

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

March 31, 2014

The Honorable Frank R. Wolf  
Chairman  
Commerce, Justice, and Science  
and Related Agencies Subcommittee  
House Appropriations Committee  
H-309, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chaka Fattah  
Ranking Member  
Commerce, Justice, and Science  
and Related Agencies Subcommittee  
House Appropriations Committee  
1016 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Wolf and Ranking Member Fattah:

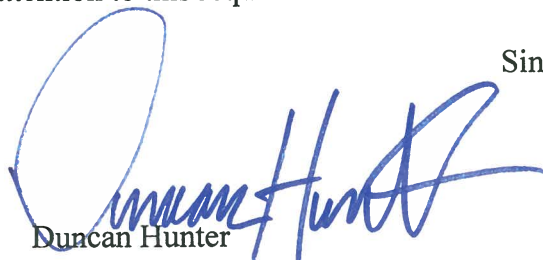
As you develop the Fiscal Year 2015 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, we urge you to fund the International Trade Administration's (ITA) Global Markets division at a level sufficient to cover its chief mission of export promotion.

It is crucial for our entrepreneurs, farmers and businesses to have the resources to compete internationally. In an effort to facilitate more trade, the ITA's Global Markets division promotes American exports through the U.S. Foreign and Commercial Service (CS). The CS creates value by providing helpful guidance, and acting as an advocate for American businesses. Located in nearly 80 countries, the CS focuses exclusively on promoting American products and services around the world. Their assistance helps companies reach and expand into new markets and increases our trading volume with other nations. When U.S. companies are competitive abroad, they are able to hire and produce more here at home. The overall effect is greater job creation and a stronger American economy.

Trade has contributed to our country's prosperity. Providing CS with adequate resources and funding will facilitate more trade by helping companies effectively promote their products abroad and increase our overall exports, which will maximize the benefits of trading relationships. As one of our most important and largest trading partners, it is crucial for U.S. companies to have access to Mexico's markets. We were troubled to hear that there are no permanent CS personnel in areas such as Tijuana, and that our southern border is understaffed. This could potentially hinder the ability of our companies to effectively reach and serve markets in Latin America.

In closing, we urge your support of the ITA's Global Markets division to allow American businesses to take full advantage of global markets and increase U.S. competitiveness abroad. Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,



Duncan Hunter  
Member of Congress



Darrell E. Issa  
Member of Congress