



July 16, 2008

The Honorable Max Baucus  
United States Senate  
511 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Chairman Baucus:

Third Way is pleased to endorse S. 1848, the Trade and Globalization Adjustment Assistance Act.

We share your view that Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) reform is—on its own merits—an important priority this Congress.

In the five decades since TAA was created, the program has assisted thousands of American workers who have been displaced by trade. It has supported these workers in the aftermath of job losses and helped them gain the skills needed to enter into new jobs. However, TAA is urgently in need of modernization. Under the current program, service sector workers, who make up the majority of the U.S. workforce, are not eligible for assistance. Your proposals to extend TAA to these workers and other groups of workers, as well as to expand the scope of the retraining and health coverage benefits, are crucial to ensuring all trade-displaced workers have the tools they need to adjust and succeed.

Third Way also believes that TAA reform is an important means with which to address Americans' anxieties about the economy and their ability to succeed in a globalizing world. Now more than ever, Americans want to know that they are not alone in facing the new challenges and embracing the new opportunities brought by America's economic engagement with the world.

We applaud your leadership on this important issue and stand with you in strong support of the Trade and Globalization Adjustment Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jon Cowan", on a light yellow background.

Jon Cowan  
President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Anne Kim", on a white background.

Anne Kim  
Director, Middle Class Program