

KING & SPALDING

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Update on Trade Promotion Authority and Companion Trade Bills: *A Lot Can Happen In Washington In 34 Days*

Patrick J. Togni

As we reported [last month](#), quick-strike action by the Senate on May 22 to pass Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) included within the Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015 (the Trade Act of 2015) gave way to an old-fashioned brawl in the House of Representatives that cast serious doubt on this central objective of President Obama's second-term trade agenda. President Obama had urged quick passage to "give our workers and businesses even more wind at their backs to do what they do best: imagine, invent, build, and sell goods Made in America to the rest of the world." Thirty-four days later, three trade measures including TPA had been passed by both chambers.

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Congress Allows Export-Import Bank Charter to Expire, for Now

Lauren M. Donoghue

Congress recessed for a week-long Fourth of July break last week without taking up legislation to reauthorize the Export-Import (Ex-Im) Bank's charter, just days before it was set to expire. The Bank was operating under a [nine month short-term extension](#) that passed as part of a continuing resolution to fund the federal government at the end of the 113th Congress and expired on June 30. [More »](#)

WTO Finds That COOL Is Simply Not Cool, and House of Representative Agrees

Enrique Molina

The most recent chapter in the dispute over U.S. country-of-origin labeling (COOL) requirements for meat products resulted in a loss for the United States. In a May 18 report, the World Trade Organization's (WTO) Appellate Body [upheld](#) all major [findings](#) by a WTO compliance panel in October of 2014 regarding the consistency of U.S. COOL

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requirements with WTO rules. [More »](#)

Cuba No Longer a State Sponsor of Terrorism, but Future of Trade Relations Still To Be Determined

Elizabeth Owerbach & Valecia Battle

On June 10, Senator Jerry Moran (R-KS) introduced [S. 1543](#): The Cuba Trade Act of 2015, which aims to "repeal{ } or amend current laws restricting trade with Cuba," including "the enforcement of an economic embargo of Cuba," "the prohibition on indirect financing of Cuba," and "restrictions on remittances." This action follows Secretary of State Kerry's rescission of Cuba's designation as a State Sponsor of Terrorism on May 29, as [reported by](#) King & Spalding in June 2015. [More »](#)

U.S. Senators Introduce Bill To Create Nationwide "Made In USA" Labeling Standard

J. Michael Taylor, Mark T. Wasden, Patrick J. Togni, and Clinton R. Long

[On June 4](#), Senators Mike Lee (R-UT), Angus King (I-ME), Susan Collins (R-ME), and Deb Fischer (R-NE) introduced the *Reinforcing American-Made Products Act of 2015* ([Senate Bill 1518](#)). This bill seeks to clarify that the U.S. Government's "Made in USA" labeling standard supersedes differing standards imposed by individual states. The bill does not propose to modify the Federal Trade Commission's (FTC) "Made in USA" labeling standard, which requires that "all or virtually all" of a product be made in the United States. [More »](#)

News Of Note

- **State and Commerce Departments Seek Input from Industry on Elements of Export Control Reform** – [Shannon Doyle Barna](#) – In recent weeks, the State Department and the Commerce Department have published in the Federal Register several proposed revisions to the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) and the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) that, if adopted, would continue to move the Obama Administration's Export Control Reform initiative forward. [More »](#)
- **Free Trade Area Launched Among Southern and Eastern African Countries** – [Jordan Shepherd](#) – The Tripartite Free Trade Area (TFTA), a long-time goal of African countries to unite their economies, was launched on June 10 at a summit in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt. [More »](#)
- **Iran Nuclear Talks Continue Past June 30 Deadline** – [Elizabeth Owerbach](#) – Top diplomats have decided to continue negotiating a nuclear deal with Iran beyond the self-imposed June 30 deadline. The Treasury Department [announced](#) that it is extending the limited sanctions relief provided under the Joint Plan of Action (JPOA) through July 7 while talks continue. [More »](#)

If you have any questions or comments about any of the articles, please click [here](#).

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