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July 27, 2010

The Honorable Barack Obama
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

The forest and paper industry is an important part of our nation's manufacturing base. As you may know, a petition has been filed with the International Trade Commission and Department of Commerce to investigate possible subsidies and dumping of certain paper products. While I believe it is critical that these investigations proceed unimpeded by politics, I also believe the Administration and Congress should work now to create new export opportunities in order to foster an even more vibrant manufacturing base.

Specifically, I encourage you to act on your commitment to move the three pending trade agreements with Colombia, Panama, and South Korea – trade agreements that stand to benefit the paper industry in Ohio and across the country. As you have said, passage of the pending agreements will increase trade, which is a step towards your stated goal of doubling our exports in five years. You have often noted that increasing our exports by 1% will create more than 250,000 jobs. Independent reviews by the International Trade Commission estimate that implementing pending trade agreements with Colombia, Panama and South Korea will increase U.S. exports by more than one percent. As I mentioned, the paper industry in Ohio, and across the country, stands to benefit tremendously from passage of the pending trade agreements. Between 2005 and 2007, the U.S. exported \$725 million worth of paper and paper products to South Korea. Upon implementation of the agreement, 100% of duties will be eliminated immediately. In 2007, the U.S. paper industry exported \$234 million worth of products to Colombia and \$72 million to Panama in 2006. Most tariffs will be eliminated immediately upon implementation of these agreements, with remaining tariffs being phased out over a period of ten years or less.

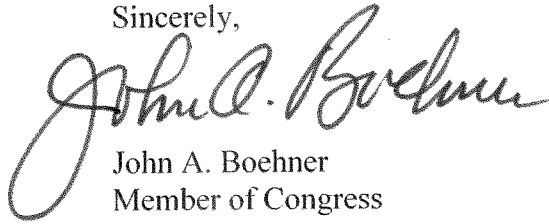
Ohio's paper industry and scores of other manufactures across the country stand to benefit greatly by the adoption of the pending trade agreements. Opening doors to overseas

markets creates jobs and new opportunities without costing the taxpayers. I urge you to act on these agreements.

Mr. President, as you know, nearly 1 in 10 Americans today is unemployed. In my district, Ohio's Eighth Congressional District, families continue to struggle with a jobless rate that is nearly a full point higher than the national average. As I listen to the small business owners who are essential to getting our economy moving again and creating new jobs, I hear concerns about new taxes, mandates and obstacles that are filling them with uncertainty and keeping them from hiring, investing, and leveraging their hard work and innovation to take advantage of new opportunities at home and abroad.

I appreciate your attention to this issue, and I look forward to working with you to address the tough issues that face our country's economy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "John A. Boehner". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

John A. Boehner
Member of Congress