

**Joe Trauger**

*Vice President*

*Human Resources Policy*

July 22, 2014

United States Senate Committee on Foreign Relations  
444 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Menendez and Ranking Member Corker:

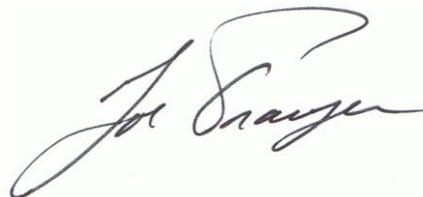
On behalf of the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), I am writing to express the NAM's support for the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), which was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on December 13, 2006.

The NAM is the largest manufacturing association in the United States, representing small and large manufacturers in every industrial sector and in all 50 states. Manufacturing employs nearly 12 million men and women, contributes more than \$1.8 trillion to the U.S. economy annually, has the largest economic impact of any major sector, and accounts for two-thirds of private-sector research and development. The NAM is the powerful voice of the manufacturing community and the leading advocate for a policy agenda that helps manufacturers compete in the global economy and create jobs across the United States.

The CRPD would ensure that basic human rights and freedoms are enjoyed by all persons with disabilities. The treaty is largely based on current United States law, including the American with Disabilities Act (ADA). The ADA has been integral in protecting the rights of those individuals who live and work with a disability. Manufacturers with an international presence beyond the U.S. want to ensure they are doing business with international partners who afford these protections for their workers as well. Ratifying the CRPD would solidify the leadership of the U.S. Government and U.S. businesses in the global market in providing equal employment opportunities for all workers.

On behalf of manufacturers, I urge the Committee to affirmatively vote in favor of the CRPD and for the Senate to swiftly ratify the treaty.

Sincerely,



Joe Trauger  
Vice President  
Human Resources Policy