

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 26, 2012

Dr. Ir. H. Suswono, Minister
Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Indonesia
Jl. Harsono RM No. 3
Jakarta 12550, Indonesia

Mr. Gita Irawan Wirjawan, Minister
Ministry of Trade of the Republic of Indonesia
Jl. M. I. Ridwan Rais Road No. 5
Jakarta 10110, Indonesia

Dear Ministers Suswono and Wirjawan:

We write to raise our serious concerns with Ministry of Trade Regulation 60/2012 and the corresponding Ministry of Agriculture Regulation 60/2012, which, if implemented as proposed, could impose significant conditions on horticultural imports and effectively restrict safe, high-quality U.S. products from reaching the Indonesian market.

Not only do the scope and applicability of these regulations remain unclear but we also have concerns about the purpose of these regulations and whether Indonesian producers will be held to the same standards. These regulations are extraordinarily complex with multiple licensing and approval requirements, quantitative limits on imports, labeling requirements, pre-shipment inspection requirements and severe penalties for companies that make minor or inadvertent errors in their reporting requirement. In fact, the surveyor verification requirement alone could well halt shipments to Indonesia. We believe that the regulations will place considerable burdens on U.S. exporters, effectively serving as a barrier to trade, and may also violate Indonesia's World Trade Organization obligations.

Concern over horticultural import regulations enacted by the Indonesian government is not a new issue. We were recently able to successfully address a similar issue relating to the closure of the Jakarta port to U.S. and other countries' horticultural exports. We appreciate the Indonesian government's recognition of the high quality of U.S. horticultural products, which led to the exclusion of U.S. products from the port restriction. Unfortunately, the uncertainty and confusion surrounding the implementation of Ministry of Trade Regulation 60/2012 and Ministry of Agriculture Regulation 60/2012 have undermined that progress, causing some U.S. producers to stop exporting their products to Indonesia. This is detrimental to both of our countries, as exporters lose access to a critical market for U.S. produce, and Indonesians lose access to the high quality U.S. fruit that they have come to demand.

We urge you to engage with the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative and reconsider these damaging policies. Transparency and open dialogue between the U.S. and Indonesia is vital as these discussions move forward. We look forward to a swift resolution of these issues and a continued expanding trade relationship between the U.S. and Indonesia.

Sincerely,



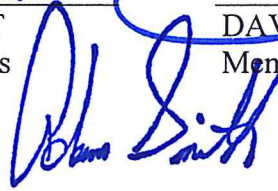
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Member of Congress



DAVE REICHERT
Member of Congress



DOC HASTINGS
Member of Congress



ADAM SMITH
Member of Congress



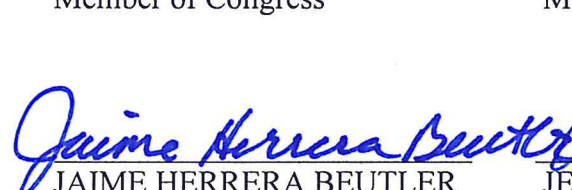
CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS
Member of Congress



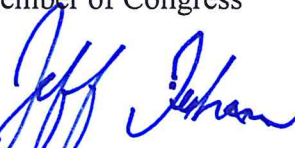
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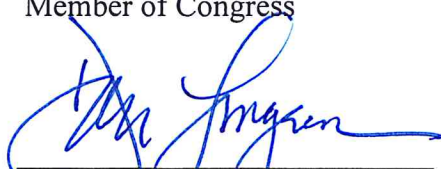
RICK LARSEN
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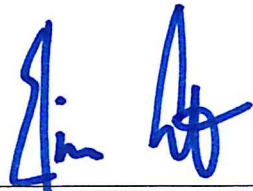
KURT SCHRADER
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LOIS CAPPS
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DAN LUNGREN
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JIM COSTA
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CC:
Ambassador Ron Kirk, United States Trade Representative