



2016 MFU Special Order

TPP

Whereas, Congress may soon consider ratification of the TransPacific Partnership (TPP); and
Whereas, Fast Track Authority has been granted by Congress for the TPP meaning no amendments will be allowed when Congress debates passage of the TPP; and

Whereas, MFU policy opposes free trade agreements that are not negotiated with transparency and do not protect farmers, workers, the environment, the food supply and human rights; and

Whereas, released text of the TPP includes no enforceable language to address currency manipulation, an effective maneuver used by our competitors to immediately tilt the playing field in their favor; and

Whereas, this agreement looks to be particularly bad for the nation's ranchers and that the meat export opportunities are very modest which includes a snapback provision for Japan that will allow them to fully reinstate the current high levels of tariffs if it deems that beef imports are hurting its domestic farmers; and

Whereas, our trade deficit, already exceeding \$500 billion per year, will continue to rise, not fall under this trade agreement; and

Whereas, the TPP includes language that is more aggressive than previous trade deals and provides broad new powers for other countries and foreign corporations to challenge U.S. food safety and food labeling measures; and

Now therefore be it resolved that the Minnesota Farmers Union opposes the TPP and urges our members of Congress to reject the agreement.