

COALITION FOR GSP
1001 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 1110
Washington, DC 20036

December 15, 2010

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Boehner
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Sander Levin
Chairman, Committee on Ways & Means
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Dave Camp
Ranking Member, Committee on Ways & Means
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Minority Leader Boehner, Chairman Levin and Ranking Member Camp:

As the December 31 deadline fast approaches for expiration of the Generalized System of Preference (GSP) program, members of the Coalition for GSP – American firms and their workers who use GSP – strongly urge you to move and approve HR 6517, the Omnibus Trade Act of 2010, which includes a renewal of GSP.

We use GSP to stay competitive in what continues to be a challenging economy, and to provide our customers, including American families, with goods at the lowest costs possible. Research we conducted found that 82,000 American jobs are at stake if GSP is permitted to expire. Attached is a letter we sent last month signed by a wide range of U.S. companies and organizations that shows the importance of GSP to a broad range of firms and organizations and their workers across the U.S. economy.

The Coalition urges the House to demonstrate its support for this important program by approving HR 6517 immediately. Time is short and the matter is urgent.

Sincerely,



Laura Baughman
Executive Director

November 10, 2010

The Honorable Sander Levin
Chairman
Committee on Ways and Means
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Max Baucus
Chairman
Committee on Finance
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Dave Camp
Ranking Member
Committee on Ways and Means
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles Grassley
Ranking Member
Committee on Finance
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Levin, Chairman Baucus, Ranking Member Camp, and Ranking Member Grassley:

As you know, the deadline for the expiration of the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) – December 31, 2010 – is rapidly approaching. As you consider the post-election Congressional agenda, we ask that you make the renewal of the GSP program a priority before the end of the year.

The GSP program supports American manufacturing by reducing costs of inputs, machinery and equipment. It also helps struggling American families make ends meet by lowering the costs of consumer goods imported duty free under GSP. Congress cannot afford to let this valuable program expire.

The GSP program enjoys strong bipartisan support in Congress. Given the continued uncertainty in the U.S. economy and the desire of Congress to pass legislation that benefits American families, workers, and companies, we urge you to make renewal of the GSP program a priority for early action.

Sincerely,

A Bridge for Africa (San Francisco, CA)
Abilene Machine, Inc. (Abilene, KS)
Aid Through Trade, Inc. (Annapolis, MD)
Aid to Artisans (Hartford, CT)
Albaugh Inc. (Ankeny, IA)
Alstom, Inc. (Windsor, CT)
American Apparel & Footwear Association
American Automotive Policy Council

American Leakless Company, LLC (Athens, AL)
Andre Prost, Inc. (Old Saybrook, CT)
Anthem Leather, Inc. (High Point, NC)
Arpel Leather (High Point, NC)
The Association of Equipment Manufacturers
Association of International Automobile Manufacturers
Berger Company (Atchison, KS)
Black Diamond Equipment, Ltd. (Salt Lake City, UT)
Bossard North America (Cedar Falls, IA)
Brazil-U.S. Business Council
Bread for Life (Boulder, CO)
Bridgestone Americas, Inc. (Nashville, TN)
Case New Holland Inc. (Burr Ridge, IL)
Catawba Leather LLC (Hickory, NC)
Caterpillar, Inc. (Peoria, IL)
Coalition for GSP
Con-Tech International (New Orleans, LA)
Couplamatic Systems Inc. (Scottsbluff, NE)
Crate and Barrel (Northbrook, IL)
Creative Women (Burlington, VT)
CVS Caremark, Inc. (Woonsocket, RI)
Dole Packaged Foods, LLC (Westlake Village, CA)
Eaton Corporation (Cleveland, OH)
Edsim Leather Co., Inc. (New York, NY)
Emergency Committee for American Trade (ECAT)
Energizer Battery Manufacturing, Inc. (St. Louis, MO)
Eucatex of North America, Inc. (Alpharetta, GA)
Ferguson Enterprises, Inc. (Newport News, VA)
FMC Corporation (Philadelphia, PA)
For Every Body (Lindon, UT)
Ganesh Himal Trading (Spokane, WA)
General Electric Company (Fairfield, CT)
Global Fair Trade Crafts Inc. (Edgewater, FL)
Grocery Manufacturers Association
Handmade Expressions (Austin, TX)
The Home Depot (Atlanta, GA)
Horizon Plastics Incorporated (Little Ferry, NJ)
ICC Chemical Corporation (New York, NY)
Indo-European Foods (Glendale, CA)
International Moulding (Birmingham, AL)
J.C. Penney Company, Inc. (Plano, TX)
Kewaunee Scientific Corporation (Statesville, NC)
Lucuma Designs (Sarasota, FL)
MacLean Power Systems (Franklin Park, IL)

Maco Int'l Inc. (Sandy, UT)
Mars Inc. (McLean, VA)
Matur Suksema (Bothell, WA)
Metal Exchange Corporation (St. Louis, MO)
Meyer Aluminum Blanks, Inc. (Sheboygan Falls, WI)
Motor and Equipment Manufacturers Association
Mullican Flooring (Johnson City, TN)
National Confectioners Association
National Defense Industry Association
National Foreign Trade Council
National Retail Federation
Nature Land International (The Woodlands, TX)
Ocean Spray Cranberries, Inc. (Lakeville-Middleboro, MA)
One Mango Tree (Washington, DC)
Outdoor Industry Association
Panasonic Corporation of North America (Secaucus, NJ)
Patagonia (Ventura, CA)
PB Leiner USA (Davenport, IA)
PBI/Gordon Corporation (Kansas City, MO)
Polymet Alloys, Inc. (Birmingham, AL)
Retail Industry Leaders Association
Rockford Corporation (Tempe, AZ)
Rousselot, Inc. (Mukwonago, WI)
Royal Tropics Inc. (McCall, ID)
S&V Industries (Akron, OH)
SIGMA Corporation (Cream Ridge, NJ)
Stone Forest, Inc. (Santa Fe, NM)
Strasburg-Jarvis Inc. (Lenexa, KS)
Super Film of America, Inc. (Dublin, OH)
Target Corporation (Minneapolis, MN)
Ten Strawberry Street (Denver, CO)
Ten Thousand Villages (Akron, PA)
Tesoros Trading Company (Austin, TX)
Transnational Foods, Inc. (Miami, FL)
Traxys North America LLC (New York, NY)
Tumac Lumber (Portland, OR)
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
Valveworks USA (Bossier City, LA)
Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. (Bentonville, AR)
World Shoppe LLC (Chicago, IL)
World Finds (Westmont, IL)
Yazaki North America (Canton, MI)