

American Academy
of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™



October 24, 2014

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

Dear Ambassador Froman,

Our organizations write again to urge you to ensure that the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreement currently under negotiation provides 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 address the current practice of the tobacco industry to misuse trade and investment agreements to challenge legitimate public health measures. 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.

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. Most recently the tobacco industry has threatened Ireland, Scotland and the

United Kingdom as they consider plain packaging. The industry actions have had a significant regulatory chilling effect. New Zealand has delayed plain packaging and developing countries have delayed tobacco control efforts as a result of industry threats. 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 is critical.

Sincerely,

American Academy of Pediatrics
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
American Heart Association
American Lung Association
American Public Health Association
American Society of Clinical Oncology
Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids