



February 25, 2021

The Honorable Ron Wyden  
Chairman  
Senate Committee on Finance  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Crapo  
Ranking Member  
Senate Committee on Finance  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Wyden and Ranking Member Crapo,

On behalf of the National Retail Federation, I would like to express our strong support for Katherine Tai as the next United States Trade Representative. We believe Ms. Tai has exceptional qualifications to be the next USTR and re-establish U.S. leadership with the global trade community.

NRF, the world's largest retail trade association, passionately advocates for the people, brands, policies and ideas that help retail thrive. From its headquarters in Washington, D.C., NRF empowers the industry that powers the economy. Retail is the nation's largest private-sector employer, contributing \$3.9 trillion to annual GDP and supporting one in four U.S. jobs — 52 million working Americans. For over a century, NRF has been a voice for every retailer and every retail job, educating, inspiring and communicating the powerful impact retail has on local communities and global economies.

As the next USTR, Ms. Tai will face several challenges regarding U.S. trade policy. We look forward to working with her in the development of a “worker-centric” trade agenda that recognizes the importance of the retail value chain to the U.S. economy. One of the most important issues will be addressing the ongoing trade dispute with China, especially the negative impact of the tariffs on all segments of the economy, including importers, exporters, manufacturers and agriculture interests.

The administration must include a renewed focus on trade policy as part of the pandemic economic recovery plan. Removing the harmful tariffs, reopening closed markets and working with our allies all need to be top priorities for our recovery and continued economic growth. Ms. Tai will play a vital role in pushing these priorities.

We urge members of the Committee to support her nomination and quickly move the process to a floor vote in the Senate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David French", written in a cursive style.

David French  
Senior Vice President  
Government Relations