



For Immediate Release

**ACCJ Completes its
Annual “Washington, D.C. Doorknock,”
Urging U.S. Congress to Ratify TPP in 2016**

April 28, 2016 [Washington, D.C.] – The American Chamber of Commerce in Japan (ACCJ) completed its annual “Washington, D.C. Doorknock” today. This year, the event emphasized the opportunity the United States and Japan have through the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreement to create a high-standard, 21st century trade architecture that covers all aspects of trade and investment across the Asia-Pacific region. During the three day visit to Washington, D.C., ACCJ leaders, led by ACCJ President Christopher LaFleur, met with approximately 35 Members of Congress and senior staff from an additional 35 Congressional Offices as well as Ambassador Froman and senior Administration officials, business organizations and thought leaders.

The message carried to Washington this week also reinforced the notion of the TPP agreement being a “game-changer” for U.S. and Japanese businesses operating in Japan – Asia’s second largest economy. Delegates urged Congress to ratify the agreement in 2016.

“The TPP creates major opportunities for both U.S. and Japanese businesses seeking to grow and expand in a region full of untapped potential. Furthermore, we see TPP as an important component of Prime Minister’s Abe’s Growth Strategy and structural reform agenda in Japan. The assistance provided by the U.S. military after the tragic Kumamoto Earthquake again underscores the importance of our security and economic partnerships. We support Prime Minister Abe’s leadership in ensuring the Japanese Diet ratifies TPP, a necessary step for it to come into effect, and we urge Congress and the Administration to work together to address any remaining concerns so the United States can do the same in a timely manner,” said ACCJ President Christopher LaFleur.



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About ACCJ

The American Chamber of Commerce in Japan (ACCJ) was established in 1948 by representatives of 40 American companies and has grown into one of the most influential business organizations in Japan. Consisting mainly of executives from American companies, currently the ACCJ has members representing 1,000 companies with offices in Tokyo, Nagoya, and Osaka. Working closely with the governments of the United States and Japan, business organizations, and others, the ACCJ promotes activities that help achieve its mission of further developing commerce between the United States and Japan, promoting the interests of U.S. companies and members, and improving the international business environment in Japan. The ACCJ's more than 60 committees represent a variety of industries and make policy recommendations through advocacy tools such as viewpoints, public comments and white papers. The ACCJ holds approximately 500 events and seminars a year, many of which focus on government policy and economic trends. The ACCJ is also committed to promoting charitable events and CSR activities.

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