provided the president certain authority to unilaterally impose tariffs in the event an import poses a threat to national security. Unfortunately, recent application of this authority against allies has proven detrimental to the economy, business community and consumers in Pennsylvania and nationally. Employers are navigating through difficult conditions and tremendous economic uncertainty and may be particularly sensitive to these types of unwarranted policies that raise costs and trigger retaliatory measures from trading partners.

The PA Chamber's member-driven International Trade and Exporting policy position statement urges support for "Efforts to remove and prevent economically damaging tariffs and mitigate barriers against U.S. exports and providing greater access to imports."

Accordingly, we support the Bicameral Congressional Trade Authority Act, which would require Congressional approval for tariffs intended to be imposed based on national security concerns. We are encouraged the bill already enjoys broad bipartisan support, including sponsors Senator Mark Warner (D-Va.) and our own Senator Pat Toomey, (R-Pa.), and urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you for considering our views on this important matter.