

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

May 6, 2011

The Honorable Zhang Yesui  
Ambassador of the People's Republic of China  
to the United States of America  
3505 International Place, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20008

Dear Ambassador Yesui:

It is our understanding that Governor Bob McDonnell will soon be in the People's Republic of China on a trade mission. This mission, with visits to Beijing and Shanghai, is meant to enhance the trade relationship between the Commonwealth of Virginia and the People's Republic of China.

As you know, the Commonwealth of Virginia has a strong trade relationship with the People's Republic of China. Virginia currently ranks 12th, among U.S. states, in our agricultural exports to your country. Last year, the value of those exports reached \$194 million, thus making the People's Republic of China Virginia's second largest export customer. Although we greatly appreciate that business, we firmly believe that our trading relationship can be strengthened even further.

As members of Virginia's Congressional Delegation, we have major concerns about the continued ban that the People's Republic of China has on poultry products from the Commonwealth of Virginia. The poultry industry is a major contributor to the Commonwealth's economy and this continued ban hurts our economy. Additionally, the ban further hurts our economy, because no poultry products, even if they were not grown or slaughtered in the Commonwealth of Virginia, may be exported to China from a Virginia port.

Furthermore, the recent ban that the People's Republic of China has placed on both softwood and hardwood logs from Virginia, as well as South Carolina, causes us great concern due to the ban's negative impact on both Virginia exporters and Chinese wood customers. It is our understanding that the United States Department of Agriculture has offered a comprehensive proposal to address issues raised by the Chinese government that led to the ban.


We are hopeful that the proposal and Governor McDonnell's trade mission, where he and his team have scheduled meetings regarding both the poultry and log bans, will help to resolve both matters. Indeed, reversing both of these bans would greatly strengthen the trade relationship between Virginia and the People's Republic of China.

Thank you for your attention to these matters. We look forward to seeing these bans lifted and the trade relationship between the Commonwealth of Virginia and the People's Republic of China strengthened.

Sincerely,



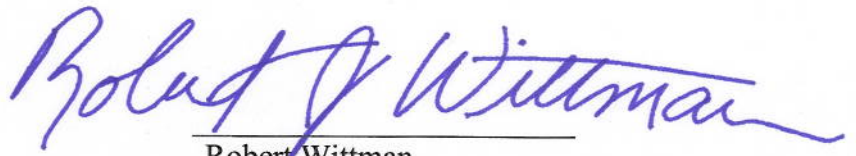
Bob Goodlatte  
Member of Congress



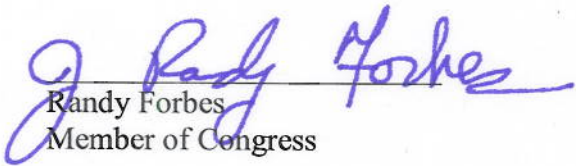
Mark Warner  
United States Senator



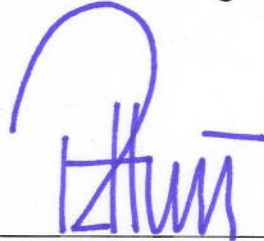
Eric Cantor  
Member of Congress



Robert Wittman  
Member of Congress



Randy Forbes  
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Scott Rigell  
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