July 2, 2021

The Honorable Charles Schumer  The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader  Minority Leader
United States Senate  United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510  Washington, DC 20510

Dear Leader Schumer and Leader McConnell:

Jayme White has served the Senate, its members, and constituents with distinction for over 20 years and has our strong support for confirmation as the Deputy U.S. Trade Representative for the Western Hemisphere, Europe, the Middle East, Labor and the Environment.

Reopening of markets around the world during the pandemic has led to an ultracompetitive global marketplace for agriculture exports. Working through transportation bottlenecks and a surge of consumer buying has lifted export outlooks for many U.S. products, yet still newfound barriers to trade present themselves anew as our trading partners seek ways to thwart competition. Combined with the burden of retaliatory U.S. tariffs implemented in recent years, our optimism for export growth continues to be met by tough tests for our trade diplomacy and U.S. leadership on trade liberalization.

When confirmed, Jayme’s vast experience and tenure working with agricultural export stakeholders will provide the needed leadership to meet these tests. His career spans over two decades working on Capitol Hill in both the House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate to uphold the virtues of worker-centric trade policy and ensure American competitiveness abroad. Throughout his tenure, he has worked extensively to ensure our trading partners lived up to their obligations and to make sure that trade negotiations were transparent to all stakeholders. For U.S. agriculture, these accomplishments are incredibly important.

To that end, the National Milk Producers Federation (NMPF) and the U.S. Dairy Export Council (USDEC) urge swift Senate confirmation to ensure this key role does not remain vacant while our trade competitors outpace the U.S. in securing favorable market access terms around the world. Jayme is more than qualified to fulfill this critical responsibility.

Sincerely,

James Mulhern  Krysta Harden
President and CEO  President and CEO
National Milk Producers Federation  U.S. Dairy Export Council

cc:  The Honorable Ron Wyden, Chairman – Senate Committee on Finance
The Honorable Mike Crapo, Ranking Member – Senate Committee on Finance