

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON, DC 20515

February 22, 2018

The Hon. Dave Reichert
Chairman
Ways and Means Trade Subcommittee
1127 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Reichert:

We urge you to schedule a hearing to provide the Ways and Means Committee with the opportunity to re-examine NAFTA and conduct the necessary oversight of the Administration's efforts to renegotiate the agreement. Rep. Bill Pascrell Jr., Ranking Member of the Trade Subcommittee, first sent a private letter requesting such a hearing in October (see attachment).

In the intervening four months, the NAFTA renegotiation has continued to progress at an accelerated pace. In that time, three more rounds of negotiations have taken place with yet another one scheduled to begin at the end of this month.

On November 20, 2017, Senator John Cornyn held a field hearing on NAFTA in San Antonio, Texas, at which USTR General Counsel Stephen Vaughn testified. Earlier, on October 31, Chairman Brady said that he would consider holding a hearing on NAFTA with Administration witnesses.¹

And yet, to date, neither the Ways and Means Committee as a whole nor the Trade Subcommittee has held a NAFTA hearing with an Administration witness.

More than 25 years ago, this Committee held the administrations negotiating the original NAFTA to a high standard of accountability, requiring United States Trade Representatives, Secretaries of Labor, and Administrators of the Environmental Protection Agency to appear before it multiple times. American workers, businesses, and other stakeholders of today deserve as much accountability, if not more, from their negotiators and from their representatives.

This time, we write you to urge you, again and with even more urgency, to schedule a hearing on the NAFTA renegotiation with witnesses from the Administration as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

¹ "Brady open to holding NAFTA hearing with administration witnesses," *Inside U.S. Trade* (November 2, 2017) (accessed on February [11], 2018: <https://insidetrade.com/inside-us-trade/brady-open-holding-nafta-hearing-administration-witnesses>).

Bill Pascrell Jr

Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress

Lloyd Doggett

Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress

Danny K. Davis

Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress

John Lewis

John Lewis
Member of Congress

John B. Larson

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Joseph Crowley

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Suzan K. DelBene

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Linda T. Sanchez

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Judy Chu

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