



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**WCIT Congratulates U.S. Representative Rick Larsen on WITA Congressional Leadership Award**

**Seattle** – On Wednesday evening, U.S. Representative Rick Larsen (WA-2) was honored at the Washington International Trade Association (WITA) Trade Dinner in Washington, DC, as the recipient of the Congressional Leadership Award in recognition of his commitment to advancing trade policies that grow U.S. competitiveness.

“At WCIT we recognize that Representative Larsen is a dynamic leader on trade, and we are excited that WITA has selected him to receive the Congressional Leadership Award,” said Lori Otto Punke, WCIT President. “A group of WCIT members are here with me in DC this week, and we were so glad we could attend the WITA dinner to congratulate Rep. Larsen in person. He has been an outspoken advocate on many trade policies important to Washington state, from Trade Promotion Authority and the Export-Import Bank to Harbor Maintenance Tax reform and trade concerns in China. We are proud of all he has accomplished for Washington state and are thrilled to see him honored on the national stage.”

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**About the Washington Council on International Trade**

WCIT is the only organization in Washington dedicated exclusively to advocating for public policies that increase our state's international competitiveness. On behalf of its members — manufacturers, farmers, retailers and service providers – WCIT advocates for trade policies and investments that benefit Washington's workers and employers.

WCIT works to:

- **Evaluate** and share objective data on the impact of trade policies on Washington's economy
- **Educate** our local, state and federal elected officials about the benefits of strong international trade policies and investments to Washington employers and residents

- **Engage** diverse stakeholders from across the state – including manufacturers, retailers, farmers and service providers - to drive policy changes that help them succeed in the global marketplace

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