

PETITION TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS
The North American Free Trade Agreement: Time for action

We, the undersigned residents of Canada, draw attention to the Government of Canada to the following:

WHEREAS NAFTA renegotiations began early August 2017;

WHEREAS despite professing support for our supply management system, the Liberal government has severely undermined the system during CETA and TPP negotiations and has used the advice of former Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, who has openly called for ending supply management in Canada;

WHEREAS Canada is the most sued country under investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS) provisions that allow companies to sue governments and which has eroded Canada’s sovereignty, cost millions of taxpayer dollars in legal fees, undermined regulations, and led to a loss of integrity of our laws and regulations;

WHEREAS NAFTA’s energy proportionality provisions prohibit Canada from reducing oil and gas exports to the US, even if we experience shortages, reduce domestic output to meet greenhouse gas reduction obligations, or prioritize domestic value-added production;

WHEREAS NAFTA’s side agreements on labour and environmental standards are weak and unenforceable which have created incentives for corporations to relocate production to certain “Right to Work” U.S. States and Mexico in order to exploit weaker rules; and

WHEREAS drug prices in Canada already the second-highest in the world, and the intellectual property regime under NAFTA is unfair to small businesses and entrepreneurs.

THEREFORE be it resolved that we, the undersigned, call on the Government of Canada during NAFTA renegotiations to ensure that:

- no more concessions are made to undermine our supply managed systems;
- demand the removal of ISDS provisions;
- eliminate the energy proportionality provisions;
- make significant improvements to enhance the enforceability of the agreements on labour and environmental standards;
- resist further patent extensions and ensure a fair intellectual property regime; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we the undersigned demand the Government of Canada provide a clear strategy to define how they will protect and promote manufacturing jobs during NAFTA negotiations.

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Please return (postage paid) to: Tracey Ramsey, MP for Essex
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Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6