



**American Cancer Society**  
**Cancer Action Network**  
555 11<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20004  
202.661.5700  
[www.acscan.org](http://www.acscan.org)

February 2, 2016

Dear Representative:

As a member of Congress, you will be considering approval of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) trade and investment agreement, and I write to encourage your vote in support of the agreement. The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network supports approval of the TPP because of the historic provision it contains to protect lifesaving tobacco control measures from tobacco industry challenges pursuant to the Investor State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) provisions.

It is altogether fitting that the TPP will be signed by the twelve participating countries on the same day this week that World Cancer Day (February) will be observed to encourage the reduction of the cancer burden around the globe.

Tobacco products are unlike any other legal consumer product. They are the number one preventable cause of death in the United States and around the world, killing more than 6 million people each year globally, including 480,000 in the United States. In this century, tobacco is projected to kill one billion people worldwide. That is why they are subject to the Framework Convention for Tobacco Control, the world's only international health treaty - which the U.S. has signed and 180 nations have ratified. That also is why, in 2009, Congress passed the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act, which, for the first time, authorized the federal government to regulate tobacco products and the marketing of those products.

Despite this consensus at the national and international levels, the tobacco industry has used trade and investment agreements to generate ISDS disputes to undermine labeling and packaging requirements and other ways that nations have attempted to promote public health through better regulation of manufactured tobacco products. Not only are these disputes costly and lengthy for the countries involved, but, just the risk of facing such disputes has caused other countries to abandon or delay tobacco control measures.

We are pleased that the TPP contains a targeted tobacco control exception so the U.S. and our trading partners will be able to adopt lifesaving non-discriminatory tobacco control measures without interference from the tobacco industry. This provision will give the TPP signatories the protection they need to save lives, and we would note that it in no way interferes with the intended broader trade and economic benefits of the agreement.



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Accordingly, we urge you to vote for TPP when the agreement comes before Congress.  
Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Christopher W. Hansen  
President



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