January 27, 2015

The Honorable Orrin Hatch                                                   The Honorable Paul Ryan
Chairman                                                              Chairman
Senate Committee on Finance                                           House Committee on Ways and Means
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building                                   1102 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510                                               Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Hatch and Ryan:

Congratulations on your election as chairmen of the Senate Finance and House Ways and Means Committees. We look forward to working with you on a broad range of issues before your committees in the future, but today we strongly urge you to work together in a bipartisan, bicameral fashion to craft a path forward for the Miscellaneous Tariff Bill (MTB) as soon as possible.

Passage of the MTB would eliminate or reduce import duties on potentially thousands of raw materials, intermediate and other products that are not available in the United States. For three decades on a bipartisan basis, Congress has approved this critical jobs bill, which currently enjoys broad bipartisan support in both chambers of Congress. The MTB is exactly the type of legislation Congress needs to consider without delay; it cuts costs for America’s job creators and strengthens their competitiveness in a challenging global economy.

Yet, manufacturers across a broad range of industries have been facing significantly higher tariffs on necessary manufacturing inputs since Congress has failed to renew the MTB since it expired on December 31, 2012 – over two years ago. Congress’s continued failure to act on the MTB has contributed greatly to manufacturers’ uncertainty and inability to plan for future investment and job creation, resulting in a $748 million tax hike on manufacturers in the United States. Unless Congress acts quickly, costs will continue to mount for America’s manufacturers, hurting their global competitiveness and undermining their ability to retain and create new jobs.

Thank you for your attention to and leadership on this important manufacturing issue.

Sincerely,

3V Inc.                                            CropLife America
AGRUSA/Apple Food Sales Co.                                      Deere & Company
Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.                                  Dupont
Albaugh                                             Eastman
AMD Oil Sales                                              Element Electronics
American Apparel & Footwear Association                        Entegris, Inc.
American Association of Exporters and Importers              ESCO Company
American Chemistry Council                                         Fanwood Chemical
American Fiber Manufacturers Association                        Firmenich
American Woolen Company, Inc.                                   Fruit of the Loom, Inc.
Armstrong World Industries                                          GlaxoSmithKline
Association of Food Industries                                    Glen Raven, Inc.
Avatar Corporation                                             Golden Beach
BASF Corporation                                                  Gowan Company
Bayer Corporation                                                   Great Lakes Intl Trading
Bayer CropScience                                            Hampford Research, Inc.
Beaver Manufacturing Company Inc.                                Hitachi Automotive Systems America, Inc.
Belkin International                                             Honeywell International
Boulder Scientific Company                                              ICF Mercantile LLC
Buhler Quality Yarns Corporation                                  INDA, Association of Nonwoven Fabrics Industry
CamERICAN - Josh Gellert                                           International Sleep Products Association
Cellular Technology                                              Iofina Chemical Inc.
Charkit Chemical Corporation                                      JHB Intertrade
Chemtura Corporation                                             LANXESS Corporation
Coats & Clark, Inc.                                               Lasko Products, Inc.
Consolidated Fibers                                               LeapFrog Enterprises
Corning Incorporated                                           Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc.
Marzoli International, Inc.
Milliken
Nation Ford Chemical
National Association of Manufacturers
National Council of Textile Organizations
National Spinning Company, Inc.
Nautilus, Inc.
Novamont
O’Mara Incorporated
Outdoor Industry Association
Palmetto Synthetics, LLC
Pendleton Woolen Mills
Pfizer, Inc.
Picanol of America, Inc.
PPG Industries
SCHOTT North America, Inc.
Society of Chemical Manufacturers and Affiliates
Solvay
Soven USA
Special Materials Company
SPI: The Plastics Industry Trade Association
Sports & Fitness Industry Association
Sun Chemical
Symrise Inc.
Syngenta
Tariff Action Coalition
The Dow Chemical Company
The Howard Miller Company
The MTB Coalition
Tosoh USA, Inc.
Toy Industry Association, Inc.
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
W.L. Gore & Associates
Warwick
Whirlpool Corporation
William Barnet & Son LLC
Zamoyski and Company