



Statement from WCIT President Lori Otto Punke on USTR Tai Washington state visit

United States Trade Representative (USTR) Katherine Tai was in Washington state Thursday, August 5 on a visit to U.S. Representative Suzanne DelBene's (D-WA) Congressional District. As part of Ambassador Tai's visit, she attended a trade roundtable with members of the Washington Council on International Trade (WCIT).

August 6, 2021. Seattle, WA – “USTR Ambassador Katherine Tai’s visit to Washington state provided a great opportunity to learn first-hand the importance and impact international trade has on our regional economy. Washington is perhaps the most trade-reliant state in the nation, with 40 percent of jobs linked to international commerce. Unfortunately, the trade wars and tariffs have negatively impacted communities in Washington state that rely on robust commerce for their livelihoods.

“At today’s roundtable, WCIT members were able to directly share with Ambassador Tai and Congresswoman Suzanne DelBene their own stories on how trade policy impacts their businesses and communities as well as raise some critical issues of concern that are shaping the global trade environment.

“We are grateful for the opportunity to meet with Ambassador Tai and look forward to working with leaders in the Washington state delegation and the USTR on not only exploring new opportunities and future trade pacts, but also implementing policies and measures that address those communities, businesses and individuals most impacted by the trade wars.”

ABOUT WASHINGTON COUNCIL ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE On behalf of our members – manufacturers, farmers, retailers, service providers and non-profits – the Washington Council on International Trade advocates for pro-trade policies and investments that benefit Washington’s workers and employers. Trade paves the way for Washington-made goods and services to reach foreign markets, provides Washingtonians with products that raise our quality of life, and sustains family-wage jobs in numerous local industries. To learn more, visit us at <http://www.wcit.org>