



December 17, 2019

U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Members of Congress:

As Congress prepares to vote on the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) this week, we urge you to support this important free trade agreement and its updated provisions that benefit U.S. textile manufacturers and participants throughout the domestic textile supply chain.

Since the adoption of the North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), American textile supply chains have become fully integrated throughout North America. As a result, our NAFTA trading partners Mexico and Canada have grown into the largest destination for U.S. textile exports, totaling nearly \$12 billion in 2018. This trading relationship is a key component of a vibrant textile manufacturing industry which employs nearly 600,000 American workers.

Mexico also remains a top export destination for U.S. cotton fiber, making it a critically important export customer for all members of the U.S. cotton industry.

We are pleased to note that USMCA builds on the successes of NAFTA and modernizes several provisions that will bring it in line with subsequent agreements like DR-CAFTA. USMCA creates incentives that will lead to increased investment, employment, and export opportunities for U.S. textile manufacturers.

Again, we strongly encourage you to support this vital agreement, and our organizations stand ready to assist you in moving USMCA swiftly through the approval and implementation process.

Sincerely,

American Cotton Producers
AMCOT
American Cotton Shippers Association
Cotton Growers Warehouse Association
Cotton Warehouse Association of America
Cottonseed and Feed Association
Narrow Fabrics Institute
National Cotton Council
National Cotton Ginners Association
National Cottonseed Productions Association
National Council of Textile Organizations
SEAMS
South Carolina Textile Council
U.S. Industrial Fabrics Institute