

MAX BAUCUS, MONTANA, CHAIRMAN

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER IV, WEST VIRGINIA  
KENT CONRAD, NORTH DAKOTA  
JEFF BINGAMAN, NEW MEXICO  
JOHN F. KERRY, MASSACHUSETTS  
BLANCHE L. LINCOLN, ARKANSAS  
RON WYDEN, OREGON  
CHARLES E. SCHUMER, NEW YORK  
DEBBIE STABENOW, MICHIGAN  
MARIA CANTWELL, WASHINGTON  
KEN SALAZAR, COLORADO

CHUCK GRASSLEY, IOWA  
ORRIN G. HATCH, UTAH  
OLYMPIA J. SNOWE, MAINE  
JON KYL, ARIZONA  
GORDON SMITH, OREGON  
JIM BUNNING, KENTUCKY  
MIKE CRAPO, IDAHO  
PAT ROBERTS, KANSAS  
JOHN ENSIGN, NEVADA  
JOHN E. SUNUNU, NEW HAMPSHIRE

# United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6200

RUSSELL SULLIVAN, STAFF DIRECTOR  
KOLAN DAVIS, REPUBLICAN STAFF DIRECTOR AND CHIEF COUNSEL

January 12, 2009

DOCKET NUMBER  2645
Office of the Secretary Int'l Trade Commission

2009 JAN 13 PM 12:33  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
U.S. INT'L TRADE COMMISSION

The Honorable Shara L. Aranoff  
Chairman  
U.S. International Trade Commission  
500 E Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20436

Dear Chairman Aranoff,

U.S. agriculture depends on reliable access to global markets. Strong economic growth in developing countries like India presents opportunities for U.S. agricultural exports. Although the United States is globally competitive in a wide variety of agricultural products – ranging from wheat, corn, soybeans, peas, lentils, and edible oils – U.S. farmers only provide about 5 percent of India's current food imports. While U.S. exporters can provide individual examples of trade measures that prevent their sales to India, the extent to which trade and investment measures account for the disproportionately low U.S. share of India's agricultural imports remains largely undocumented.

We are writing to request that the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) conduct an investigation under section 332(g) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1332(g)) regarding the effects of tariff and non-tariff measures on U.S. agricultural exports to India. The report should cover the period 2003-2008, or the period 2003 to the latest year for which data are available.

To the extent possible, the report should include the following:

- an overview of the Indian agricultural market, including recent trends in consumption, imports, and domestic supply;
- a description of the principal measures affecting Indian agricultural imports, including tariffs, sanitary and phytosanitary measures, food regulations, packaging and labeling requirements, pricing policies, intellectual property policies, and customs procedures;
- information on Indian government regulations, including state regulations, covering agricultural markets and foreign direct investment affecting U.S. agricultural products in India;

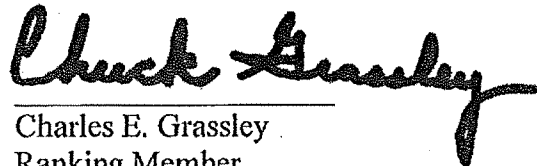
- an evaluation of the impact of India's food marketing and distribution system, including market structure, transportation infrastructure, and cold-storage capacity, on U.S. agricultural products in the Indian market; and,
- a quantitative analysis of the economic effects of Indian tariffs, and to the extent possible, non-tariff measures on U.S. agricultural exports to India.

The Commission should provide its completed report no later than ten months from the receipt of this request. As we intend to make the report available to the public, we request that it not contain confidential business information.

Sincerely,



Max Baucus  
Chairman



Charles E. Grassley  
Ranking Member