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## Issues@TheLatinoCoalition

### Trade Promotion Authority Letter

Dear Friends,

The Board of Directors of The Latino Coalition (TLC) and the Hispanic Business Roundtable (HBR) have designed [www.FreeTradeForAmericas.com](http://www.FreeTradeForAmericas.com) as part of our campaign to educate our community on the benefits of free and fair trade and to urge them to call on Congress to immediately pass Trade Promotion Authority (TPA), HR 3005. We urge you to visit this website and sign the petition urging Congress to pass TPA as soon as possible.

Congress should act immediately and grant the President TPA in order to:

- Open new markets for U.S. products,
- Expand business opportunities for our companies and workers, and
- Jump-start our economy.

TLC and HBR's Boards strongly believe that having the U.S. as a party to only two out of the 130 preferential trade agreements in the world today is damaging our economy.

The facts are clear, international commerce provides enormous opportunities for U.S. business and workers, and particularly those in the U.S. Hispanic community. Since the North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), we have witnessed a very significant growth in the number and the size of Hispanic-owned businesses in the U.S. Our community benefits from the distinct competitive advantage when conducting business with Latin America of being bilingual and bicultural. Increased trade has opened the door for business opportunities for our entrepreneurs and our workforce.

But we cannot just stop with NAFTA. The U.S. should be negotiating agreements with other countries in Latin America to expand business and job opportunities. While we debate amongst ourselves Canada and other countries have already negotiated agreements, businesses have cemented opportunities, and their economies and workers are benefiting from them.

U.S. business and workers are missing vital opportunities. The following links to key websites are provided in order to supply you with the most up-to-date and comprehensive information and research available on the benefits of free and fair trade. We hope you find these useful.

The data is clear: TPA is extremely important in expanding economic opportunities in the U.S. Hispanic community. TLC and HBR will make sure that Hispanic voters across the country know where their member of Congress stood on this important issue.

Finally, TPA is particularly vital now that the President is leading the international war against terrorism. TPA is an important diplomatic tool in the President's arsenal against international terrorism.

What can you do? We urge you to sign the petition on this website so we can present it to key Members of Congress before they vote on this issue. Your support will show that providing the President with the power to negotiate trade agreements, in order to expand opportunities for U.S. businesses and their workers, is an extremely important issue for our community. Finally, please contact your Members of Congress directly. Let them know that you support TPA for the President (HR 3005), and that this is a vote that you will be watching closely.

Best regards,

Mario Rodriguez  
President  
Hispanic Business  
Roundtable

Dorene Dominguez  
Chairman  
The Latino Coalition

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