



Dear Iowa Fair Trade Campaign:

I received your pledge and am happy to commit to the principles you have outlined. Like you, I understand that our nation faces critical choices about the rules of the global economy that make a difference to workers, family farmers, immigrants, the environment and human rights in the United States and around the world. The choices made by the next President will determine whether international trade and investment benefits all or a select few.

As President, I will take a strategic pause in negotiating new trade agreements while we assess the strengths and weaknesses of the existing ones. Our country needs a trading system in place with rules that raise the standard of living for American families as well as the workers and families in other countries. I will insist on fair trade, vigorously enforce existing trade agreements, and ensure that new trade agreements include strong worker and environmental protections. I will use the power of the Presidency to ensure Congress passes a law to remove the enforcement mechanisms that allow corporations to directly challenge state local or federal public interest laws for perceived loss of profit and will ban such provisions from any future agreements. I see this as a critical part of insisting on trade agreements that put the interests of all Americans first.

I will continue to work to increase the Buy American percentages in government purchasing, including changing provisions in trade deals that obstruct progressive procurement policies. The only exception I would consider is in the instance that other governments agree to not have restrictive agreements that disadvantage US companies in their own markets.

Unfortunately, there has been a trend in recent trade agreements to require deregulation or privatization of essential services. This is no more than an attempt to get around current law. I will immediately work to change these provisions.

When the strategic pause is suspended, and when I am satisfied that the time has come to begin negotiations on new and improved trade agreements, they will be conducted with full transparency. I will ensure that all parties are at the table including workers and family farmers and I will open negotiations to observers. There is no reason for trade agreements to see the light of day only *after* they are completed.

I will end currency manipulation by foreign countries such as China and open up new markets to American businesses and farmers. I will invest in renewable energy to ensure that the American Midwest, not the Middle East, is the world's primary source of new energy. I will ensure that goods imported into America are not harmful to the health and welfare of our citizens, especially children. And, if they are found to be harmful, I will not hesitate to immediately shut those imports down. Most importantly, I will keep good jobs *in* America, create new jobs engaged in the global economy and partner with farmers and businesses to ensure that America stays ahead of the globalization curve, not behind it.

Attached you will find my comprehensive trade and jobs plan which addresses the points that you have outlined. I look forward to working with you to building a stronger America.



PUTTING AMERICA FIRST: THE DODD PLAN FOR FAIR TRADE AND QUALITY AMERICAN JOBS

Under the failed policies and misplaced priorities of the last seven years, our middle class has seen more than three million manufacturing jobs with good benefits vanish. At the same time, the Bush Administration has run up massive trade deficits, outsourced white collar jobs, and allowed for the importation of unsafe foods, toys and other consumer items that fail to meet our national health and safety standards. These developments threaten our nation's economic and national security as well as the health and welfare of our children. America needs a President who has the leadership, experience and capability to create better jobs, shape trade rules to *our* benefit and ensure consumer safety. As President, Chris Dodd will enhance our nation's long-term economic growth and safety by:

- Insisting on fair trade
- Ending currency manipulation by foreign countries such as China
- Opening up new markets to American businesses and farmers
- Making the American Midwest the world's primary source of renewable energy
- Partnering with businesses to help them access world markets
- Keeping good jobs in America
- Helping to create new high-quality jobs
- Ensuring imported goods are not harmful to the health and welfare of our citizens

Chris Dodd believes it is time America had a President who knows how to get results and bring people together to turn Democratic principles into American policies. He has brought Democrats and Republicans together on legislation that would force China and other countries to stop illegal currency manipulation, passed legislation to strengthen investigations of foreign governments and investors attempting to buy American assets vital to our national security, and succeeded in passing legislation that required the Bush Administration to actively monitor and discourage the use of so-called "offset contracts" which have resulted in the loss of American jobs. Chris Dodd was also the first Democratic Presidential candidate to call for the immediate suspension of the importation of unsafe toys from China.

FREE TRADE MUST BE FAIR TRADE

Trade That's Fair to America. Chris Dodd will broker trade agreements so that they benefit American businesses and farmers. As President, he will aggressively enforce current trade agreements and negotiate new ones that include strong labor and environmental standards. He will reject trade agreements that rely on labor that is working in unfair or unsafe conditions and require trading partners to meet environmental standards.

Putting an End to Currency Manipulation. For too long, countries like China have been illegally manipulating the value of their currency against World Trade Organization (WTO) and International Monetary Fund (IMF) rules to gain unfair trade advantages. In so doing, they artificially lower their prices in America, undercutting honest American companies who make similar products but cannot compete against those cheating the system. As President, Chris Dodd will put an end to this by immediately designating China and others who illegally engage in this practice as currency manipulators and holding them accountable before the WTO, the IMF, and the International Trade Commission

OPENING NEW MARKETS

New Markets for American Businesses and Farmers. As President, Chris Dodd will create new opportunities for American businesses and farmers by opening up new markets for our manufacturing, agricultural, high-tech, and financial products worldwide. With over twenty years experience as a foreign policy leader, Chris Dodd has the understanding and relationships required to do this.

Ending the Cuban Trade Embargo. As President, Chris Dodd will end the Cuban trade embargo opening up Cuban markets to American farmers and businesses.

NEW SECTORS, NEW EXPORTS, NEW AMERICAN JOBS

America – the World’s Premier Source of Renewable Energy. Chris Dodd will create a *Renewable Energy Trust* that will provide family farmers and ranchers with interest-free loans of up to \$100,000 to develop or expand their capacity to produce biofuel plants or participate in wind projects. The Trust will also provide \$1 billion in loan guarantees and grants to promote advances in production technology and bioscience.

Keeping American Jobs in America. Chris Dodd believes that it is time to stop rewarding companies that move their manufacturing operations overseas. He will end tax preferences that subsidize companies when they relocate overseas, forbid American companies from receiving a tax benefit if they move a factory offshore and then re-import goods, and prohibit federal contracts from being awarded to firms who violate American labor practices. Chris Dodd will not allow American defense jobs to go overseas or let foreign governments or investors buy American assets vital to our national security. He will also invest further in the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) program to ensure that hardworking Americans who have seen their jobs “outsourced,” remain employed in jobs whose wages and benefits are comparable to their prior employment.

Quality Exports, Quality Jobs. As President, Chris Dodd will create an *American Business Abroad Initiative* within the Export-Import Bank that will provide low-cost loans to American businesses that employ American workers to produce goods that will be exported overseas. Chris Dodd believes government must be a partner and ally for small businesses to help them grow and create quality new jobs.

Partnering with Small Business. Chris Dodd will implement a comprehensive export strategy to increase American exports. Among the changes will be the elimination of fees charged by the Department of Commerce to small businesses to help them do business overseas. Chris Dodd believes government must be a partner and ally for small businesses to help them grow, not a bureaucratic hindrance.

Creating Quality Jobs at Home. As President, Chris Dodd will cut through bureaucratic red tape, invest in communities and partner with businesses and entrepreneurs to help our businesses grow. He will create over 4 million new jobs with his National Infrastructure Bank initiative, expand government programs that bolster the manufacturing industry and support tax policies that stimulate growth. Chris Dodd will expand programs that support research and development of advanced manufacturing technologies to ensure our security at home. Chris Dodd will also ensure that high quality American jobs come with high-quality job benefits: affordable, universal health care, access to Universal 401k accounts, and paid Family and Medical Leave.

A Highly-Skilled Workforce for the 21st Century Economy. Chris Dodd will ensure that American workers have the training and skills that they need to remain competitive by providing every American with the opportunity to attend community college for free. He will also use the tax code to encourage employers to support efforts by employees to maintain their professional and technical competence.

KEEPING AMERICAN CONSUMERS SAFE

Stopping Unsafe Imports at the Borders. As President, Chris Dodd’s first priority will be the safety of American consumers and children. He will double the number of import inspectors, demand the rigorous inspection of products imported from overseas and immediately suspend all imports found to be unsafe.

Informing Consumers. As President, Chris Dodd will require that imported goods contain information about where they are made as well as where they are assembled. He will create a ‘Surgeon General’s’ warning for products that come from countries that have problematic safety records. Chris Dodd also supports country of origin labeling for agricultural products imported from overseas.