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September 4, 2019

The Honorable Doug Ducey  
Governor of Arizona  
1700 West Washington, 9th Floor  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Governor Ducey:

In consideration of the important trilateral trade relationship between the United States, Mexico and Canada, I am pleased to submit this letter and join your efforts encouraging Arizona's federal delegation to support ratification of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA). The future of Arizona's economy and well-being would be positively impacted by the new agreement, continuing an upward trend over the past 25 years with the current North American Free Trade Agreement.

Trade with Canada and Mexico is a critical part of our state's economy. It supports more than 228,300 jobs in Arizona, Canada is the leading source country for foreign direct investment in our state, and Mexico is Arizona's number one source of imports and exports, which totaled \$16.6 billion in 2018. Nationally, in 2019 Mexico surpassed China as the United States' number one trading partner. The USMCA will increase the competitive advantage of Arizona and North America with provisions designed for today's economy, accounting for e-commerce, intellectual property protections, advanced rules of origin for the manufacturing sector and expanded access for agriculture.

At the University of Arizona, as at our sister institutions of public higher education, we have strong ties with partners in Mexico and Canada. We have forged collaborative approaches to grand challenges facing our state, region and the world, and these partnerships are necessary to create Fourth Industrial Revolution technologies and solutions in medicine, science, and society. We must also continue to develop the workforce our state and region depend upon in an integrated global economy. The USMCA enables this work with a balanced trade framework in which Arizona can build on this history. This will grow our state economy, create new jobs for Arizona graduates, and increase our global competitive advantage in key sectors like aerospace, mining, agriculture, and information technology.

Arizona owes much of its prosperity to the trade and relationships with Mexico and Canada that its people have developed over many generations. It is time to reaffirm the importance of those historic economic, cultural, and social ties and renew economic integration of North America's three nations through ratification of the USMCA.

Sincerely,

Robert C. Robbins  
President  
The University of Arizona