



THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON
October 16, 2018

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Democratic Leader
United States Senate
S-204 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Schumer:

In accordance with section 105(a)(1)(A) of the Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015 (the Trade Priorities and Accountability Act), and pursuant to authority delegated to me by the President, I am pleased to notify Congress that the President intends to initiate negotiations on a U.S.-Japan Trade Agreement. We will consult closely with Congress in developing our negotiating positions to ensure that they are consistent with Congressional priorities and objectives outlined in section 102 of the Trade Priorities and Accountability Act. We intend to initiate negotiations with Japan as soon as practicable, but no earlier than 90 days from the date of this notice.

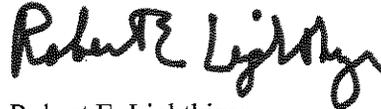
The United States seeks to support higher-paying jobs in the United States and to grow the U.S. economy by improving U.S. opportunities for trade and investment with Japan. Our specific objectives for this negotiation will comply with the specific objectives set forth by Congress in section 102 of the Trade Priorities and Accountability Act.

We note that the United States and Japan are the world's first and third largest economies, respectively, representing about 30 percent of global Gross Domestic Product. Japan is an important, but still too often underperforming, market for U.S. exporters of goods. Japan was the fourth largest goods export market for the United States in 2017, totaling \$67.6 billion. Likewise, Japan was the fourth largest export market for U.S. agriculture products in 2017, totaling \$12 billion. Despite these significant trade volumes, U.S. exporters in key sectors such as automobiles, agriculture, and services have been challenged by multiple tariff and non-tariff barriers for decades, leading to chronic U.S. trade imbalances with Japan. In fact, the trade deficit in goods with Japan was \$68.9 billion in 2017, virtually unchanged from the previous year. As indicated in the joint statement issued by President Trump and Prime Minister Abe on September 26, 2018, the United States and Japan would like to further expand trade and investment between them, and recognize the importance of a strong, stable, and mutually beneficial trade and economic relationship.

Our aim in negotiations with Japan is to address both tariff and non-tariff barriers and to achieve fairer, more balanced trade in a manner consistent with the objectives that Congress has set out in section 102 of the Trade Priorities and Accountability Act. We are committed to working closely with Congress, including on matters of scope, and to following the requirements of the Trade Priorities and Accountability Act and the guidelines issued pursuant to section 104(a)(3) of that Act. Further, we recognize that effective implementation and enforcement of the commitments made by our trading partners under our trade agreements are vital to the success of those agreements, and we will seek provisions that ensure effective implementation and enforcement.

We are committed to concluding these negotiations with timely and substantive results for U.S. consumers, businesses, farmers, ranchers, and workers, consistent with U.S. priorities and the negotiating objectives established by Congress in statute. We may seek to pursue negotiations with Japan in stages as appropriate, but we will only do so based on consultations with Congress. We look forward to continuing to work with Congress as negotiations with Japan begin, and we commit to working with you closely and transparently throughout the process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert E. Lighthizer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "R" at the beginning.

Robert E. Lighthizer
United States Trade Representative



THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON

October 16, 2018

The Honorable Orrin Hatch
President Pro Tempore
United States Senate
104 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Hatch:

In accordance with section 105(a)(1)(A) of the Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015 (the Trade Priorities and Accountability Act), and pursuant to authority delegated to me by the President, I am pleased to notify Congress that the President intends to initiate negotiations on a U.S.-Japan Trade Agreement. We will consult closely with Congress in developing our negotiating positions to ensure that they are consistent with Congressional priorities and objectives outlined in section 102 of the Trade Priorities and Accountability Act. We intend to initiate negotiations with Japan as soon as practicable, but no earlier than 90 days from the date of this notice.

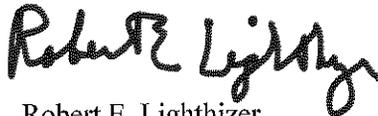
The United States seeks to support higher-paying jobs in the United States and to grow the U.S. economy by improving U.S. opportunities for trade and investment with Japan. Our specific objectives for this negotiation will comply with the specific objectives set forth by Congress in section 102 of the Trade Priorities and Accountability Act.

We note that the United States and Japan are the world's first and third largest economies, respectively, representing about 30 percent of global Gross Domestic Product. Japan is an important, but still too often underperforming, market for U.S. exporters of goods. Japan was the fourth largest goods export market for the United States in 2017, totaling \$67.6 billion. Likewise, Japan was the fourth largest export market for U.S. agriculture products in 2017, totaling \$12 billion. Despite these significant trade volumes, U.S. exporters in key sectors such as automobiles, agriculture, and services have been challenged by multiple tariff and non-tariff barriers for decades, leading to chronic U.S. trade imbalances with Japan. In fact, the trade deficit in goods with Japan was \$68.9 billion in 2017, virtually unchanged from the previous year. As indicated in the joint statement issued by President Trump and Prime Minister Abe on September 26, 2018, the United States and Japan would like to further expand trade and investment between them, and recognize the importance of a strong, stable, and mutually beneficial trade and economic relationship.

Our aim in negotiations with Japan is to address both tariff and non-tariff barriers and to achieve fairer, more balanced trade in a manner consistent with the objectives that Congress has set out in section 102 of the Trade Priorities and Accountability Act. We are committed to working closely with Congress, including on matters of scope, and to following the requirements of the Trade Priorities and Accountability Act and the guidelines issued pursuant to section 104(a)(3) of that Act. Further, we recognize that effective implementation and enforcement of the commitments made by our trading partners under our trade agreements are vital to the success of those agreements, and we will seek provisions that ensure effective implementation and enforcement.

We are committed to concluding these negotiations with timely and substantive results for U.S. consumers, businesses, farmers, ranchers, and workers, consistent with U.S. priorities and the negotiating objectives established by Congress in statute. We may seek to pursue negotiations with Japan in stages as appropriate, but we will only do so based on consultations with Congress. We look forward to continuing to work with Congress as negotiations with Japan begin, and we commit to working with you closely and transparently throughout the process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert E. Lighthizer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "R" at the beginning.

Robert E. Lighthizer
United States Trade Representative



THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON

October 16, 2018

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
H-232 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Ryan:

In accordance with section 105(a)(1)(A) of the Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015 (the Trade Priorities and Accountability Act), and pursuant to authority delegated to me by the President, I am pleased to notify Congress that the President intends to initiate negotiations on a U.S.-Japan Trade Agreement. We will consult closely with Congress in developing our negotiating positions to ensure that they are consistent with Congressional priorities and objectives outlined in section 102 of the Trade Priorities and Accountability Act. We intend to initiate negotiations with Japan as soon as practicable, but no earlier than 90 days from the date of this notice.

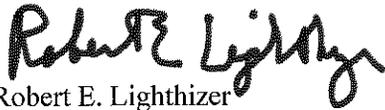
The United States seeks to support higher-paying jobs in the United States and to grow the U.S. economy by improving U.S. opportunities for trade and investment with Japan. Our specific objectives for this negotiation will comply with the specific objectives set forth by Congress in section 102 of the Trade Priorities and Accountability Act.

We note that the United States and Japan are the world's first and third largest economies, respectively, representing about 30 percent of global Gross Domestic Product. Japan is an important, but still too often underperforming, market for U.S. exporters of goods. Japan was the fourth largest goods export market for the United States in 2017, totaling \$67.6 billion. Likewise, Japan was the fourth largest export market for U.S. agriculture products in 2017, totaling \$12 billion. Despite these significant trade volumes, U.S. exporters in key sectors such as automobiles, agriculture, and services have been challenged by multiple tariff and non-tariff barriers for decades, leading to chronic U.S. trade imbalances with Japan. In fact, the trade deficit in goods with Japan was \$68.9 billion in 2017, virtually unchanged from the previous year. As indicated in the joint statement issued by President Trump and Prime Minister Abe on September 26, 2018, the United States and Japan would like to further expand trade and investment between them, and recognize the importance of a strong, stable, and mutually beneficial trade and economic relationship.

Our aim in negotiations with Japan is to address both tariff and non-tariff barriers and to achieve fairer, more balanced trade in a manner consistent with the objectives that Congress has set out in section 102 of the Trade Priorities and Accountability Act. We are committed to working closely with Congress, including on matters of scope, and to following the requirements of the Trade Priorities and Accountability Act and the guidelines issued pursuant to section 104(a)(3) of that Act. Further, we recognize that effective implementation and enforcement of the commitments made by our trading partners under our trade agreements are vital to the success of those agreements, and we will seek provisions that ensure effective implementation and enforcement.

We are committed to concluding these negotiations with timely and substantive results for U.S. consumers, businesses, farmers, ranchers, and workers, consistent with U.S. priorities and the negotiating objectives established by Congress in statute. We may seek to pursue negotiations with Japan in stages as appropriate, but we will only do so based on consultations with Congress. We look forward to continuing to work with Congress as negotiations with Japan begin, and we commit to working with you closely and transparently throughout the process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert E. Lighthizer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "R" and "L".

Robert E. Lighthizer
United States Trade Representative



THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON

October 16, 2018

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Democratic Leader
United States House of Representatives
H-204 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Leader Pelosi:

In accordance with section 105(a)(1)(A) of the Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015 (the Trade Priorities and Accountability Act), and pursuant to authority delegated to me by the President, I am pleased to notify Congress that the President intends to initiate negotiations on a U.S.-Japan Trade Agreement. We will consult closely with Congress in developing our negotiating positions to ensure that they are consistent with Congressional priorities and objectives outlined in section 102 of the Trade Priorities and Accountability Act. We intend to initiate negotiations with Japan as soon as practicable, but no earlier than 90 days from the date of this notice.

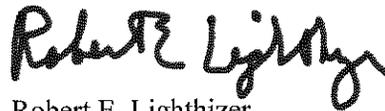
The United States seeks to support higher-paying jobs in the United States and to grow the U.S. economy by improving U.S. opportunities for trade and investment with Japan. Our specific objectives for this negotiation will comply with the specific objectives set forth by Congress in section 102 of the Trade Priorities and Accountability Act.

We note that the United States and Japan are the world's first and third largest economies, respectively, representing about 30 percent of global Gross Domestic Product. Japan is an important, but still too often underperforming, market for U.S. exporters of goods. Japan was the fourth largest goods export market for the United States in 2017, totaling \$67.6 billion. Likewise, Japan was the fourth largest export market for U.S. agriculture products in 2017, totaling \$12 billion. Despite these significant trade volumes, U.S. exporters in key sectors such as automobiles, agriculture, and services have been challenged by multiple tariff and non-tariff barriers for decades, leading to chronic U.S. trade imbalances with Japan. In fact, the trade deficit in goods with Japan was \$68.9 billion in 2017, virtually unchanged from the previous year. As indicated in the joint statement issued by President Trump and Prime Minister Abe on September 26, 2018, the United States and Japan would like to further expand trade and investment between them, and recognize the importance of a strong, stable, and mutually beneficial trade and economic relationship.

Our aim in negotiations with Japan is to address both tariff and non-tariff barriers and to achieve fairer, more balanced trade in a manner consistent with the objectives that Congress has set out in section 102 of the Trade Priorities and Accountability Act. We are committed to working closely with Congress, including on matters of scope, and to following the requirements of the Trade Priorities and Accountability Act and the guidelines issued pursuant to section 104(a)(3) of that Act. Further, we recognize that effective implementation and enforcement of the commitments made by our trading partners under our trade agreements are vital to the success of those agreements, and we will seek provisions that ensure effective implementation and enforcement.

We are committed to concluding these negotiations with timely and substantive results for U.S. consumers, businesses, farmers, ranchers, and workers, consistent with U.S. priorities and the negotiating objectives established by Congress in statute. We may seek to pursue negotiations with Japan in stages as appropriate, but we will only do so based on consultations with Congress. We look forward to continuing to work with Congress as negotiations with Japan begin, and we commit to working with you closely and transparently throughout the process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert E. Lighthizer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "R" and "L".

Robert E. Lighthizer
United States Trade Representative