

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 31, 2020

The Honorable Robert E. Lighthizer  
Ambassador  
Office of the United States Trade Representative  
600 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Northwest  
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Ambassador Lighthizer:

Thank you for your ongoing efforts to support our domestic poultry industries. We are greatly appreciative of your role in facilitating China's recent decision to lift a five-year ban on poultry products from the United States, which, according to the USA Poultry & Egg Export Council, opened an up to \$2 billion market for our poultry producers. As the United Kingdom (UK) prepares to exit the European Union (EU) and negotiate a new trade agreement with the United States, we urge you to advocate for United States poultry access to the UK as well.

Since 1997, the EU has banned the import of poultry meat treated with antimicrobial rinses. This ban has prevented all United States chicken meat from reaching European markets, including the UK. Although the United States Department of Agriculture and the European Food Safety Commission have both concluded that chicken meat treated with these rinses is safe for human consumption, some in the UK government have unfortunately made public statements regarding their intention to retain the EU ban following the UK's exit from the EU.

As bipartisan senators of states with significant poultry interests, we urge you to strongly advocate for United States poultry access to the UK when negotiating a new trade deal. Capitalizing on this opportunity to open a new and substantial market for United States poultry exports would greatly benefit domestic businesses while maintaining food safety standards supported by sound science.

Thank you for your attention to this request. We appreciate your support and look forward to continue working with you.

Sincerely,



Christopher A. Coons  
United States Senator



Roger F. Wicker  
United States Senator



Thomas R. Carper  
United States Senator



Thom Tillis  
United States Senator



Mark R. Warner  
United States Senator



Lindsey O. Graham  
United States Senator



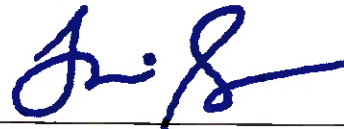
John Boozman  
United States Senator



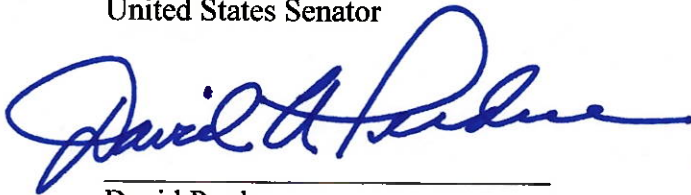
Kelly Loeffler  
United States Senator



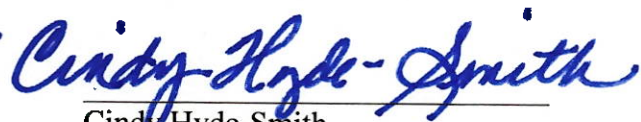
Tom Cotton  
United States Senator



Tim Scott  
United States Senator



David Perdue  
United States Senator



Cindy Hyde-Smith  
United States Senator