

**Aric Newhouse**

Senior Vice President  
Policy and Government Relations

September 21, 2011

U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators:

The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), the largest manufacturing association in the United States representing manufacturers in every industrial sector and in all 50 states, urges you to support H.R. 2832, a bill extending the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) and Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) programs.

Manufacturers support the extension of GSP, which provides preferential access to certain imports from selected developing countries. Last year, \$23 billion of imports came into our nation duty-free under GSP, nearly three-quarters of which were raw materials, components, parts, or other inputs used to manufacture goods here in the United States. GSP reduces these companies' input costs, making their products more competitive with their global counterparts. Moreover, it is estimated that nearly 82,000 U.S. jobs are directly or indirectly associated with the importation and use of GSP-eligible imports.

The legislation also contains language renewing portions of the TAA program, which offers key retraining that, in cases where U.S. job losses are directly tied to trade, provides workers with the support, training and opportunity to learn new skills that help contribute to the 21<sup>st</sup> century manufacturing economy. The NAM has long supported TAA as a means to providing assistance to trade-impacted workers.

The NAM's Key Vote Advisory Committee has indicated that votes on H.R. 2832, including procedural motions, may be considered for designation as Key Manufacturing Votes in the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Aric Newhouse

Key Manufacturing Vote