**Sample employee letters to Congress - General Trade Letter**

Dear [Member of Congress]:

I work for [Company], where we are proud to be a part of the [town name of facility] community manufacturing [products]. With 95 percent of the world’s population living outside of the United States, my company’s success and the prosperity of my community depends on improving the United States’ access to foreign markets.

Trade and exports have already paid dividends for [company] and the U.S. dairy industry. Thanks to the implementation of Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) like the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), the U.S. is now a net exporter of dairy. While dairy sales and consumption are stable in the U.S., the need for dairy internationally is increasing quickly. And with every $1 billion worth of dairy exported, 20,000 American jobs are created. It’s clear trade means growth for the U.S. dairy industry.

Today, [company] sells our products in [name of countries or number of countries]. These markets have helped add jobs and spur new investment. For example, [example of the positive effect of trade on your sales].

Unfortunately, dairy processors in the United States risk falling behind other dairy exporting countries. We face more barriers overseas than many of our competitors in Europe and Asia, who are negotiating trade agreements that exclude and disadvantage us.

I urge you continue to work on a strong trade agenda and market-opening trade agreements that will level the playing field. Free trade is the best way to give the dairy industry a boost to compete globally.

Thank you for your time and engagement on this critical issue.

Best,

[Your name + Company]