

Office of the President & CEO

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September 10, 2018

The Honorable Robert E. Lighthizer
U.S. Trade Representative
600 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20508

Dear Ambassador Lighthizer:

On behalf of the largest aluminum trade association in the United States, I urge you to continue negotiations toward a modernized, trilateral North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) that includes both Canada and Mexico. The U.S. aluminum industry comprises some of the most competitive and innovative companies in the world and integrated North American supply chains are one reason that we have been able to meet growing demand year over year.

Even more importantly, though, I encourage the Administration to use this negotiation process to address any national security questions specific to Canada and Mexico raised in the Commerce Department's Section 232 report. A successful negotiation for a modernized NAFTA should resolve these concerns, and I encourage you to recommend that President Trump provide a full exemption – without quotas – for aluminum imports from Canada and Mexico. As the U.S. aluminum industry is in a deficit market, limiting access to aluminum suppliers in the NAFTA region will be a barrier to continued U.S. growth and investment.

We hope that your negotiations to modernize NAFTA will strengthen and expand opportunities under the agreement for the aluminum industry and our broad range of customers. We appreciate the Administration's continued efforts to advance free, fair and reciprocal trade across the globe.

As always, we are happy to assist in any way that we can.

Sincerely,



Heidi Brock
President & CEO
The Aluminum Association