



TECHNET
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Tech Leaders Urge Congressional Passage of Trans-Pacific Partnership in 2016

Washington — TechNet, the national, bipartisan network of innovation economy CEOs and senior executives, today joined with 12 other technology organizations to urge Congress to approve the Trans-Pacific Partnership in 2016.

In a letter to the bipartisan, bicameral leadership of Congress, the leaders wrote: **“This is a historic opportunity to expand U.S. economic leadership in the Asia-Pacific. Failure to pass this agreement will not only disadvantage American companies and the Americans who work for those companies, it will hamper the ability to negotiate new agreements, or even improve existing ones. Our allies and trading partners in Asia are also looking to the U.S. for leadership in the global economy. Passing the TPP will demonstrate the U.S. remains unambiguously committed to free trade and to strong leadership in the region. For these strategic reasons, we urge you to work with the Administration to reach an agreement that will secure passage of TPP in 2016.”**

The letter was signed by Linda Moore, president and CEO of TechNet, as well as the leaders of Allied for Startups; BSA | The Software Alliance; Computer & Communications Industry Association (CCIA); Computing Technology Industry Association (CompTIA); Consumer Technology Association (CTA); Information Technology Industry Council (ITI); Internet Association; Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA); Silicon Valley Leadership Group; Software & Information Industry Association (SIIA); Technology CEO Council; and the Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA).

TPP was negotiated among the United States and 11 Pacific Rim trading partners. TPP makes key improvements to international agreements around:

- Preventing data localization
- Prohibiting digital customs duties
- Supporting cross-border data flows
- Sustaining cybersecurity and encryption
- Barring forced technology transfers

The text of the letter is available upon request.

About TechNet

TechNet is the national, bipartisan network of technology CEOs and senior executives that promotes the growth of the innovation economy by advocating a targeted policy agenda at the federal and 50-state level. TechNet's diverse membership includes dynamic startups to the most iconic companies on the planet and represents more than two million employees in the fields of information technology, e-commerce, advanced energy, biotechnology, venture capital, and finance. TechNet has offices in Washington, D.C., Silicon Valley, San Francisco, Sacramento, Austin, Boston, Seattle, Albany, and Tallahassee.

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