

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 5, 2021

The Honorable Maria Pagan
Acting United States Trade Representative
600 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20508

Dear Acting Ambassador Pagan,

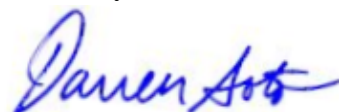
We write today to express our continued concern over retaliatory tariffs placed by the European Union (EU) on a host of U.S. agriculture products, specifically the citrus industry, late last year in the wake of the ongoing Boeing/Airbus trade dispute between the United States and the EU.

These tariffs have had a devastating impact on citrus, particularly Florida grapefruit, worsening the already difficult market conditions resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. Because fresh citrus and citrus juices are subject to the retaliatory tariff, fresh Florida grapefruit is among the most adversely impacted. Typically, 40% of Florida's fresh grapefruit production is destined for EU markets. With the addition of a 25% retaliatory tariff on top of the existing 1.5% tariff (a 1700% increase) exports of Florida grapefruit to one of their biggest markets has shrunk significantly.

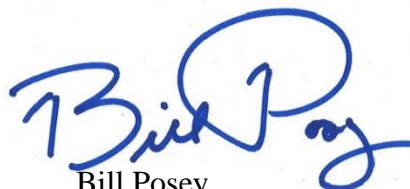
Without immediate relief there is a real possibility that the United States could lose the fresh grapefruit market in the EU to other countries that are not subject to this tariff. This would be devastating to Florida growers already hit hard by market conditions and disease pressure. Additionally, because of the drastic decline in US grapefruit exports this season, there is a glut of fresh grapefruit in the domestic market causing a decline in prices to an already struggling industry. We believe it is critical the incoming administration work quickly to resolve this World Trade Organization dispute leading to the EU retaliatory tariffs and restore this important export market to Florida growers.

As delegation members of the largest citrus producing state in the country, we urge your full and fair consideration on this most important matter. The loss of this industry would be devastating to Florida growers and our nation.

Sincerely,



Darren Soto
Member of Congress



Bill Posey
Member of Congress

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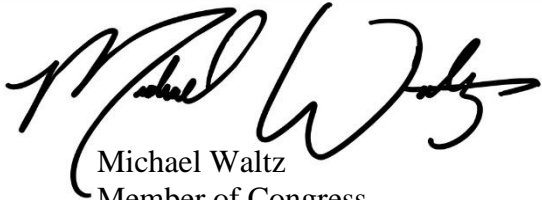
Sincerely,



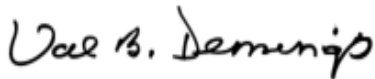
Neal P. Dunn, M.D.
Member of Congress



John H. Rutherford
Member of Congress



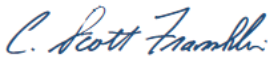
Michael Waltz
Member of Congress



Val B. Demings
Member of Congress



Gus M. Bilirakis
Member of Congress



C. Scott Franklin
Member of Congress



W. Gregory Steube
Member of Congress



Kat Cammack
Member of Congress



Al Lawson, Jr.
Member of Congress



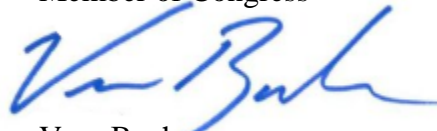
Stephanie Murphy
Member of Congress



Daniel Webster
Member of Congress



Charlie Crist
Member of Congress



Vern Buchanan
Member of Congress



Brian Mast
Member of Congress

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Byron Donalds
Member of Congress



Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress



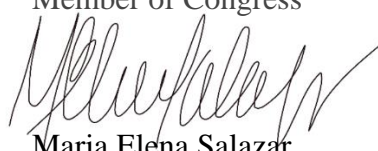
Lois Frankel
Member of Congress



Theodore E. Deutch
Member of Congress



Mario Diaz-Balart
Member of Congress



Maria Elena Salazar
Member of Congress