



September 24, 2013

The Honorable Barack Obama
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
1st Floor, West Wing, Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We respectfully write to you ahead of your meeting with Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh to convey concerns regarding India's trade and investment policies, which continue to threaten the intellectual property rights of U.S. industry and induce barriers to trade.

As Governors, we share a commitment to work towards leveling the playing field both domestically and internationally to ensure our states' businesses can compete fairly in the global marketplace. Businesses in our respective states have shared strong concerns that India's recent policy changes on intellectual property issues will severely impact U.S. businesses' competitiveness and, in turn, inhibit economic growth and job growth in the U.S.


More specifically, businesses have shared concerns about the implementation of industrial policies that benefit India's local industries at the expense of U.S. companies. For example, India issued a Preferred Market Access (PMA) policy that imposes local production requirements on certain foreign technology companies. India's actions on medicines have raised questions about whether the country is striking a fair balance between public health considerations and intellectual property concerns.


These policies have had a disparate adverse impact on foreign companies in India, which hinders their ability to compete fairly and ultimately threatens U.S. exports and jobs. Furthermore, given India's role as an economic leader amongst emerging economies, there is concern that India's policies may have a spillover effect to other countries.

During your meeting with Prime Minister Singh, we urge you to convey these concerns in an effort to avoid the proliferation of unfair trade practices and to protect the intellectual property of U.S. companies abroad. We are hopeful that we can build on a long history of economic cooperation between the U.S. and India.

We thank you for your consideration and look forward to hearing of the meeting's outcomes.

Sincerely,



Gov. John Hickenlooper
State of Colorado

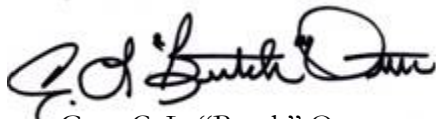

Gov. John Kasich
State of Ohio



Gov. Dan Malloy
State of Connecticut



Gov. Mary Fallin
State of Oklahoma

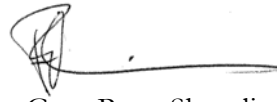

Gov. Nathan Deal
State of Georgia



Gov. Tom Corbett
State of Pennsylvania

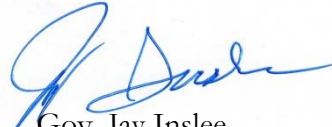

Gov. C. L. "Butch" Otter
State of Idaho



Gov. Bill Haslam
State of Tennessee



Gov. Sam Brownback
State of Kansas


Gov. Peter Shumlin
State of Vermont


Gov. Paul LePage
State of Maine


Gov. Jay Inslee
State of Washington


Gov. Martin O'Malley
State of Maryland


Gov. Scott Walker
State of Wisconsin