

**Congress of the United States**  
Washington, DC 20510

January 8, 2020

The Honorable Robert E. Lighthizer  
United States Trade Representative  
600 17<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20508

Dear Ambassador Lighthizer:

We are writing to reiterate our concerns regarding the effect on the State of Maine of the current trade dispute between the United States and the European Union. Maine and the E.U. enjoy a strong trade relationship. According to the Maine International Trade Center, in 2018, Maine imported \$769 million from the E.U. and exported nearly \$370 million in goods and services, making the bloc our second largest export market. Tariffs imposed by both the U.S. and the E.U. are hurting businesses and consumers in our state. As negotiations continue, we encourage you to avoid subjecting Maine to economic harm.

In October 2019, the U.S. imposed tariffs on \$7.5 billion worth of European products. There has been an immediate strain on U.S. companies in the specialty foods and hospitality industries that import these products, many of which are small, locally owned businesses. The proposals to increase current tariffs on certain EU goods to 100 percent (Docket Nos. USTR-2019-0003 and USTR-2019-0009) would pose further strain on these U.S. businesses that employ thousands of Americans, including many in Maine.

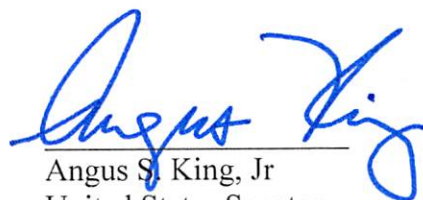
Addressing unfair trade practices requires a careful approach, and we believe that dialogue is a critical part of the process. Thank you for continuing negotiations with your counterparts in Europe. We encourage the Administration to strive quickly for a solution that protects U.S. industry and jobs and promotes economic growth.

We thank you for your consideration of this request, in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations, and ask that you please notify us when a final determination has been made.

Sincerely,



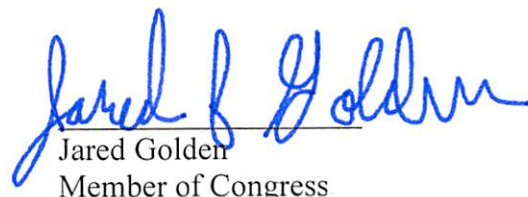
Susan M. Collins  
United States Senator



Angus S. King, Jr.  
United States Senator



Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress



Jared Golden  
Member of Congress