



TRADEPAC MARKETING

AMERICAN SAMOA

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November 1st, 2009

Hon. Nick Joe Rahall II, Chairman
Hon. Doc Hastings, Ranking Member
House Committee on Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

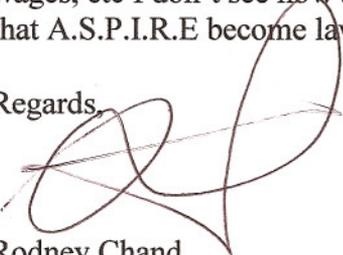
Chairman Rahall and Ranking Member Hastings:

My letter today is as a concerned business owner/citizen of American Samoa in regards to the American Samoa Protection of Industries Resources and Employment Act (A.S.P.I.R.E), which is currently before the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Natural Resource. I have personally reviewed A.S.P.I.R.E and understand how this will help our local economy by increasing fish deliveries and helping us to keep the presence of our tuna processing plant on island.

Our business Tradepac Marketing has maintained a very good mutual business with both canneries and it's sad to say that when Chicken of the Sea (C.O.S) closed its doors on September 30th, 2009 our business was tremendously affected. To put it into numbers, we've laid off fifty percent of our work force and have lost forty percent of our business and profit. Our company depends heavily on the vessels and tuna processors.

One of my deepest concerns is that if StarKist Company, were to leave also it would be drastic in terms of economic vitality. With all other costs rising such as energy, water, shipping, minimum wages, etc I don't see how a small business like ours would fair. So I urge you dear sir to ensure that A.S.P.I.R.E become law, not only as a business owner but much more as a citizen

Regards,



Rodney Chand
General Manager
TradePac Marketing American Samoa