

Statement on House of Representatives Action on Trade Promotion Authority and Trade Adjustment Assistance Legislation *June 12, 2015*

Today Republicans and Democrats in the House of Representatives voted to help the United States negotiate and enforce strong, high-standard trade deals that are good for American workers and good for American businesses. That's a good thing. My top priority as President is to grow the economy and open new avenues of opportunity for hard-working Americans. And today's new economy demands we encourage new sources of growth and job creation so that America remains vital, dynamic, and on the cutting edge. That's what smart new trade agreements can do, agreements for fair and free trade that level the playing field for our workers, open new markets for our businesses, and hold other countries to the kinds of high standards that Americans are proud to hold ourselves to here at home. These kinds of agreements reflect the realities of a 21st-century economy. These kinds of agreements make sure that the global economy's rules aren't written by countries like China, they're written by the United States of America. And to stand in their way is to do nothing but preserve the long-term status quo for American workers and make it even harder for them to succeed.

Trade promotion authority (TPA) will expand workers' rights, it will protect the environment, it will promote a free and open Internet, and it will support robust new measures to

crack down on countries that break the rules, the same way we've brought dozens of new trade cases over the past 6 years and won again and again. But as I've said before, new trade agreements should go hand in hand with support to American workers who've been harmed by trade in the past. Trade adjustment assistance (TAA) is an initiative that would give roughly 100,000 American workers access to vital support each year. But it's currently scheduled to expire soon. Republicans and Democrats in the Senate have renewed it. Republicans and Democrats in the House failed to renew it today, and that inaction will directly hurt about 100,000 workers and their communities annually if those Members of Congress don't reconsider. I urge the House to pass TAA without delay so that more middle class workers can earn the chance to participate and succeed in our global economy.

I thank the bipartisan group of Representatives who came together on behalf of America's workers, our businesses, and our economy. And I urge the House of Representatives to pass TAA as soon as possible so I can sign them both and give our workers and businesses even more wind at their backs to do what they do best: imagine, invent, build, and sell goods made in America to the rest of the world.

NOTE: The statement referred to H.R. 1314.

The President's Weekly Address *June 13, 2015*

Hi, everybody. My top priority as President is to grow the economy and help more hard-working Americans get ahead. And after the worst economic crisis in our lifetimes, our businesses have now created 12.6 million new jobs over the past 63 months.

That's a record streak of job creation. And it's come as we've been working to reform our schools, revitalize manufacturing and the auto

industry, revamp our job training programs, and rework our health care system, covering more than 16 million uninsured Americans so far.

We've done all of this to rebuild our economy on a new foundation, a foundation for growth that benefits not only us, but our kids and their kids. Because we do live in a new economy. And we've got to adapt to make sure