

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON, DC 20515

February 15, 2023

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

The Honorable Tom Vilsack
Secretary
United States Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20509

Dear Ambassador Tai and Secretary Vilsack:

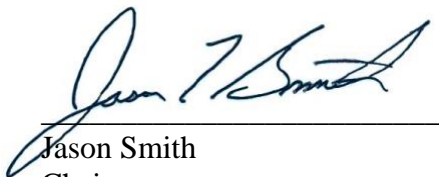
We write to reiterate our substantial concerns with actions by the Government of Mexico to restrict imports of Genetically Modified Organism (GMO) biotech corn and other agricultural biotechnology products from the United States. These measures are clearly inconsistent with Mexico's United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) obligations and could dissolve critical American agricultural exports to Mexico, threatening the livelihoods of American farmers and undermining regional economic integration.

We appreciate your engagement on this vital issue and the recent statement from Ambassador McKalip and Under Secretary Taylor emphasizing that these measures are not grounded in science and would cause serious harm to American farmers. We are supportive of efforts "to hammer out a solution," but we must emphasize that these restrictions have been hanging over the heads of American farmers for over two years now and the Government of Mexico has not addressed core U.S. concerns.

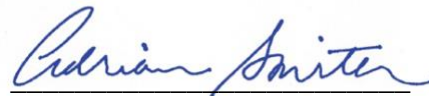
That is why we believe it is time to aggressively enforce USMCA by initiating a formal dispute against these measures. We must engage with the Government of Mexico from a position of strength, not weakness. Time is of the essence as farmers plan for the 2023 planting season that will feed the world in 2024.

We stand ready to work with you on this substantial challenge, including by considering legislative proposals to incentivize compliance with any potential dispute settlement panel report.

Sincerely,



Jason Smith
Chairman
Committee on Ways and Means



Adrian Smith
Chairman
Subcommittee on Trade