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**NOPA CALLS FOR SENATE TO OPPOSE “KILLER” ADMENDMENTS TO TPA**

**Washington, D.C., May 21, 2015** – The National Oilseed Processors Association (NOPA) urges the Senate to pass the Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015, and oppose amendments that would derail this important Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) legislation or jeopardize current and future trade negotiations.

NOPA applauds Senate Finance Committee Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden for crafting this bipartisan legislation that will establish concrete rules for international trade negotiations to help the United States deliver strong, high-standard trade agreements that will boost American exports and create new opportunities for American farmers, ranchers and manufacturers.

The TPA bill before the Senate will strengthen Congress’ ability to set the direction for our trade agenda and key negotiating objectives. It also enhances its ability to oversee trade negotiations, which will ensure that new trade agreements reflect Congressional priorities and achieve strong U.S. outcomes. The legislation also requires more transparency by strengthening consultations with both Congress and the public.

The United States is currently pursuing one of its most ambitious and diverse range of trade negotiations ever, the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) negotiations with 11 other Asia-Pacific countries. With TPA, the United States will be able to conclude the TPP negotiations that will support and create U.S. jobs while helping American farmers, ranchers and manufacturers increase U.S. exports and to compete in a highly competitive, globalized economy.

Tom Hammer, President of NOPA stated “TPA is absolutely critical to making sure U.S. farmers, ranchers and manufacturers get the best possible outcomes in the pending trade agreement in the Pacific Rim, and therefore we strongly encourage the Senate to oppose controversial amendments to the TPA bill that could prolong debate and potentially prevent its passage.”

*Established in 1929, the National Oilseed Processors Association’s mission is to assist the U.S. soybean, canola, flaxseed, sunflower seed and safflower seed processing industries to be the most competitive and efficient in the world by utilizing the combined expertise, knowledge and resources of its members to foster market- and science-based policies. NOPA represents 13 member companies who process over 1.6 billion bushels of oilseeds annually at 63 plants in 19 states, including 57 plants that process soybeans.*

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