



July 20, 2015

The Honorable Michael Froman  
 United States Trade Representative  
 600 17<sup>th</sup> Street N.W.  
 Washington, D.C. 20508

Dear Ambassador Froman:

As you prepare to complete negotiations for the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreement we write to urge that you ensure that the final agreement provide the protections necessary to enable countries that are party to the agreement to protect the public health of their citizens from the death and disease caused by tobacco products.

As we have highlighted in previous letters, as well as stakeholder presentations and discussions, it is essential that the TPP acknowledges the unique harms tobacco products cause, and includes provisions to insure that countries that seek to protect their citizens from the harms of tobacco by adopting public health measures do not face the threat of litigation from the tobacco industry. You have repeatedly noted that the TPP will be a 21st Century trade agreement, and a model for future trade agreements. We strongly urge that you work to achieve this important public health outcome in the TPP as you continue these negotiations, despite renewed and continuing pressure from the tobacco industry and their unabashed champions on the Hill and business community.

Tobacco products are the only consumer products that kill when used exactly as intended. Globally, tobacco kills more than 6 million people each year and without effective tobacco control policies to reduce consumption, one billion people will die from using tobacco products this century. For these reasons, tobacco products are the only consumer product covered by a UN treaty--the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.

Countries around the globe are implementing tobacco control policies from graphic warning labels to plain packaging and the tobacco industry has responded, using investor-state dispute settlement provisions in trade and investment treaties to both challenge countries' policies and threaten others. The industry actions have had a significant chilling effect intimidating other countries from moving forward with policies to prevent or reduce tobacco consumption. The tobacco industry's behavior is a real and direct threat to public health.

Protecting the right of TPP countries to implement non-discriminatory tobacco control policies to protect the health of their citizens free of direct industry challenge is critical.

Sincerely,

Academy of General Dentistry  
Action on Smoking & Health  
American Academy of Family Physicians  
American Academy of Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
American Association for Respiratory Care  
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network  
American College of Chest Physicians  
American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine  
American College of Preventive Medicine  
American Heart Association  
American Lung Association  
American Public Health Association  
American Society of Addiction Medicine  
American Society of Clinical Oncology  
American Thoracic Society  
Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health  
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials  
Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids  
International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer  
Lung Cancer Alliance  
National Association of County and City Health Officials  
Oncology Nursing Society  
Partnership for Prevention  
Prevent Cancer Foundation  
Prevention Institute  
Smoking Cessation Leadership Center  
Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions  
Society for Public Health Education  
Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco  
Society of Thoracic Surgeons  
Trust for America's Health