



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 31, 2018

CONTACT: Danielle Holstein

(206) 389-7243

danielleh@wcit.org

WCIT Responds to President Trump's 2018 State of the Union Address

SEATTLE – “It’s time for the United States to reclaim its leadership position on global trade, and we can only do that by getting back into the game,” said Lori Otto Punke, WCIT President. “While it’s heartening to hear President Trump suggest that trade agreements should be ‘fair and reciprocal,’ we’re missing our chance to get meaningful deals by sitting on the sidelines.

“Everyone agrees that we should have trade deals that are fair. But unfortunately we have surrendered leadership on the trade agenda – to China, Europe, Canada and others. When the United States walked away from the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP), other countries stepped up, and are now working to set the rules without us. You can’t get good deals if you’re not in the game. And without broader trade leadership, the American economy and jobs will suffer.

“Rather than playing defense with one-off tariffs on individual products, let’s play offense by embracing American innovation and ingenuity and setting it free to compete on a global playing field. That’s the way Americans win.”

###

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.

- **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

Follow us on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Facebook](#).