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UNWRAP THE FACTS



The Fact Is, Increased Sugar Market Access for Australia Would Address Shortages in U.S. Supplies

As Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) negotiations come to a conclusion, Australia is pushing for increased access to the U.S. sugar market, with support from U.S. sugar users, while opponents suggest this would undermine current U.S. sugar policy.

Let's [unwrap the facts](#).

FACT: Only 87,402 metric tons of Australian sugar enter the United States under the current tariff rate quota (TRQ) - that's a mere 2.8 percent of total U.S. sugar imports this year and 0.8 percent of annual U.S. sugar consumption.

FACT: The U.S. Department of Agriculture forecasts that U.S. sugar imports will total 3.5 million metric tons in 2014/2015 while the U.S. import need will increase to 4.5 million metric tons by 2025 - signaling there is plenty of room for the United States to open its market to Australian raw sugar imports.

FACT: U.S. refiners often operate below capacity due to a lack of sugar supplies in the United States. While some countries with access to the U.S. market consistently under-fill their TRQs, others either no longer produce sugar or simply choose not to fill their quota. Australia, on the other hand, has the capability to send more raw sugar to the United States, addressing the lack of supply in the U.S. market, but current TRQ limitations prevent it.

The Bottom Line: Any final, comprehensive TPP agreement should include expanded sugar market access for Australia. American consumers and businesses cannot wait for another farm bill debate to address the needed reforms to the U.S. sugar program.

Only Congress can fix the U.S. sugar program.

Learn more about the need to reform U.S. sugar policy at www.sugarreform.org.

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The Coalition for Sugar Reform is an alliance of consumers, food and beverage manufacturers, trade advocates, environmental groups, taxpayer watchdog organizations, responsible government advocates, think tanks and other interests. Our objective is to reform the federal government's intrusive, inefficient, restrictive and outdated sugar program - a decades-old subsidy that has repeatedly failed to provide adequate supplies of sugar to the U.S. market.