

ELISE M. STEFANIK
21ST DISTRICT, NEW YORK

2211 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4611
stefanik.house.gov

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3221

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March 4, 2022

The Honorable Katherine C. Tai
United States Trade Representative
Office of the United States Trade Representative
600 17th Street NW
Washington, DC 20508

Dear Ambassador Tai,

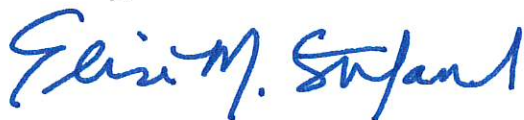
I write with appreciation for the focus you have placed on enforcing the market access rights of American dairy farmers and manufacturers under the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA). As you know, I have strongly supported this prioritization. For that reason, I was deeply disappointed in Canada's recent proposal on USMCA dairy market access, and I urge you to reject these changes.

As you know, on March 2, 2022, Global Affairs Canada released their proposed changes to their current allocation of USMCA dairy tariff-rate-quotas (TRQ). However, these changes come nowhere close to providing American dairy producers with the market access they were promised under USMCA. For instance, Canada's proposal still excludes key food and agriculture supply chain participants in Canada, such as retailers that may have a strong interest in importing U.S. dairy products. Canada's proposal appears designed to arrive at effectively the same result that its current system delivers. That cannot be a "fair" and "equitable" outcome, as USMCA requires for TRQ allocations given the deep problems your office has rightfully identified with Canada's present process.

Dairy producers across the country, including those in Upstate New York and the North Country, have faced significant challenges over the past few years, specifically with the supply chain disruptions and the need to alter their businesses in order to operate safely as essential components of our food supply. They need the expanded market access they were promised as part of USMCA.

Therefore, I urge you to reject this proposal and continue to work to ensure Canada abides by its original commitments under the agreement.

Sincerely,



Elise M. Stefanik
Member of Congress

GLENS FALLS
5 WARREN STREET
SUITE 4
GLENS FALLS, NY 12801
(518) 743-0964

PLATTSBURGH
137 MARGARET STREET
SUITE 100
PLATTSBURGH, NY 12901
(518) 561-2324

WATERTOWN
88 PUBLIC SQUARE
SUITE A
WATERTOWN, NY 13601
(315) 782-3150