



November 3, 2016

Speaker of the House Paul D. Ryan  
The House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi  
The House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Senate Democratic Leader Harry Reid  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Speaker Ryan and Leaders McConnell, Pelosi and Reid:

On behalf of the Computing Technology Industry Association (CompTIA), the Technology Councils of North America (TECNA) and our State Tech Council Alliance Partners (the undersigned technology organizations around the country), representing thousands of technology companies of all sizes, we urge swift action to bring up the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) for a vote before the end of the year.

The TPP is critical to the tech sector, establishing new global rules in technology that would prohibit data localization requirements, ensure the transfer of data across borders, protect source code, strengthen intellectual property, and more.

The TPP will reduce or eliminate more than 18,000 taxes levied by foreign governments on American exports. According to the CompTIA 2016 Tech Trade Snapshot, the United States exported over \$312 billion in manufactured technology goods, software and services in 2015. As the global leader in digital trade, we need trade agreements to strengthen our competitiveness and maintain access to the world's expanding digital markets.

The costs of not approving the TPP now would be significant. According to the Peterson Institute, delaying TPP just a single year will cost our economy \$94 billion in lost income. Additionally, the Asia-Pacific countries are aggressively pursuing preferential trade agreements that will leave American companies on the outside, looking in. We must seize the opportunity to build on our economic and geopolitical ties with these important trading partners.

It is critical that we enforce globally the same fair and effective digital rules championed at home, and the TPP achieves these American standards. Without the TPP, everything the United States is working to secure for U.S. tech companies in the global economy will be at risk. This inaction would leave the United States with little credibility to establish digital rules in other trade negotiations or multilateral fora. Not to mention, as U.S. tech companies try to navigate the complex array of regulatory barriers that are proliferating around the world, they will suffer from compromised U.S. leadership on strong digital standards if Congress does not approve the agreement.

We recognize there is a window of time before the end of the year to take up the agreement otherwise years may pass before American companies face such opportunity again. We urge you to find a path forward to approve the TPP and support you in your efforts.

Sincerely,



Liz Hyman  
Executive Vice President, Public Advocacy  
CompTIA

Tim Jemal  
Executive Director  
TECNA

**Arizona**

Arizona Technology Council (AZTC)

**California**

California Technology Council (CTC)  
CONNECT  
OCTANe  
Tech San Diego

**Colorado**

Colorado Technology Association

**Connecticut**

Connecticut Technology Council (CTC)

**Georgia**

Technology Association of Georgia (TAG)

**Idaho**

Idaho Tech Council (ITC)

**Illinois**

Illinois Technology Association (ITA)

**Iowa**

Technology Association of Iowa (TAI)

**Kentucky**

Technology Association of Louisville Kentucky (TALK)

**Missouri**

KC Tech Council

**Massachusetts**

Massachusetts Technology Leadership Council (MassTLC)

**Minnesota**

Minnesota High Tech Association (MHTA)

**New Hampshire**

New Hampshire High Tech Council (NHHTC)

**New Jersey**

New Jersey Tech Council (NJTC)

**North Carolina**

North Carolina Technology Association (NCTA)

**Ohio**

OHTech

**Oregon**

Technology Association of Oregon (TAO)

**Pennsylvania**

Pittsburgh Technology Council

**Rhode Island**

Tech Collective

**Tennessee**

Nashville Technology Council

**Texas**

Austin Technology Council (ATC)

Tech Titans

**Utah**

Utah Technology Council

**Washington**

Washington Technology Industry Association (WTIA)

**Wisconsin**

Wisconsin Technology Council