

Americans For Limited Government

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Feb. 4, 2019

To: Republican U.S. Representatives From: Free-Market Sugar Advocates Re: Open Letter to Congress to Consider Zero for Zero Resolution

Dear Member of Congress,

"From this day forward, it's going to be only America first." Two years ago, President Donald Trump made this promise in his inaugural address. The Trump Administration has made a commendable effort since to make this promise a reality, recognizing the competitive opportunities available when foreign barriers are eliminated to create a level playing field for America's industries.

Now, Congress has a made-to-order opportunity to embrace that promise and send a clear message that trade "cheating" will not be tolerated and America will be put first. That opportunity lies in the bipartisan "Zero for Zero" resolution (<u>H.Con.Res.7</u>) sponsored by Representative Ted Yoho.

The sugar market is the most volatile commodity market in the world. America's sugar farmers compete, unfairly, against heavily subsidized foreign producers, justifying the current no-cost, U.S. sugar policy program to stabilize the domestic sugar market.

Zero for Zero calls for an elimination of "all direct and indirect subsidies that benefit the production or export of sugar by all major sugar producing and consuming countries." In effect, the resolution stipulates that the U.S. will move to reform its domestic sugar policy only after major international sugar dumpers, like Brazil, India and Thailand, agree to stop the extreme subsidizing of their sugar industries.

If foreign governments would eliminate their market-distorting subsidies, allowing the U.S. to end domestic support programs, a free market would exist, and America's sugar farmers could compete effectively in that market.

Adoption of this common-sense resolution is a win for America's farmers and perfectly aligns with the Trump Administration's commitment to free and fair trade that puts America first. We urge you to learn more about Rep. Yoho's Zero for Zero resolution and consider cosponsoring this important free-market initiative.

Sincerely,

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Mario Lopez President, Hispanic Leadership Fund



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