

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 20, 2013

The Honorable John Kerry
Secretary
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Secretary Kerry,

As the world's largest democracy, India is a crucial ally for the United States and an important export market for American-made goods and services. Given the importance of our bilateral relationship and the upcoming U.S.-India Strategic Dialogue, we want to raise an important trade issue involving India's discriminatory trade and economic practices.

A strong bilateral trade and economic relationship is essential to achieving the strategic aims of our two nations in South Asia and beyond. Given that mutual goal, we are very concerned that India's recent actions to force the local production of certain information technology and clean energy equipment and to deny, break or revoke patents for nearly a dozen lifesaving medications risk undermining our broader partnership. This is particularly troubling against the backdrop of a generally deteriorating environment for intellectual property protection in India.

India's discriminatory actions give its domestic corporations an unfair advantage over manufacturers and workers in the United States and elsewhere. These actions are inconsistent with international norms and appear to violate India's obligations in the World Trade Organization. Furthermore, they threaten to undermine India's ability to attract further foreign investment, grow its manufacturing sector and promote innovation and sustainable development.

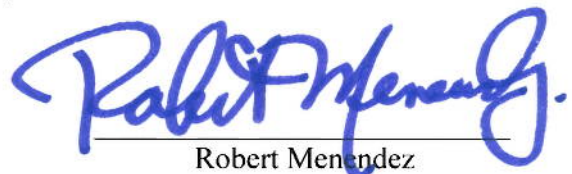
We urge you to press for swift action and make clear to your Indian counterparts that the United States will consider all trade tools at its disposal if India does not end its discriminatory practices. Time is of the essence. Already, several other countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America are reportedly contemplating actions similar to those India has already taken that would further harm jobs and growth in our states and across the country.

A level playing field for American businesses, farmers and workers in India and other overseas markets is an essential U.S. diplomatic objective. We appreciate your leadership and the work of the Department of State to that end and look forward to the results of your meetings in India.

Sincerely,



Rob Portman
U.S. Senator



Robert Menendez
U.S. Senator

Boucher

Susan Collins

John Baran

David Viller

John Risch

Gene McCasill

Mark

ROSS

Ray Bent

Scott Chi

Willie

Tom Carper

Mike Crayson

Pat Roberts

Patty Murray

Chris Coons

Michael B. Enzi

Pat Rooney

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Dianne Feinstein

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Mark Royce

Kay R. Hagan

Jany Boddie

Brian Eckel

Mike Johnson

Marl Udell

Maria Conner

Sally Chaublin

Carlton

Bill Nelson