

The Honorable Ron Wyden
Chair, Senate Finance Committee
U.S. Senate
221 Dirksen Senate Office Building
50 Constitution Ave NE
Washington, D.C. 20002

The Honorable Mike Crapo
Ranking Member, Senate Finance Committee
U.S. Senate
239 Dirksen Senate Office Building
50 Constitution Ave NE
Washington, D.C. 20002

September 16, 2021

Dear Chair Wyden, Ranking Member Crapo, and members of the Senate Committee on Finance:

The National Chicken Council (NCC), USA Poultry & Egg Export Council (USAPEEC), US Poultry & Egg Association (US Poultry), and California Poultry Federation (CPF) strongly support the confirmation of Elaine Trevino as Chief Agricultural Negotiator in the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR).

The position of Chief Agricultural Negotiator with the rank of ambassador was created in 1997 by Congress for the express purpose of ensuring that U.S. agriculture is fully represented in trade negotiations at the highest possible level. This position is essential to ensuring that existing export markets are maintained and new markets are opened for U.S. agricultural products.

The U.S. chicken industry in 2020 exported over \$3.6 billion of chicken products to more than 130 countries around the world and exports 17 percent by weight of all the chicken meat produced in the U.S., some of which flows through the export infrastructure of California for destinations around the world.

Elaine Trevino, with her strong roots in agriculture and experience in America's largest agricultural-exporting state, possesses well-honed agricultural policy experience with the California Department of Food and Agriculture, Almond Alliance of California, and serving alongside Jim Sumner on USDA's Agricultural Policy Advisory Committee (APAC). Her years in representing U.S. agriculture in California and abilities and input on trade-related issues through APAC will serve the entire U.S. agricultural community well as USTR's agricultural ambassador.

We believe Elaine Trevino is an exceptional selection to fill the role of Chief Agricultural Negotiator at USTR and we urge her swift confirmation by the Senate.

Sincerely,

Mike Brown, President, National Chicken Council
Jim Sumner, President and CEO, USA Poultry & Egg Export Council
John Starkey, President, US Poultry & Egg Association
Bill Mattos, President, California Poultry Federation

cc:

Senator Debbie Stabenow, Member, Senate Committee on Finance; Chair, Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

Senator John Boozman, Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

Senator Maria Cantwell, Member, Senate Committee on Finance

Senator Bob Menendez, Member, Senate Committee on Finance

Senator Tom Carper, Member, Senate Committee on Finance

Senator Ben Cardin, Member, Senate Committee on Finance

Senator Sherrod Brown, Member, Senate Committee on Finance

Senator Michael Bennet, Member, Senate Committee on Finance

Senator Bob Casey, Member, Senate Committee on Finance

Senator Mark Warner, Member, Senate Committee on Finance

Senator Sheldon Whitehouse, Member, Senate Committee on Finance

Senator Maggie Hassan, Member, Senate Committee on Finance

Senator Catherine Cortez Masto, Member, Senate Committee on Finance

Senator Elizabeth Warren, Member, Senate Committee on Finance

Senator Chuck Grassley, Member, Senate Committee on Finance

Senator John Cornyn, Member, Senate Committee on Finance

Senator John Thune, Member, Senate Committee on Finance

Senator Richard Burr, Member, Senate Committee on Finance

Senator Rob Portman, Member, Senate Committee on Finance

Senator Pat Toomey, Member, Senate Committee on Finance

Senator Tim Scott, Member, Senate Committee on Finance

Senator Bill Cassidy, Member, Senate Committee on Finance

Senator James Lankford, Member, Senate Committee on Finance

Senator Steve Daines, Member, Senate Committee on Finance

Senator Todd Young, Member, Senate Committee on Finance

Senator Ben Sasse, Member, Senate Committee on Finance

Senator John Barrasso, Member, Senate Committee on Finance