



May 19, 2017

Dear Senator Cantwell,

The Washington Council on International Trade and its members – manufacturers, retailers, farmers and service providers from across the state – thank you for your leadership in creating USTR’s first-ever Trade Enforcement Trust Fund. We’re so appreciative of your dedication to ensuring our important trade agreements work well for Washington’s workers and employers.

As you know, trade agreements are most valuable when vigorously enforced, and Washington businesses need this accountability and certainty to compete on a level playing field. Thank you for your determination to establish a Trade Enforcement Trust Fund with the first guaranteed source of funding 100% dedicated to ensuring our trading partners maintain their commitments. With 40% of Washington jobs tied to trade, we’re grateful for your work in prioritizing this effort and for supporting the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act.

Many thanks for your focus on reliable and consistent trade in Washington. We look forward to working together to advance our state’s global competitiveness in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Lori Otto Punke". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lori" being the most prominent.

Lori Otto Punke  
President, Washington Council on International Trade