

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 23, 2019

The Honorable Lisa R. Barton
Secretary to the Commission
U.S. International Trade Commission
500 E Street, SW, Room 112
Washington, DC 20436

Dear Secretary Barton,

We write to underscore the importance of cross-border trade in tomatoes to the economy of Arizona. As the Commission continues the final phase of its antidumping investigation to determine whether a U.S. industry was materially injured or is threatened with material injury by reason of imports of fresh tomatoes from Mexico, we respectfully urge that you consider the interests of American consumers and Arizona workers in making any determination.

We recognize the need to verify that trade relationships are beneficial to American companies and consumers. The domestic industry has been protected by minimum import floor prices for over 23 years. While parts of the North American supply chain have innovated to meet changing preferences and create new demand in the American market, other industry participants have not. Consequently, we do not believe imported tomatoes are the cause of problems for the domestic tomato production industry.

Imported tomatoes give consumers choices and access to a higher quality and greater variety of produce. Our trade relationship with Mexico is also an economic driver for our state, region, and country. Nogales, Arizona is the next largest port of entry for Mexican tomatoes after Hidalgo, Texas. A University of Arizona study shows that Mexican tomato imports support 33,000 U.S. jobs. Agribusiness supply chains derived from these imported tomatoes account for nearly \$3 billion in U.S. GDP.

As the Commission deliberates, we urge you to consider all aspects of competition between domestic and imported tomatoes, including evolving consumer preferences, innovations in growing techniques and greenhouse technology, and other factors that are more truly responsible for the status of the domestic tomato industry. We also ask you recognize the importance of cross-border trade in tomatoes between the U.S. and Mexico given its significance to the economies of Arizona and the United States.

 Sincerely,

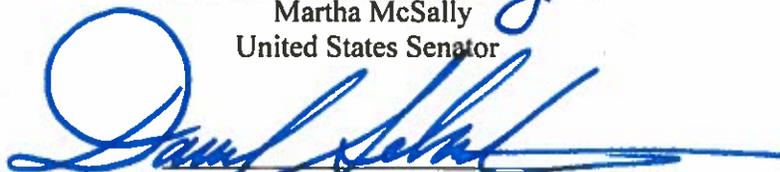
Kirsten Sinema
United States Senator



Tom O'Halleran
Member of Congress



Martha McSally
United States Senator



David Schweikert
Member of Congress