



Franklin J. Vargo
Vice President, International Economic Affairs

September 19, 2011

Dear Senator:

The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) strongly supports passage of H.R. 2832, the bill extending the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP), and urges your support for the pending motion to proceed. The NAM is the preeminent and largest manufacturing association in the United States, representing small and large manufacturers in every industrial sector and in all 50 states.

The NAM supports extension of GSP, which has always enjoyed strong bipartisan support. H.R. 2832 passed the House of Representatives by voice vote on September 7, 2011. The NAM views extension of GSP as important to advancing our nation's manufacturing competitiveness and international leadership. It is also a vital step in the process of advancing the trade policy we believe is necessary to open markets for America's manufacturers and to create jobs in the United States. The program, which expired on December 31, 2010, helps keep U.S. manufacturers and their suppliers competitive. The vast majority of U.S. imports using GSP are raw materials, parts and components, or machinery and equipment used by U.S. companies to manufacture goods in the United States for domestic consumption or for export.

The NAM strongly supports H.R. 2832. We remain committed to a strong trade policy agenda, which includes GSP, other preference programs, Trade Adjustment Assistance and passage of the three pending Free Trade Agreements with Colombia, Korea and Panama.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Franklin J. Vargo', with a long, sweeping underline.