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STATE OF MAINE

Citizen Trade Policy Commission

**PRESS RELEASE:
PUBLIC HEARING ON
THE TRANSPACIFIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT (TPP)
TO BE HELD ON DECEMBER 10, 2015 BY
THE CITIZEN TRADE POLICY COMMISSION**

Maine's Citizen Trade Policy Commission (CTPC) will be holding a public hearing on Thursday, December 10, 2015 in Room 105, Rangely Hall, 268 Sylvan Road, Eastern Maine Community College, Bangor, ME 04401. The primary focus of this public hearing is to gather public comment and testimony regarding the proposed Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) which has been negotiated by the U.S. and a number of other Pacific Rim nations. The proposed TPP has been submitted to Congress for a vote on approval which is likely to occur sometime in 2016.

In commenting upon the importance of the CTPC public hearing, CTPC Chair Senator Amy Volk stated that "The publication of the TPP text and its submission to Congress for approval provides a unique window of opportunity for careful review and public comment. The public hearing to be held by the CTPC on December 10th in Bangor is an even more direct opportunity for members of the Maine public to voice their opinions on the TPP."

CTPC Chair Representative Robert Saucier also stated that "The CTPC will be using the information and opinions gathered at the December 10th public hearing on the TPP to help inform its own eventual conclusions on the TPP. The CTPC plans to communicate the results of the public hearing to the Maine State Legislature and all members of Maine's congressional delegation".

To further facilitate the provision of pertinent information regarding the TPP to members of the Maine public, the CTPC has posted links on its website to several

relevant pieces of information and articles on the TPP including links to the complete TPP text:

<http://legislature.maine.gov/legis/opla/citpol.htm>

The CTPC was created by Maine State law in 2003 to “assess and monitor the legal and economic impacts of trade agreements on state and local laws, working conditions and the business environment; to provide a mechanism for citizens and Legislators to voice their concerns and recommendations; and to make policy recommendations designed to protect Maine's jobs, business environment and laws from any negative impact of trade agreements.” The CTPC is composed of 6 legislators, 7 members from the private sector and 5 representatives of different state agencies.

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