

GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

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The Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce believes in **“A Thriving Region for All”** and a **“Balanced Approach”** to decision-making and that **“Business is a Force for Good”**.

We design and advance opportunities and solutions for a thriving regional economy that is balanced, inclusive, and globally competitive.

The Greater Los Angeles Region, including the counties of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and Ventura, is one of the most vibrant economies in the world. The region’s ports, airports, world-class educational institutions, diversified economy and industrial base continue to be a powerful magnet for international business transactions and investors. It is the key trade hub between the U.S. and global markets with over \$400 billion in yearly exports and imports.

AREAS OF FOCUS:

- Expansion of foreign market access.
- Global Intellectual Property Rights “IPR” enforcement.
- Expansion of digital trade and e-commerce agreements.
- Trade measures to combat climate change, protect environmental sustainability and address human rights concerns, including forced labor.
- Duty-free access to the U.S. market for eligible developing countries and products is intended to encourage trade and spur their economic growth.
- Engagement in constructive China trade dialogue.

Renewal of the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP)

The GSP is a preferential trade program which expired in 2020 and allows eligible developing countries, including some countries that are key trading partners of the U.S., to export certain goods to the U.S. market duty-free or at reduced tariffs. Legislation can be enacted or amended to extend or expand the GSP program, providing preferential market access for goods produced in the Los Angeles region.

Renewal of Miscellaneous Tariff Bill (MTB)

The MTB provides temporary duty suspensions or reductions for thousands of products imported into the U.S. The policy expired in 2020 and has caused economic harm similar to that of GSP.

21st Century Custom Framework

With the evolution of global trade driven by technology, expanding markets, and e-commerce, a transformative approach is vital. We must safeguard American workers and businesses, ensure fair competition, enhance supply chain transparency, and facilitate the secure movement of goods across the U.S. border. The initiative focuses on:

- Enhancing supply chain transparency: Strengthening oversight to identify rule violators while enabling smooth border crossings for legitimate goods.
- Data-driven decisions: By increasing information sharing, Customs and Border Protection (CBP) can make well-informed admissibility judgments before goods arrive, ensuring security and trade efficiency.
- Allocating risk effectively: Through revamped processes, CBP can pinpoint supply chain risks and assign responsibility to suitable parties, including new actors.

Support measures for this framework include fostering collaboration among government agencies, adopting advanced data analytics tools, streamlining regulatory procedures, and investing in technology to bolster information-sharing and decision-making capabilities.

Intellectual Property Protection

Ensuring robust intellectual property protection through legislation is crucial for businesses in the Los Angeles region. Strengthening laws and regulations related to copyright, patents, trademarks, and trade secrets can provide confidence to exporters, particularly those in creative and innovative industries. Legislation can strengthen intellectual property laws and enforcement mechanisms, aligning them with international standards and providing effective protection against copyright infringement, counterfeiting, and trade secret theft.

Market Access and Trade Promotion

Legislating measures that promote market access for Los Angeles exporters can be beneficial. This can involve diplomatic efforts to negotiate preferential market access, advocating for the removal of trade barriers, and organizing trade missions and exhibitions to promote Los Angeles products and services in target markets. Legislation can empower trade promotion agencies to negotiate market access agreements, resolve trade barriers, and provide support for exporters in accessing international markets.

Trade Dispute Resolution Mechanisms

Legislation should establish or strengthen mechanisms for resolving trade disputes, such as establishing dedicated trade courts or alternative dispute resolution mechanisms. This provides exporters with a reliable and efficient process for resolving trade-related conflicts and protecting their interests.

Trade Facilitation and Logistics Infrastructure

Support legislation that focuses on improving trade facilitation and logistics infrastructure, both domestically and internationally. This can involve investing in transportation networks, ports, airports, and digital infrastructure to enhance connectivity and reduce transportation costs for exporters. Legislation can allocate funding for infrastructure projects, such as port expansions, airport upgrades, and road/rail improvements to enhance trade facilitation and logistics infrastructure in the Los Angeles region.

Tariff Reduction and Elimination

Legislation can be enacted to reduce or eliminate tariffs on goods produced in the U.S., making them more competitive in international markets. Advocating for lower tariff rates or duty-free access for specific products can enhance the export potential of local industries. Legislation can authorize the reduction or elimination of tariffs on specific products through measures such as Free Trade Zones or targeted tariff reduction agreements.

GLOBAL TRADE AND FOREIGN INVESTMENT PROGRAMS:

GLOBAL INITIATIVES COUNCIL

The Global Initiatives Council works to develop programs and events to promote global trade and investment to create regional employment.

LOS ANGELES REGIONAL EXPORT COUNCIL (LAREXC)

The Los Angeles Regional Export Council facilitates collaboration and coordination among the greater Los Angeles and five-county region's international trade institutions, government agencies, economic development offices, and service providers to sustain broad-based and inclusive economic growth and job creation in the region by promoting the growth of exports by local firms — particularly small and medium-sized firms — and to strengthen, support and expand existing services and programs that are responsive to regional exporter needs.

DIPLOMATIC AND COMMERCIAL OFFICERS GROUP

The Diplomatic & Commercial Officers Group provides the infrastructure and venue where members of the consular corps and trade offices can develop their trade strategies and programs as they perform their professional responsibilities. To date, more than thirty countries are represented in the initiative.