

## COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON, DC 20515

April 17, 2018

The Hon. Kevin Brady  
Chairman  
Committee on Ways and Means  
1011 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Brady:

The Administration is currently signaling clear intentions to conclude the NAFTA renegotiation in the very near term. As the Ways and Means Democrats on the House Advisory Group on Negotiations (HAGON), we write to request a HAGON meeting with the Administration to discuss the status and potentially imminent conclusion of the NAFTA renegotiation.

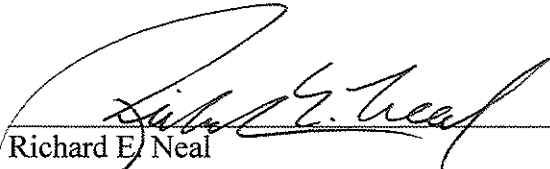
The HAGON is established by the Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015 (TPA) and its membership comprises the chairman and ranking member (or their designees) of the Committees in the House of Representatives that have, under House Rules, jurisdiction over provisions of law affected by trade agreements.

During trade negotiations, TPA requires that the Administration "consult closely and on a timely basis with" the HAGON and keep the HAGON "fully apprised of the negotiations." TPA also requires that the Administration consult with the HAGON before it enters into a trade agreement.


The HAGON convened twice in 2017 to consult with the Administration prior to the official launch of the NAFTA renegotiation: once on March 21 to meet with Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross and again on May 17 with U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer. The HAGON has not met since then to consult with the Administration on the NAFTA renegotiation or any other trade agreement negotiation being conducted by the Administration.

On behalf of ourselves and the Democratic representatives of the 12 other House Committees who serve on the HAGON, we ask that you hold a meeting of the HAGON with Amb. Lighthizer to discuss the NAFTA renegotiation at this critical phase of the negotiations and before an agreement in principle is reached and announced by the Administration.

Sincerely,



Richard E. Neal  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Ways and Means



Bill Pascrell, Jr.  
Ranking Member  
Ways and Means Subcommittee on Trade