SENATE FINANCE AND HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE LEADERS REQUEST INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION INVESTIGATION OF INDIA’S DISCRIMINATION AGAINST U.S. EXPORTS

08/02/13 - The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) today commended the chairmen and ranking members of the Senate Finance and the House Ways and Means Committees for jointly asking the U.S. International Trade Commission to initiate a Section 332 investigation of the Indian government’s trade and industrial policies.

"India is blatantly discriminating against American manufacturers, products and innovations in an attempt to grow its own domestic economy at the expense of U.S. businesses and workers," said NAM Vice President of International Economic Affairs Linda Dempsey. “A Section 332 investigation is an extraordinary step, and one that is needed urgently to document discrimination against American exports. Ultimately, our goal is to re-establish a fair and trusted trade relationship with India, creating a level playing field for both countries. However, the Government of India doesn’t appear to share that goal. It continues to take actions that are harming manufacturing and jobs in the United States. This fact has rightly prompted congressional leaders on both sides of the aisle to request a full investigation."

Under Section 332 of the Tariff Act of 1930, the Senate Finance Committee, the House Ways and Means Committee or the U.S. Trade Representative can initiate an investigation into international trade issues. The investigation allows the U.S. government to better understand specific international trade imbalances and develop appropriate responses to address them.

In their joint letter, the committee leaders wrote, "... India has introduced new localization-forcing measures such as local content and technology transfer requirements in the green technology and information and communications technology sectors. And India has not yet taken action to fully and effectively protect and enforce copyrights, including in the digital environment, and has applied its patent law in a discriminatory manner... [W]e are very concerned about the broader impact that India’s trade policy may be having on the global trading system, both in terms of the model it is setting for other countries and the drag it is exerting on multilateral trade negotiations."