Sen. Roger Sherman, Chair
Sen. Thomas Martin Jr.
Sen. John Patrick
Rep. Joyce Maker, Chair
Rep. Bernard Ayotte
Rep. Margaret Rotundo

Heather Parent
Stephen Cole
Michael Herz
Michael Hiltz
Connie Jones

Wade Merritt
John Palmer
Linda Pistner
Harry Ricker
Michael Roland
Jay Wadleigh
Joseph Woodbury

Staff:
Lock Kiermaier

STATE OF MAINE

Citizen Trade Policy Commission

August 1, 2012

The Honorable Susan Collins
United States Senate
413 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: 2012 Trade Policy Assessment; commissioned by the Maine Citizen Trade Policy Commission

Dear Senator Collins:

We have enclosed a copy of our recently completed 2012 Trade Policy Assessment. In a process that is more fully described in an addendum included within the printed document, the Citizen Trade Policy Commission contracted with Professor Robert Stumberg of Georgetown University to conduct this assessment.

As you know, the Citizen Trade Policy Commission (CTPC) is required by current Maine Law (10 MRSA Chapter 1-A) to provide an ongoing state-level mechanism to assess the impact of international trade policies and agreements on Maine's state and local laws, business environment and working conditions. An important part of the CTPC mandate is to conduct a biennial assessment on the impacts of international trade agreements on Maine.

We believe that the 2012 Trade Policy Assessment is an invaluable tool for a more complete understanding of both the proposed TransPacific Partnership Agreement (TPPA) which is currently being negotiated and other international trade treaties and their current and potential effects on Maine. In the text of the 2012 Assessment, Professor Stumberg offers a comprehensive critique of certain proposals pertaining to *pharmaceuticals* and *tobacco* made by the USTR regarding the TPPA and also provides a similarly relevant analysis of how the subject of *procurement* has been dealt with in recent international trade treaties. Further, Professor Stuberg has suggested a number of constructive suggestions as to how these 3 important trade topics might be handled differently.

The CTPC has followed up on these suggestions by unanimously endorsing a number of separate letters to be sent to the USTR regarding these topics. Copies of these letters to the USTR will be sent to you and the other members of the Maine Congressional delegation. It is our sincere hope that our suggestions will be the start of a meaningful exchange with the USTR on these

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c/o Office of Policy & Legal Analysis
State House Station #13, Augusta, ME 04333-0013 Telephone: 207 287-1670
http://www.maine.gov/legis/opla/citpol.htm

important international trade topics and that you and the other members of Maine's congressional delegation will become significantly involved in the public dialog that we intend to initiate with the USTR.

We invite you and members of your staff to attend and participate in meetings of the CTPC that will be scheduled in the very near future to discuss the ramifications and suggestions emanating from the enclosed 2012 Trade Policy Assessment. We look forward to your participation and welcome any comments or questions that you may have regarding the 2012 Assessment.

Sincerely,

Roger Sherman AM

Senator Roger Sherman, Chair

Joyce Maker AM

Representative Joyce Maker, Chair

c: Governor Paul LePage

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