## UNITED STEELWORKERS



## District 12 Oregon Legislative Education Committee

May 20, 2013

Every business day, American consumers buy \$1 billion more in Chinese exports than American manufacturers sell to China, and China alone accounts for about 70% of America's trade deficit in goods, excluding oil imports. This "Chinese import dependence" has led a democratic America to owe the largest communist nation in the world more than \$1 trillion, while China holds more than \$3 trillion in foreign reserves, most of them in U.S. dollars.

In Oregon from January 2000 through March 2013, we found 467 total approvals for Trade Act applications on the Department of Labor website, <a href="www.doleta.gov/trade">www.doleta.gov/trade</a>. We don't know the total number of Oregonians that lost their job at these 467 facilities but you can bet it numbers in the thousands. And keep in mind these are approved locations, there were many more that were not approved but lost jobs just the same.

We have clean air and clean water, because it matters how products are made. We expect safe food and drugs, because we regulate how those products are made and marketed. We have safe working conditions because we want employees to go home at the end of the day so we passed OSHA. Third world countries have no such restrictions. You only have to look at the recent tragic events in Bangladesh if you have any doubts about that.

The Trans Pacific Partnership agreement is more of the same bad Trade Policy we have endured since NAFTA.

Jim Gourley