November 10, 2026

The Honorable Scott Bessent
Secretary of the U.S. Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20220

The Honorable Jamieson Greer
United States Trade Representative
600 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20508

Dear Secretary Bessent and Ambassador Greer:

On behalf of the American Soybean Association (ASA), I would like to express our gratitude for your continued efforts to improve access for U.S. soybeans in the Chinese market. ASA was pleased with commitments secured by President Trump in October 2025 at the U.S.-China trade summit and was encouraged by the extended trade truce that resulted from the September 2026 meeting between President Trump and President Xi.

As President Trump and President Xi resume their trade dialogue at the upcoming Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation meeting, ASA would like to emphasize the importance of China fulfilling its commitment to purchase a minimum of 25 million metric tons of U.S. soybeans in marketing years 2026, 2027, and 2028 as agreed in the trade and economic deal that was reached in October 2025. ASA is pleased that China is currently importing U.S. soybeans and is well on its way to meeting its commitment for the current marketing year. China's continued purchases will benefit both U.S. farmers and Chinese consumers.

While ASA is encouraged by China maintaining its commitments as bilaterial negotiations continue, we urge the Trump Administration to pursue a long-term arrangement through which U.S. soybeans may regain access to the Chinese commercial market in addition to state-owned enterprises. To achieve long-term trade certainty, the remaining 10% tariff on Chinese imports of U.S. soybeans must be removed. This retaliatory tariff puts U.S. soybeans at a distinct disadvantage compared to South American competitors who have unrestricted access to the Chinese commercial market.

ASA is appreciative that some U.S. soy products, including soybean meal and oil, were included in the list of non-sensitive goods targeted for mutual tariff reduction following the September trade summit in Washington, D.C. Given that whole soybeans are the top U.S. agricultural export to China, it is in the interest of the United States that they be designated as a non-sensitive good under the U.S.-China Board of Trade.

U.S. soybean farmers welcomed the two-month extension of the trade truce, including the further delay of Section 301 port fees on Chinese-built and Chinese-linked vessels. We urge President Trump and U.S. trade negotiators to consider a long-term extension of the port fee suspension to avoid disruption threats during our primary export shipping window, an outcome that would provide needed certainty for global exporters of U.S. soybeans.

As the 2026 harvest season nears an end, ASA would like to reaffirm our gratitude for President Trump's focus on U.S. soybean exports in negotiations with China. The expected positive developments of these negotiations will benefit U.S. soybean farmers and their rural communities.

Sincerely,

J. Scott Metzger

Scott Metzger, President
American Soybean Association

CC:
The Honorable Howard Lutnick, Secretary, United States Department of Commerce
The Honorable Brooke Rollins, Secretary, United States Department of Agriculture
The Honorable Mike Crapo, Chairman, United States Senate Committee on Finance
The Honorable Ron Wyden, Ranking Member, United States Senate Committee on Finance
The Honorable John Boozman, Chairman, United States Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
The Honorable Amy Klobuchar, Ranking Member, United States Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
The Honorable Jason Smith, Chairman, United States House Committee on Ways and Means
The Honorable Richard Neal, Ranking Member, United States House Committee on Ways and Means
The Honorable Glen Thompson, Chairman, United States House Committee on Agriculture
The Honorable Angie Craig, Ranking Member, United States House Committee on Agriculture