

June 9, 2026

The Honorable Glenn "GT" Thompson  
Chairman  
House Committee on Agriculture  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Angie Craig  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Agriculture  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Thompson and Ranking Member Craig:

The Agricultural Coalition for USMCA is a broad alliance representing farmers, ranchers, agricultural processors, food manufacturers, agribusinesses, cooperatives, retailers, grain handlers and exporters, and other stakeholders across the U.S. food and agricultural value chain. Our coalition was formed to support the strengthening, renewal, and long-term extension of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), which remains the foundation of North American agricultural trade. Today, agricultural trade under USMCA supports approximately \$149 billion in U.S. economic output, nearly 500,000 American jobs, and \$36 billion in wages. As the Committee continues its engagement in the 2026 review process, we write to express our support for successful review and extension of the agreement and to share our concerns regarding proposals that could complicate that objective.

USMCA has delivered significant benefits for producers, food manufacturers, workers, and consumers alike. Canada and Mexico are the two largest export markets for U.S. food and agricultural products, providing critical market access for commodities and products produced in communities across the country. The agreement has also strengthened North American food supply chains and helped keep food affordable for American families. A recent Purdue University study found that tariff reductions under North American trade agreements generate approximately \$700 in annual food savings for the average U.S. household—equivalent to roughly 7 percent of total household food expenditures—and that every one percent reduction in tariffs is associated with an average 2.8 percent reduction in food prices over time. At a time when food affordability remains a top concern for American families, preserving the benefits of integrated North American agricultural trade should remain a priority.

We recognize that some specialty crop producers face significant competitive pressures and respect their desire to ensure a strong future for domestic production. However, we are concerned by recent proposals to pursue new trade restrictions directed at Mexican agricultural imports as part of the USMCA review process. USMCA already provides a rules-based framework for addressing trade concerns among the three countries. Efforts to restrict market access beyond the terms negotiated under the agreement risk shifting away from a positive discussion about strengthening and renewing the agreement and could invite retaliatory actions against U.S. agricultural exports.

These risks are particularly significant given Mexico's importance as an export market for U.S. agriculture, including many sectors represented within our coalition. Mexico is our largest agricultural export market, and the second largest for specialty crops. Actions that undermine confidence in the agreement or disrupt long-established trade flows could jeopardize export opportunities, create uncertainty for producers and agribusinesses making long-term investments, and increase costs throughout the North American food system. Such outcomes would ultimately harm many of the farmers, manufacturers, workers, and consumers who benefit from a strong and predictable North American trading relationship.

We also note that support for renewing and strengthening USMCA extends across Congress. In November 2025, 113 Members of the House of Representatives highlighted the significant benefits North American agricultural trade provides to producers, workers, manufacturers, and consumers and urged the Administration to preserve and strengthen the agreement. We believe that bipartisan message remains as relevant today as the review process moves forward.

The Agricultural Coalition for USMCA respectfully encourages the Committee to support policies that preserve the agreement's rules-based framework, maintain market access for U.S. agricultural exports, strengthen North American supply chains, and protect the affordability benefits USMCA delivers to American families. We stand ready to work with Congress and the Administration to ensure the agreement continues to support economic growth, rural prosperity, and food affordability for years to come.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter, and for your continued leadership in supporting policies that strengthen U.S. agriculture, promote food affordability, and expand economic opportunity throughout the food and agricultural value chain.

Sincerely,

Agricultural Retailers Association  
American Feed Industry Association  
American Malting Barley Association  
American Spice Trade Association  
Corn Refiners Association  
FMI – The Food Industry Association  
Fresh Produce Association of the Americas  
National Corn Growers Association  
National Grain and Feed Association

National Oilseed Processors Association  
National Pork Producers Council  
National Restaurant Association  
Northwest Horticultural Council  
Sweetener Users Association  
U.S. Apple Association  
Washington Apple Commission  
Washington State Fruit Commission  
Washington State Tree Fruit Association