

INTERNATIONAL SUGAR TRADE COALITION, INC.

1701 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 200

Washington, DC 20006

Phone: 202-531-4028

www.sugarcoalition.org

istc@sugarcoalition.org

June 11, 2024

Chairman Glenn Thompson
400 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-3815

Ranking Member David Scott
468 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-1013

Re: Renewal of the Sugar Program in the 2024 Farm Bill

Dear Chairman Thompson and Ranking Member Scott:

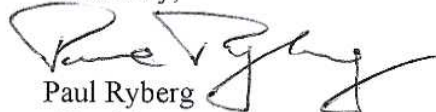
We are writing on behalf of our members, which are traditional suppliers under the U.S. tariff rate quota (TRQ) on raw sugar, to urge Congress to renew the U.S. sugar program on the terms proposed in Chairman Thompson's draft of the 2024 Farm Bill.

In particular, we strongly support the provisions relating to TRQ shortfall reallocation contained in Section 1304 of the Chairman's draft bill. The only problem with the current TRQ shortfall reallocation system is that reallocation is typically done relatively late in the quota year – usually in May or June - which makes it difficult to impossible for those countries reassigned small volumes to arrange shipment on short notice after they have already shipped their base allocation. If the shortfall reallocation were done, as required by the Chairman's draft bill, as soon as possible after the TRQ is announced (typically in July or August), the amount of the shortfall reallocation would be shipped with the base allocations already assigned to those countries that have sugar available. Such earlier shortfall reallocation would reduce the incentive for unregulated "tier-two" imports, which put downward pressure on the market price.

The International Sugar Trade Coalition (ISTC) is a non-profit association of sugar suppliers under the U.S. TRQ on raw sugar from: Barbados, Belize, the Dominican Republic, Fiji, Guyana, Jamaica, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Panama, the Philippines, Swaziland, and Zimbabwe. The members of ISTC represent approximately half of the TRQ. Continued access to the U.S. market at reasonable prices remains of critical importance to ISTC's members.

Please let us know if we can provide further information on the importance of renewing the U.S. sugar program in the 2024 Farm Bill.

Sincerely,



Paul Ryberg
President

cc: Mr. Trevor White
Mr. Clark Oglivie