

**Subject:** PNTR for China

**Story summary:** Expansion of trade with China could be one of the best ways to jumpstart the farm economy. The fight is on in Congress to grant China permanent normal trade relations.

**TRT:** 1:43

**Suggested lead:** Most farmers say the key to restoring the farm economy is increased trade. Bob Ellison reports the fight is on in Congress to grant permanent normal trade relations for China.

**Suggested supers:** Rep. Charles Stenholm  
(D-Texas)  
@ :18

Mary Kay Thatcher  
American Farm Bureau  
@ :25

Bob Ellison reporting  
@ 1:34

**PNTR for China**  
**Bob Ellison reporting**  
**April 20, 2000**

<p>Ellison VO  Stenholm talking to woman</p>	<p>BACKERS OF PERMANENT NORMAL TRADE RELATIONS SAY IT WILL GIVE U-S FARMERS ACCESS TO THE LUCRATIVE CHINESE MARKET.</p>
<p>Stenholm SOT   Chinese buying vegetables  Chinese outdoor market</p>	<p>TO ME THIS IS A NO-BRAINER. IT'S REMARKABLE TO ME THAT ANYONE IN AGRICULTURAL COUNTRY WOULD EVEN BE THINKING ABOUT VOTING NO BECAUSE WE'RE GIVING UP NOTHING AND WE'RE GETTING EQUAL ACCESS TO A MARKET OF A BILLION TWO HUNDRED MOUTHS TO FEED AND CLOTHE.</p>
<p>Thatcher SOT   Chinese woman selecting items (50 years new China, 00:25:05:01)  Chinese buying meat (50 years new China, 00:25:10:08)</p>	<p>ONE OUT OF EVERY FIVE PEOPLE IN THE WORLD LIVES IN CHINA AND EVEN MORE IMPORTANT THAN THAT THEY HAVE A HUGE GROWING MIDDLE CLASS, WHERE THEY'RE ABLE NOW TO BUY A LOT MORE THAN JUST RICE. THEY CAN BUY PROCESSED FOODS, VALUE-ADDED FOODS, MEATS, SO IT'S A TREMENDOUS MARKET FOR US.</p>
<p>Ellison VO  Exterior of USDA building  Corn being unloaded  Corn pouring  Cattle</p>	<p>USDA ESTIMATES THAT EXPORTS TO CHINA COULD INCREASE FROM ONE BILLION DOLLARS A YEAR TO SEVEN AND A HALF BILLION DOLLARS OVER THE NEXT TEN YEARS.</p>
<p>Stenholm SOT</p>	<p>IF WE DO NOT ACCEPT THIS OPPORTUNITY TO BEGIN PARTICIPATING IN THAT MARKET ALL OF OUR COMPETITORS AROUND THE WORLD WILL TAKE THAT MARKET.</p>
<p>Ellison VO  Rep. Bonior talking  Rep. Gephardt talking  Chinese Premier</p>	<p>PNTR OPPONENTS HAVE RAISED CONCERNS OVER LABOR AND CHINA'S HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD. BUT ADVOCATES SAY TRADE IS GOOD FOR BOTH NATIONS AND BRINGS CHANGE.</p>
<p>Thatcher SOT   Food processor workers  Carrot bagging</p>	<p>MORE EXPORTS HAS TO MEAN MORE JOBS. IT WOULD TAKE MORE PEOPLE TO DO THAT. SO IT CERTAINLY CAN'T BE A LOSS OF JOBS. IT WILL ACTUALLY BE A GAIN.</p>

<p>Stenholm SOT  Chinese on bikes  Chinese in cars  Chinese in buses</p>	<p>THE BEST WAY TO CHANGE CHINA IS, THE MORE THAT THEY WILL ACCEPT AND OPEN UP, THE QUICKER THE CHANGE WILL OCCUR.</p>
<p>Ellison VO  Stenholm talking to Farm Bureau members  Wheat harvest</p>	<p>STENHOLM SAYS PASSING PNTR FOR CHINA IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS CONGRESS COULD DO FOR FARMERS AND RANCHERS.</p>
<p>Stenholm SOT  U.S. House  Congressional staff answering phone</p>	<p>AND IF YOU COME TO THAT CONCLUSION, CONTACT YOUR MEMBER OF CONGRESS BECAUSE WE'RE GOING TO HEAR FROM THE FOLKS ON THE OTHER SIDE THAT BELIEVE THIS IS BAD FOR AMERICA.</p>
<p>Ellison SOT</p>	<p>THE VOTE ON PNTR FOR CHINA IS SCHEDULED IN THE HOUSE FOR THE WEEK OF MAY TWENTY-SECOND. IT'S STILL TOO CLOSE TO CALL WITH MANY REPRESENTATIVES STILL UNDECIDED. IN WASHINGTON, I'M BOB ELLISON REPORTING.</p>