



Blake A. Wilson  
President & CEO  
601-969-4407 (direct)  
bwilson@mec.ms

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The Honorable Steven Palazzo  
U.S. Representative, 4<sup>th</sup> District-MS  
331 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

**SUBJ: Trade Promotion Authority and Trans Pacific Partnership**

Dear Congressman Palazzo:

As the State Chamber of Commerce, the Mississippi Economic Council has had long-standing policy and a consistent history of supporting free trade based on the following premises:

*“Consistent with the maintenance of national security and a healthy American economy, MEC endorses the promotion of greater production and wider distribution of goods from all sources to all people in order to improve world prosperity.”*

Further MEC’s long-standing policy favors approaches that allow *“...relaxation of trade restrictions, provide mechanisms through which arrangements for trade negotiations would be facilitated, and serve as forums for discussions of trade problems and the amicable adjustment of problems involving commercial rules and commitments...”*

When it comes to aligning broad MEC policy with specific federal issues, we often rely on the US Chamber of Commerce, which is among the leading supporters of specific Trade Promotion Authority and Trans Pacific Partnership initiatives now before Congress.

It is for this reason that I am writing today, to share with you the broad policy position historically advanced by MEC and to relate that it aligns with the important TPA and TPP issues now before Congress, which are aimed at further expanding opportunities for American...and Mississippi...companies and the people they employ.

We appreciate your steadfast support of American Enterprise in serving the businesses and people of Mississippi.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Blake A. Wilson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Blake A. Wilson