

Write your Letter to Congress

Tell Congress: No Fast Track for the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP)

The next few weeks are critical as "Fast Track" legislation is expected to come before Congress in March. AFA, working with a coalition of more than 100 organizations, is fighting back and urging Congress to oppose Fast Track. It's important for Congress to know that we support their Constitutional obligation to review, debate and amend trade agreements —not to cede them to the Executive Branch.

We need your help! A series of events are planned over the upcoming weeks which consist of rallies, lobby days, phone calling and letter writing.

All letters must be hand-written. Use the attached samples to create your letter. Make certain your writing is legible and includes your name, address, city, state, zip code and email.

Once completed, you can:

Forward your letter to your local AFA Office or AFA mailbox. Your local Council will in turn send your letter to AFA-CWA. All letters will be sorted and hand delivered in bulk to your U.S. Representatives' Washington DC office.

OR

Mail your letter directly to:

The Association of Flight Attendants – CWA ATTN: No Fast Track Campaign 501 3rd Street NW, 10th Floor Washington, DC 20001.

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SAMPLE FAST-TRACK LETTER

Save American Jobs!

DATE

STEP 1

Dear Congressman/Congresswoman (insert name here),

(To locate your elected official go to www.Congress.Org and enter your zip code on the home page. Click "GO".

I am writing to you to express my strong concerns about the TPP and to ask you to vote 'no' on Fast-Track authority for this trade deal.

Pick at least one of the following to insert:

- I am concerned that large-scale trade agreements are being negotiated in secret. I wouldn't vote for my
 employment contract without reading all the details first, and Congress shouldn't either.
- 2. The TPP is not about trade: It's about protecting corporate profits and allowing them to challenge any laws that get in the way of their profits, like raising the minimum wage.
- 3. The TPP would extend the patent monopolies of the big pharmaceutical companies. These extended monopoly protections would severely restrict the development and marketing of generic drugs. The result: increased prices for critical prescription drugs.
- 4. I am horrified that we would enter into a trade deal that includes countries like Brunei and Malaysia, which deny basic human rights to members of the LGBTQ community, women, religious minorities and trade unionists.
- 5. I am particularly upset that we would enter into a trade deal with a country like Vietnam, where there is forced child labor, an average wage of 75 cents an hour and jailing of those who speak up.
- 6. Fast Track Authority, if granted by Congress, wouldn't simply apply to only one trade deal, it would apply

to as many trade agreements as can be negotiated by this White House or the next one.

- 7. TPP would allow corporations to challenge Buy American laws that require state and local governments to use American-made goods and services when possible. I want my tax dollars going toward supporting U.S. jobs.
- 8. **OR** write a personal statement about trade deals and how they have destroyed jobs in your town and sent them to other countries, or talk about how you are worried about the jobs that will be left for your children and grandchildren.

I urge you to vote NO on Fast Track for TPP.

STEP 3

NAME ADDRESS

CITY, STATE AND ZIP CODE (You must have an accurate Zip Code) EMAIL

STEP 2

COMPLETED SAMPLE LETTERS

