



## CITY OF ATLANTA

SHIRLEY FRANKLIN  
MAYOR

55 TRINITY AVENUE, S.W.  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-0300  
TEL (404) 330-6100

October 12, 2007

The Honorable Charles B. Rangel  
Chairman  
Committee on Ways & Means  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1102 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Rangel:

On behalf of the citizens of Atlanta, I am pleased to write this letter of support for free trade agreements (FTAs) with Colombia, Korea, Panama and Peru.

I am aware that the Senate Finance Committee has approved legislation to implement the Peru Free Trade Agreement, and that passage of such legislation by the Ways and Means Committee is pending. I am also aware that the leadership of both houses has been seeking recognition by these countries of important labor and environmental standards, and open markets for certain U.S. exports.

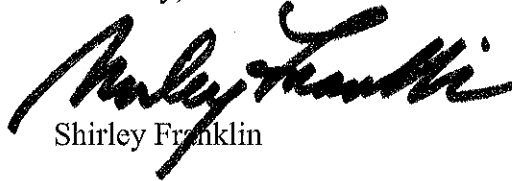
With the improvements being sought in these FTAs, I am hopeful that they will more effectively and more fairly facilitate trade on a multilateral, regional and bilateral basis and will lower tariffs and foster increased trade between the relevant countries by removing barriers to goods and services and permit the better movement of capital, technology and resources. This represents a win-win scenario for all parties concerned.

For the record, I want to convey the positive impact FTAs could have on the state of Georgia, as our economy depends heavily on exports. For instance, according to the U.S. Department of Commerce, Georgia's export shipments of merchandise in 2006 totaled \$20.0 billion. Georgia ranked 16th among the 50 states in terms of 2006 export value. Georgia increased its merchandise exports \$5.7 billion (39 percent) from 2002 to 2006. Export-supported jobs linked to manufacturing accounted for an estimated 4.2 percent of Georgia's total private-sector employment. Nearly one-seventh (13.3 percent) of all manufacturing workers in Georgia depend on exports for their jobs. Additionally, to highlight the positive effect of these FTAs, in the first three years of the U.S.-Singapore FTA (2004-2006), Georgia's exports to Singapore have grown 153 percent. Since the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) entered into force in 1994, Georgia's combined exports to Canada and Mexico have increased by 223 percent.

Atlanta is a city growing in global caliber and stature and we benefit greatly from the daily contributions of more than 32,000 nationals of Colombia, Korea, Panama and Peru living in the metropolitan area. The opportunity to provide fair and open trade policies with these countries should be utilized as such policies help to maintain good relationships and boost economies through job creation, greater market access and improved competitiveness.

I thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shirley Franklin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "S".

Shirley Franklin



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October 12, 2007

The Honorable Max Baucus  
Chairman  
United States Senate Committee on Finance  
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510-6200

Dear Chairman Baucus:

On behalf of the citizens of Atlanta, I am pleased to write this letter of support for free trade agreements (FTAs) with Colombia, Korea, Panama and Peru.

I am aware that the Senate Finance Committee has approved legislation to implement the Peru Free Trade Agreement, and that passage of such legislation by the Ways and Means Committee is pending. I am also aware that the leadership of both houses has been seeking recognition by these countries of important labor and environmental standards, and open markets for certain U.S. exports.

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