June 5, 2019

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Speaker Majority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515 Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Republican Leader Democratic Leader
U.S. House of Representatives U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515 Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Majority Leader McConnell, Democratic Leader Schumer, and Republican Leader McCarthy:

On behalf of the nation’s leading state technology organizations around the country, representing thousands of technology companies of all sizes, we write to express our strong support for the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) and urge you to pass the agreement before the August work period.

Technology plays a unique role in international trade. Not only does it represent one of the largest segments of U.S. trade but it serves as a catalyst for businesses and consumers to connect and create, thereby encouraging more trade. Exports of U.S. technology industry products and services grew by some $16 billion in 2018, to an estimated $338 billion, and directly supported an estimated 858,000 American jobs in 2017. Mexico and Canada account for 33 percent of U.S. tech goods exports and directly supports 234,679 U.S. jobs.¹

Passing the USMCA quickly is a critical opportunity to shape global trade rules. The USMCA provisions on digital trade and intellectual property are bound to positively affect the growth of U.S. manufacturing and services alike. The commitments that prohibit data localization, enable cross-border data transfers, and protect source code and algorithms will be a driving force of global growth for the U.S. tech industry in the next decade. We support the commitments the countries made to protect consumers, provide cybersecurity cooperation, protect intellectual property rights, not to impose customs duties on digital products, provide safe harbors against intermediary liability for platforms under identified circumstances, and several other elements.

Congress can support and promote America’s global technology leadership by quickly approving the USMCA. We respectfully request you to find a path forward so that the agreement be passed in the House of Representatives and Senate this summer.

Sincerely,

¹ CompTIA 2019 Tech Trade Snapshot. (May 21, 2019)
Stefanie Holland        Tim Jemal
Vice President, Federal & Global Policy   Executive Director
CompTIA       TECNA

Alabama
Tech Birmingham

Arizona
Arizona Technology Council (AZTC)

California
California Technology Council (CTC)
Tech San Diego

Colorado
Colorado Technology Association (CTA)

Connecticut
Connecticut Technology Council (CTC)

Florida
Palm Beach Tech Association

Georgia
Technology Association of Georgia (TAG)
Computer Measurement Group (CMG)

Idaho
Idaho Tech Council (ITC)

Illinois
Illinois Technology Association (ITA)

Iowa
Technology Association of Iowa (TAI)

Kentucky
Technology Association of Louisville Kentucky (TALK)

Missouri
KC Tech Council

Massachusetts
Massachusetts Technology Leadership Council (MassTLC)

Maryland
ASCII Group
Maryland Tech Council (MTC)

Minnesota
Minnesota High Tech Association (MHTA)

New Hampshire
New Hampshire High Tech Council (NHHTC)

New Jersey
New Jersey Tech Council (NJTC)

New York
New York Tech Alliance
New Mexico
New Mexico Technology Council (NMTC)

North Carolina
North Carolina Technology Association (NCTA)

North Dakota
Technology Association of North Dakota

Ohio
OHTec

Oregon
Technology Association of Oregon (TAO)

Pennsylvania
Philadelphia Alliance for Capital and Technologies (PACT)

Pittsburgh Technology Council

Tennessee
Greater Nashville Technology Council
Greater Memphis IT Council

Texas
Tech Titans

Utah
Utah Technology Council

Vermont
Vermont Technology Alliance

Washington
Washington Technology Industry Association (WTIA)

Wisconsin
Wisconsin Technology Council (WTC)

Cc: Ways and Means Chairman Richard Neal
Senate Finance Chairman Chuck Grassley
Ways and Means Ranking Member Kevin Brady
Senate Finance Ranking Member Ron Wyden