## 1NC: UQ UPDATES

### SKFTA not controversial – more than enough support from both parties, and they view it as good for the economy and the country

Portland Press Herald – 8/02/11, “Move forward on trade agreements” http://www.sentinelsource.com/opinion/columnists/guest/move-forward-on-trade-agreements/article\_ca239a9a-946c-50ef-b917-8893789407e9.html

Waiting in the wings are trade agreements with Colombia, Panama and South Korea that have been held hostage to the debt crisis. And what’s amazing is that while there are deep philosophical divides between Democrats and Republicans, **these trade agreements are not that controversial.** There are enough members of both parties, including the president, who see these deals as a way to boost exports and stimulate job creation at a time when the country needs it.

### Free Trade will pass – debt ceiling has been resolved and all sights are set on passing them by September – businesses and party leaders are on board

Reuters - 8/01/11, “U.S. business hopes debt deal clears way for trade” http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/08/01/usa-congress-trade-idUSN1E7700X420110801

WASHINGTON, Aug 1 (Reuters) - A deal to raise the U.S. debt ceiling after weeks of tough talks between the White House and Congress has raised hope leaders will now turn their attention to resolving difference blocking three long-delayed trade [deals](http://www.reuters.com/finance/deals), U.S. business groups said on Monday.

"It would be good if we can start those wheels turning before (lawmakers) go away" for their month-long August recess, said Bill Reinsch, president of the National Foreign Trade Council, whose members include major exporters such as Boeing ([BA.N](http://www.reuters.com/finance/stocks/overview?symbol=BA.N)) and Caterpillar ([CAT.N](http://www.reuters.com/finance/stocks/overview?symbol=CAT.N)).

The ugly negotiations over raising the debt ceiling and cutting the huge budget deficit occupied most of the White House and congressional leaders' time in July, blocking work on a deal to move the trade pacts with [South Korea](http://www.reuters.com/places/south-korea), Colombia and Panama to Congress for votes.

But now that it looks like Congress will approve a debt agreement, "I think there's a very strong desire to come together and work out something" on the trade accords, said Bill Morley, president of Altrius Group, which lobbies on behalf of the American Chamber of Commerce in Colombia.

Morley said he hoped Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid and Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell would "lay out a framework" for action in September on the pacts and a worker retraining program known as Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA).

That would give South Korea, Colombia and Panama some reassurance that years of U.S. delay in passing the agreement are nearly over, he said.

[…] Unless the debt [deal](http://www.reuters.com/finance/deals) falls apart and "turns everything upside down ... I am optimistic for the trade agreements in September," Vargo said.

## 2NC: UQ EXTENSIONS

### Only thing standing in the way was TAA – being resolved by separate vote

Reuters - 8/01/11, “U.S. business hopes debt deal clears way for trade” http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/08/01/usa-congress-trade-idUSN1E7700X420110801

President Barack Obama's administration has negotiated a number of side agreements to address Democratic Party concerns about the pacts and had hoped to win congressional approval of the deals before the August break.

But Republicans strongly objected to a White House plan to include an extension of TAA in the implementing agreement for the South Korean pact. Many party members question the value of the nearly 50-year-old retraining program for workers who have lost their jobs because of foreign competition.

Last week, U.S. Trade Representative Ron Kirk said the administration was open to a separate vote on TAA and hoped a deal could be reached soon to clear the way for it and the trade deals to be approved in September.

Timothy Keeler, a lawyer at Mayer Brown and former U.S. trade official, said that target was more likely now that the administration has reconsidered its plan to include TAA in the legislation for the Korea pact.

### SKFTA will pass – republicans are no longer blocking and a vote should come soon

Pottorff – 8/01/11, Rich Pottorff, Doane chief economist & Washington analyst “D.C. Watch: Debt debate continues” http://www.cattlenetwork.com/cattle-news/DC-Watch-Debt-debate-continues-126520378.html?ref=378

One step closer for the free trade agreements. Twelve Republican Senators have signed a letter saying they will support renewal of certain provisions of the Trade Adjustment Act (TAA). One caveat is that the TAA will be a stand-alone bill and not part of the implementing language of the South Korean Free Trade Agreement. The commitment from the Senators appears to remove the main stumbling block in the way of approving the free trade agreements with South Korea, Panama, and Colombia. However, it is still not clear when the agreements will be submitted for Congressional consideration, but the chances that the agreements will be passed before Congress takes their August recess have all but vanished.