

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 9, 2013

Ambassador Demetrios Marantis
Acting U.S. Trade Representative
600 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20508

Dear Ambassador Marantis:

We are writing to express our support for the inclusion of regulatory harmonization as one important part of any agreement that arises from negotiations with the European Union (EU) on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP). The Administration's recent announcement to formally launch negotiations follows a year-long examination by the U.S.-EU High Level Working Group (HLWG) of ways to increase U.S.-EU trade and investment. We are encouraged by the HLWG's findings on harmonization and agree that an ambitious bilateral agreement that includes regulatory harmonization has the potential to generate significant economic benefits on both sides of the Atlantic.

A comprehensive transatlantic agreement will help eliminate existing trade barriers and spur innovation and job growth in all economic sectors. In particular, a strong TTIP will help the auto industry continue to be a driving force in this country's economic recovery. As the auto industry has noted, a significant impediment to the U.S.-EU trade partnership is the divergence of safety and engineering standards. Therefore, a key priority in the upcoming negotiations must be harmonization or mutual recognition of existing automotive technical regulatory standards. If effectively addressed, there is significant potential to eliminate unnecessary costs and burdens associated with inconsistent or duplicative regulations while maintaining the integrity of current US standards.

We acknowledge the challenges involved in achieving a broad and ambitious trade and investment agreement with the EU. Regulatory harmonization in the automotive sector between the U.S. and the EU has been an elusive prey for many years, and we must therefore seize this unique opportunity. We stand ready to work closely with U.S. and EU leaders to ensure that all the necessary steps to achieve regulatory harmonization are met to provide the maximum economic benefits to all parties.

Sincerely,



John Campbell
Member of Congress



Gary C. Peters
Member of Congress



John D. Dingell
Member of Congress



Sander M. Levin
Member of Congress



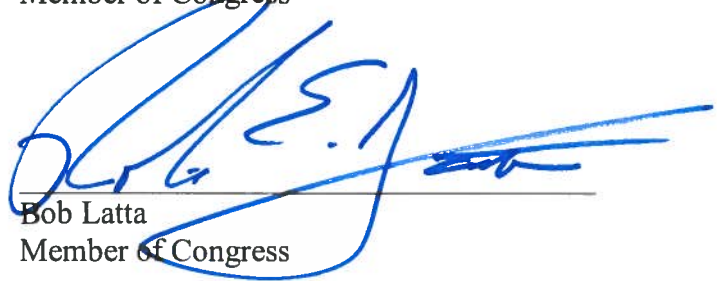
Tim Ryan
Member of Congress



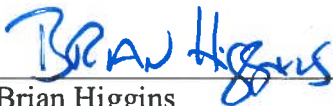
Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr
Member of Congress



Terri Sewell
Member of Congress



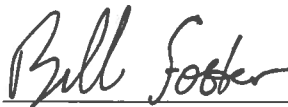
Bob Latta
Member of Congress



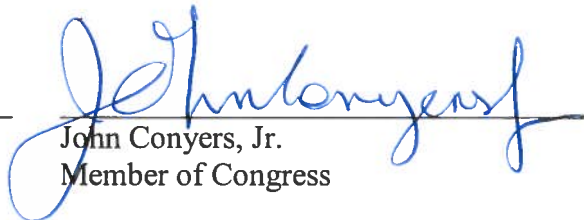
Brian Higgins
Member of Congress



Brett Guthrie
Member of Congress



Bill Foster
Member of Congress



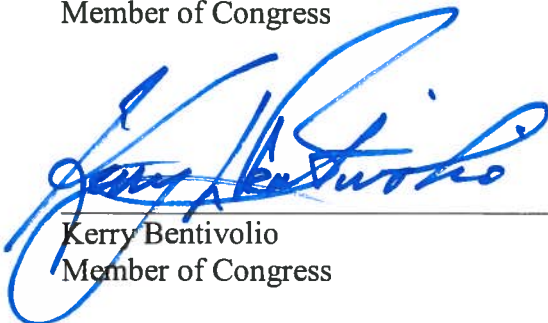
John Conyers, Jr.
Member of Congress



Chuck Fleischmann
Member of Congress



Alan Nunnelee
Member of Congress



Kerry Bentivolio
Member of Congress



Andy Barr
Member of Congress