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EMTC Releases 21CCF Proposal

E-Merchants Trade Council, Inc. (EMTC), a not-for-profit trade association for micro, small and medium-sized e-sellers, released its [Proposal for 21st Century Customs Framework](#) (21CCF). The proposal seeks specific statutory changes to Title 6 (Homeland Security) and Title 19 (Customs Duties) as part of the customs modernization legislation negotiations with U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), and in response to Senator Cassidy's "Discussion Draft".

In its Proposal for 21CCF, EMTC is providing specific recommendations as outlined in its [written statement](#) on Senator Cassidy's Customs Modernization Act of 2021 calling for a new statutory framework that includes e-commerce of physical and digital goods. EMTC identified three (3) goals of customs modernization: 1) simplify and streamline customs processes; 2) reduce data submissions; and 3) leverage advanced technology that enhances risk-based methodologies.

"Trade legislation must be updated to fully integrate the e-commerce community which is the most dynamic segment of global trade. E-commerce has enabled micro, small and medium enterprises to engage in global trade for both exports and imports, and laws need to reflect these changes," said EMTC CEO Marianne Rowden who also serves as a member of the 21CCF Task Force operating under the auspices of the Commercial Operations Advisory Committee (COAC).

EMTC expects a customs modernization bill will be introduced in the 118th Congress, but it is unclear whether the legislation can garner the broad industry support similar to the Customs Modernization Act enacted as part of Title IV of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

EMTC is actively engaging and monitoring this bill. We welcome and encourage membership for participants from all aspects of the e-commerce supply chain who want to enable simplification and support enhanced automation. EMTC is the only global trade association dedicated to representing MSMEs in e-commerce. Information about EMTC and a membership application are available on its website: www.emtc.org.