

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: December 13, 2007
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Vermont Commission on International Trade and State Sovereignty:

Public Hearing on the Impact of International Trade Agreements on Vermont's Agricultural Sector

To gather input on the effects of international trade agreements on Vermont's agricultural sector, the Commission on International Trade and State Sovereignty is holding a public hearing. The hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, December 18 from 12:30-3:30 p.m. at The Abbey Restaurant, 6212 Vt. Route 105, Enosburg Falls.

All are welcome to attend. Though every effort will be made to accommodate those who come, persons wishing to testify are encouraged to sign up in advance by contacting Nedene Martin at TradeCommission@leg.state.vt.us or 828-2231.

Among questions the Commission seeks to answer with the help of public testimony are:

How have international trade agreements helped or hurt Vermont's agricultural sector?

How can the Farm Bill comply with United States international trade agreements and support Vermont agriculture?

What provisions should the Vermont Commission on International Trade and State Sovereignty recommend to the United States Trade Representative that would help Vermont's food producers, processors, and shippers the most?

What else can the Commission do to help Vermont agriculture?

This is the third in a series of four public hearings being held around the state to share information and gather input about effects on Vermont of international trade agreements. The remaining hearing will focus on health care.

The Trade Commission is charged with developing policy recommendations to mitigate any negative impact of international trade agreements on Vermont. More information is available on the Commission's web site at <http://www.leg.state.vt.us/WorkGroups/Trade/>.