

Kerry, Webb Support Second Round Of Trans-Pacific Partnership Trade Deal Negotiations

For Immediate Release: Monday, June 14, 2010

Washington, D.C.--- In response to the second round of negotiations that will resume this week on the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Agreement, Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman John Kerry (D-MA) and Senator Jim Webb (D-VA), chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations East Asian and Pacific Affairs Subcommittee, today issued the following joint statement to support U.S. trade and economic integration in Asia:

“We support the effort to negotiate the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) trade agreement underway in San Francisco. Robust economic engagement in the Asia-Pacific is critical to President Obama’s goal of doubling exports in five years, retaining and creating good-paying American jobs, and demonstrating our long-term commitment to peace and prosperity in the region. TPP is the first trade agreement exclusively negotiated by this Administration. With the Administration’s commitment to strong and transparent labor, environmental, and intellectual property provisions, TPP can be a model, 21st century trade agreement.”

“The United States risks losing export share in an exploding market and ceding influence in the Asia-Pacific unless it is able to participate more vigorously in regional trade. TPP represents an excellent opportunity to change this dynamic and build a platform for region-wide economic integration. We look forward to working with the Administration throughout the negotiation process and to evaluating the completed agreement once it is submitted to Congress.”