

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1743

To provide the President with authority to enter into a comprehensive trade agreement with the United Kingdom, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 27, 2025

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska (for himself, Mr. HIMES, Mr. MILLER of Ohio, Mr. LAHOOD, and Mr. ARRINGTON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To provide the President with authority to enter into a comprehensive trade agreement with the United Kingdom, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Undertaking Negotia-
5 tions on Investment and Trade for Economic Dynamism
6 Act” or the “UNITED Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

8 It is the sense of Congress that—

1 (1) the United States should pursue more open
2 trade and investment relationships with its allies to
3 strengthen the economy of the United States, im-
4 prove the standard of living of the people of the
5 United States, and advance the strategic interests of
6 the United States;

7 (2) agreements to reduce or eliminate barriers
8 to trade and investment between the United States
9 and its allies will foster mutually beneficial economic
10 relationships that advance the economic interests of
11 workers, farmers, ranchers, and businesses of all
12 sizes in the United States;

13 (3) the shared values and long history of the
14 “special relationship” between the United States and
15 the United Kingdom present a unique opportunity to
16 deepen the mutually beneficial economic and stra-
17 tegic relationship between those countries and fur-
18 ther expand prosperity for the citizens of those coun-
19 tries;

20 (4) a high-standard, comprehensive trade agree-
21 ment between the United States and the United
22 Kingdom would help strengthen that relationship,
23 improve the economic prospects of people in both
24 countries, increase the resilience of critical supply
25 chains, support collaboration in emerging tech-

1 nologies, and create export opportunities for busi-
2 nesses of all sizes;

3 (5) the efforts of the United States-United
4 Kingdom Trade and Investment Working Group and
5 the bilateral negotiations initiated by President Don-
6 ald Trump have laid groundwork toward a com-
7 prehensive trade agreement;

8 (6) the United States-United Kingdom Dia-
9 logue on the Future of Atlantic Trade, initiated by
10 President Joe Biden, along with the signing of the
11 Atlantic Declaration for a Twenty-First Century
12 U.S.-U.K. Economic Partnership, continues long-
13 standing efforts to improve economic cooperation be-
14 tween the United States and the United Kingdom;

15 (7) the robust labor and environmental protec-
16 tions in the United Kingdom reduce the risk of regu-
17 latory arbitrage that undercuts workers and busi-
18 nesses in the United States;

19 (8) Congress passed the Agreement between the
20 United States of America, the United Mexican
21 States, and Canada (USMCA) with overwhelming bi-
22 partisan support, setting high standards in North
23 America with respect to labor rights, the environ-
24 ment, intellectual property, non-market practices,

1 and services, and those standards should inform fu-
2 ture negotiations;

3 (9) trade agreements with foreign trading part-
4 ners that share the values and ambition of the
5 United States offer an opportunity to build on the
6 USMCA and set high international standards across
7 many important policy areas;

8 (10) any trade negotiations between the United
9 States and the United Kingdom must honor the
10 agreement between the Government of Ireland and
11 the Government of the United Kingdom signed on
12 April 10, 1998 (commonly known as the “Good Fri-
13 day Agreement”), and any trade agreement between
14 those countries must advance peace, stability, and
15 prosperity in Ireland and Northern Ireland;

16 (11) the United Kingdom, like many key trad-
17 ing partners of the United States, is actively negoti-
18 ating for expanded access to foreign markets and
19 the United States must likewise seek to advance its
20 access to foreign markets to ensure that businesses,
21 consumers, farmers, ranchers, and workers in the
22 United States are not left behind; and

23 (12) to effectively pursue comprehensive trade
24 negotiations with the United Kingdom for purposes
25 of a trade agreement between the United States and

1 the United Kingdom, Congress must grant new ne-
2 negotiating authority to the President, which should—

3 (A) enable the swift negotiation and pas-
4 sage through Congress of such an agreement;
5 and

6 (B) be narrowly tailored to provide clear
7 direction to the executive branch of the United
8 States Government.

9 **SEC. 3. NEGOTIATING AND TRADE AGREEMENTS AUTHOR-**
10 **ITY FOR COMPREHENSIVE AGREEMENT WITH**
11 **THE UNITED KINGDOM.**

12 (a) INITIATION OF NEGOTIATIONS.—Not later than
13 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, in
14 order to enhance the economic well-being of the United
15 States, the President shall seek to initiate negotiations
16 with the United Kingdom regarding tariff and nontariff
17 barriers affecting any industry, product, or service sector.

18 (b) AUTHORITY FOR COMPREHENSIVE TRADE
19 AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED KINGDOM.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—To strengthen the economic
21 competitiveness of the United States, the President
22 may enter into a comprehensive trade agreement
23 with the United Kingdom regarding tariff and non-
24 tariff barriers affecting trade between the United
25 States and United Kingdom.

1 (2) TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.—The au-
2 thority under paragraph (1) terminates on March 1,
3 2029.

4 (c) MODIFICATIONS PERMITTED.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),
6 the President may proclaim such modification or
7 continuance of any existing duty, continuance of ex-
8 isting duty-free or excise treatment, or such addi-
9 tional duties as the President determines to be re-
10 quired or appropriate to carry out an agreement en-
11 tered into under subsection (b).

12 (2) LIMITATIONS.—

13 (A) MODIFICATIONS OR ADDITIONS TO
14 AGREEMENT.—Substantial modifications to, or
15 substantial additional provisions of, an agree-
16 ment entered into after March 1, 2029, are not
17 covered by the authority under paragraph (1).

18 (B) AMOUNT OF DUTY MODIFICATION.—

19 No proclamation may be made under paragraph
20 (1) that—

21 (i) reduces any rate of duty (other
22 than a rate of duty that does not exceed 5
23 percent ad valorem on the date of the en-
24 actment of this Act) to a rate of duty that
25 is less than 50 percent of the rate of such

1 duty that applies on such date of enact-
2 ment;

3 (ii) reduces the rate of duty below
4 that applicable under the Uruguay Round
5 Agreements (as defined in section 2(7) of
6 the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (19
7 U.S.C. 3501)) or a successor agreement,
8 on any import sensitive agricultural prod-
9 uct; or

10 (iii) increases any rate of duty above
11 the rate that applied on the date of the en-
12 actment of this Act.

13 (d) CONSULTATION WITH AND NOTIFICATION TO
14 CONGRESS.—To ensure the alignment of the trade policy
15 priorities of Congress with the content of any agreement
16 under this section, the President shall consult with Con-
17 gress before and throughout negotiations initiated under
18 subsection (a) and shall notify Congress of the intention
19 of the President to enter into an agreement under sub-
20 section (b) or to make a proclamation under subsection
21 (c).

22 (e) BILLS QUALIFYING FOR TRADE AUTHORITIES
23 PROCEDURES.—

24 (1) IMPLEMENTING BILLS.—

1 (A) IN GENERAL.—The provisions of sec-
2 tion 151 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C.
3 2191) apply to a bill of either House of Con-
4 gress that contains provisions described in sub-
5 paragraph (B) to the same extent as such sec-
6 tion 151 applies to implementing bills under
7 that section. A bill to which this paragraph ap-
8 plies shall hereafter in this section be referred
9 to as an “implementing bill”.

10 (B) PROVISIONS SPECIFIED.—The provi-
11 sions described in this subparagraph are—

12 (i) a provision approving a trade
13 agreement entered into under this section
14 and approving the statement of adminis-
15 trative action, if any, proposed to imple-
16 ment such trade agreement; and

17 (ii) if changes in existing laws or new
18 statutory authority are required to imple-
19 ment such trade agreement, only such pro-
20 visions as are strictly necessary or appro-
21 priate to implement such trade agreement,
22 either repealing or amending existing laws
23 or providing new statutory authority.

24 (2) DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF BILL.—The
25 procedures under paragraph (1) apply to imple-

1 menting bills submitted with respect to a trade
2 agreement entered into under this section before
3 March 1, 2029.

4 (f) LIMITATION ON WAIVER, SUSPENSION, OR TER-
5 MINATION.—An agreement entered into under this section
6 shall not be waived, suspended, or terminated, in whole
7 or in part, with respect to the United States without the
8 express approval by Congress of such termination.

9 (g) RELATIONSHIP TO BIPARTISAN CONGRESSIONAL
10 TRADE PRIORITIES AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF
11 2015.—An agreement under this section shall not enter
12 into force with respect to the United States and an imple-
13 menting bill shall not qualify for trade authorities proce-
14 dures under subsection (e), including an agreement that
15 does not require changes to United States law or an imple-
16 menting bill in connection therewith, unless the following
17 requirements under the Bipartisan Congressional Trade
18 Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015 (19 U.S.C. 4201
19 et seq.) are carried out with respect to that agreement
20 or implementing bill to the same extent as would be re-
21 quired of an agreement entered into under section 103(b)
22 of that Act (19 U.S.C. 4202(b)), notwithstanding the expi-
23 ration of authority to enter into an agreement under such
24 section 103(b):

1 (1) The trade negotiating objectives under sec-
2 tion 102 of that Act (19 U.S.C. 4201).

3 (2) The congressional oversight and consulta-
4 tion requirements under section 104 of that Act (19
5 U.S.C. 4203).

6 (3) The notification, consultation, and reporting
7 requirements under section 105 of that Act (19
8 U.S.C. 4204).

9 (4) The implementation procedures under sec-
10 tion 106 of that Act (19 U.S.C. 4205).

11 (5) The provisions related to sovereignty under
12 section 108 of that Act (19 U.S.C. 4207).

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