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CARTER COSPONSORS LEGISLATION TO PROTECT CROP GROWERS IN TRADE DEAL

WASHINGTON - Congressman Earl L. "Buddy" Carter (R-Ga.) cosponsored legislation this week to protect crop growers in the new North American trade agreement.

"This week I cosponsored the *Agriculture Trade Improvement Act* because I am extremely concerned that the current North American trade negotiations do not include protections for our fruit and vegetable growers against dumping from Mexico," said Carter. "This legislation will protect Georgia's growers by allowing a majority in any one state or group of states to trigger a trade remedy for any unfair practices coming from Mexico or elsewhere. I will continue working with President Trump, my colleagues in Congress and the United States Trade Representative to ensure Georgia's agricultural community is able to do their important job on a fair playing field."

Carter cosponsored the *Agriculture Trade Improvement Act* this week. The legislation amends the Tariff Act of 1930 to allow specialty crop growers greater flexibility in requesting federal action against dumping. Under current law, a federal action against dumping requires that either 25% of the entire domestic industry of similar products requests an action or 50% of similar producers that have expressed an opinion request an action. However, these requests must be done by producers across the United States, often putting southeastern farmers at a disadvantage. This legislation gives specialty crop farmers more flexibility by allowing 50% of the farmers from any one State or group of states to request a federal action, if those States account for at least 50% of total production during the season of the time specified in the petition. In this way, the southeastern growers who often grow the bulk of certain products won't be stalled by interests representing other parts of the country.

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