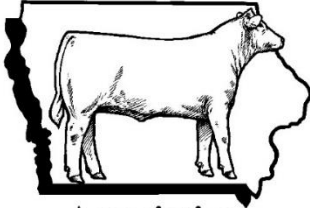


## Iowa Cattlemen's



### Association

# **United States – Mexico – Canada Agreement**

## **ICA Fact Sheet**

June 2019

### **Why is it important?**

- The North American Free Trade Agreement has provided duty-free trade with Canada and Mexico for the past 25 years.
- Canada and Mexico are two of the U.S. beef industry's Top 5 most important trading partners.
- Trade with Mexico is especially important because of the demand for variety meats like tongue, tripe and heart. In the U.S., these cuts are nearly worthless.
- USMCA, or the "new" NAFTA, is necessary for growing beef exports.

### **By the numbers...**

- Iowa is home to approximately 27,000 beef producers.
- Since NAFTA was put in place, U.S. beef trade with Mexico has increased 545%.
- Trade with Canada and Mexico adds \$70 to the value of each head of cattle in Iowa.
- Cattle production provides considerable contributions to Iowa's economy, generating \$6.80 billion.
- If USMCA is not approved, United States farmers risk losing \$9.4 billion in total agricultural exports annually. Of that total, \$1.8 billion comes from the cattle industry and \$3.2 billion is from corn and corn co-products.

### **What is the status?**

- May 17 - steel and aluminum tariffs lifted
- May 30 - draft Statement of Administrative Action submitted, President Trump now has 30 days to send the trade deal to Congress, Congress then has 90 days to vote
- May 30 - President Trump tweeted plans to charge 5% tariff on all goods coming from Mexico, because of immigration dispute. An agreement between the countries was reached on Friday, May 31.
- Democratic-held house still has concerns about the agreement, including labor provisions
- June 11 - Nearly 1,000 agricultural groups, including NCBA, write a letter to the House of Representatives Majority and Minority leaders asking for swift ratification
- June 19 - Mexico ratifies the agreement

### **We need YOUR help!**

- Contact your congressman/woman and urge them to vote yes on USMCA.
- Contact ICA staff for assistance on engaging on this topic.

### **Where to Call:**

<b>1st District- Congresswoman Finkenauer</b> 124 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-2911	<b>2nd District- Congressman Loeb sack</b> 1211 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-6576
<b>3rd District- Congresswoman Axne</b> 330 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-5476	<b>4th District- Congressman King</b> 2112 Rayburn Office Building Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-4426