

Via Email

November 9, 2018

The Honorable Robert Lighthizer United States Trade Representative 600 17th Street, NW Washington, DC 20508

Dear Ambassador Lighthizer:

The Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association (MEMA) represents more than 1,000 vehicle suppliers that manufacture and remanufacture components and systems used in passenger cars and heavy trucks as original equipment (OE) in new vehicles and as aftermarket parts to service, maintain, and repair the vehicles on the road today.¹ Motor vehicle component manufacturers are the nation's largest direct employer of manufacturing jobs in the U.S. employing over 871,000 workers in all 50 states. Together with indirect and employment-induced jobs, the total U.S. employment impact of the supplier industry is 4.26 million jobs.

MEMA believes that the recent announcement of the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) is a positive step forward for all three countries. MEMA has worked closely with this administration to reach this important juncture and has joined with many others in the business community in congratulating the President.

Yet, in order for the USMCA to achieve success, the U.S. must conclude negotiations with Mexico and Canada to exempt them from the Section 232 tariffs on steel and aluminum prior to signature by the parties. These tariffs are currently costing our industry hundreds of millions of dollars, negating any opportunity to invest in more U.S. manufacturing capacity or workforce development. USMCA will not create the desired opportunities for the United States without addressing steel and aluminum tariffs.

Supplier industry leaders would welcome the opportunity to meet with you at your earliest convenience to discuss how we can assist in your efforts to address this critical issue. MEMA Senior Vice President Ann Wilson would be happy to work with your staff to schedule a meeting; she can be reached via email <u>awilson@mema.org</u> or (202) 312-9246.

Sincerely,

Dan Sceli Chairman, MEMA Board of Directors

¹ MEMA represents vehicle suppliers through the following four divisions: Automotive Aftermarket Suppliers Association (AASA), Heavy Duty Manufacturers Association (HDMA), Motor & Equipment Remanufacturers Association (MERA), and Original Equipment Suppliers Association (OESA).

