

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

January 13, 2022

The Honorable Katherine Tai  
U.S. Trade Representative  
600 17th St., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20006

The Honorable Tom Vilsack  
U.S. Secretary of Agriculture  
1400 Independence Ave., SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250

Dear Ambassador Tai and Secretary Vilsack:

Thank you for your continued work to support American farmers and ranchers through the protection of our domestic market and development of new markets across the world. The biggest challenge to both domestic and export sales are related to U.S. competitiveness. American commodity producers are operating at a clear disadvantage to their competitors, primarily from India, where the government is subsidizing more than half of the value of production for rice and wheat, instead of the 10 percent allowable under World Trade Organization (WTO) rules. **We ask that you swiftly take action to reverse the trend of non-compliance by India with WTO domestic support requirements by initiating a dispute settlement case.**

Beginning in 2018, the U.S. highlighted the problem of non-compliance in India through counter-notifications at the WTO Committee on Agriculture. Using virtually the same methodology endorsed by the WTO panel in the China domestic support case, the counter-notifications demonstrated that India is non-compliant with its commitments as a result of price supports alone. Further, India has continued to raise support prices multiple times since the counter-notifications were first submitted. In fact, this fall India announced they will provide an additional \$3.8 billion to fertilizer companies to shield their rice and wheat growers from rising input costs.

Trade distorting domestic support has always been a major challenge for farmers, and WTO rules were created to limit these practices. For the most part, the system has been successful, but there are repeat offenders, like China and India, where enforcement is necessary. Your teams have continually pressed India at the WTO to reform its price support program, but to no avail. **Considering India's activity, we encourage you to initiate the WTO litigation process through a request for consultations.**

Sincerely,



Tracey Mann  
Member of Congress



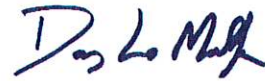
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