

MARY GAY SCANLON
5TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE ON
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CIVIL RIGHTS, AND CIVIL LIBERTIES
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COMMERCIAL, AND ADMINISTRATIVE
LAW

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

COMMITTEE ON RULES
SELECT COMMITTEE ON
THE MODERNIZATION OF CONGRESS

The Honorable Eugene Scalia
Secretary
United States Department of Labor
200 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20210

Dear Mr. Secretary:

We write in support of the more than 600 displaced workers of the Philadelphia Energy Solutions refinery (PES) who have submitted an application for Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA). These highly skilled workers are being displaced largely due to an increase in imports caused by the June 2019 fire at PES, which created a significant lack of production at the facility.

Following the fire, PES was unable to secure the financing necessary to repair damaged plant infrastructure. That, combined with the increased importation of oil products from overseas, forced PES to close and left hundreds of skilled workers without jobs. Additionally, PES recently completed a bankruptcy-supervised sale process where the only bidders for the assets were two real estate developers who plan to repurpose the property for other uses.

When PES was functioning, it was the largest oil refinery on the East Coast with a 335,000-barrel-per-day output. The Philadelphia facility previously qualified for TAA benefits in 2012, which highlights the threat import penetration of refined products has on the facility. With fair trade and even economic conditions, the highly skilled workers enabled PES to compete in the domestic and international markets.

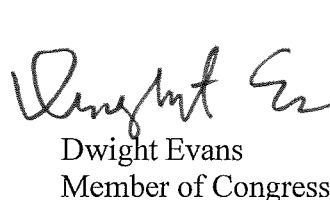
It is crucial that these workers receive the resources afforded to them through TAA certification. This certification will allow them to receive reemployment and retraining opportunities critical to ensuring their skills are not gone to waste, and further help them to continue being essential participants in our local economy and communities.

We respectfully urge that you review their petition in a timely manner. These trade-affected workers deserve federal assistance so that they may continue to maintain financial stability and use their skills to the benefit of all Pennsylvanians and Americans.

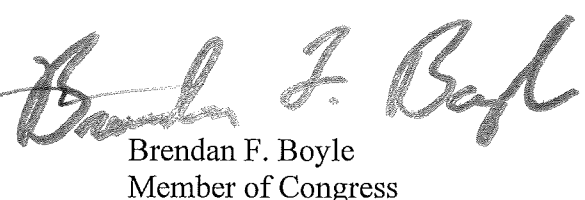
Sincerely,



Mary Gay Scanlon
Member of Congress



Dwight Evans
Member of Congress



Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress