



For Immediate Release

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Statement on the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement

(Washington, D.C., October 9, 2018) — The following statement may be attributed to James Edwards, Executive Director, Conservatives for Property Rights:

“From a private property rights perspective, the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement makes overdue improvements to NAFTA. The Trump administration has turned an important corner toward property rights-based, reciprocal trade policies.

“America’s competitive edge has always been our acumen at creating and commercializing new technologies, including inventions and processes that modernize existing industry sectors. In the 1980s, President Reagan referred to biotechnology, information processing and advanced materials as ‘sunrise industries.’ They were.

“Today, biotech pharmaceuticals represent a major U.S. growth area. We see new cures and treatments saving and improving the lives of people worldwide. Yet, America’s been the Little Red Hen, doing the hard work, investing in the R&D, pursuing an arduous path for the handful of medicines to make it to market. Under USMCA, biologics will gain a floor of 10 years of exclusivity — raising the standards for both Mexico and Canada.

“These and other sectors of our industrial base rely on secure, private intellectual property rights for their success. USMCA achieves stronger IP protections for U.S. sectors whose IP Canada and Mexico have not previously adequately protected or respected.

“We hope future trade deals will go further to advance accountability for online copyright infringement. But overall, USMCA moves the property rights ball down the field.”

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