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(Maine Citizen Trade Policy Commission)  
Members of the Commission:

I work as a volunteer with the poor and homeless here in Portland and I see a lot of misery that seems, to me, preventable. People often come to Portland from other areas in the state, because programs are lacking in their hometowns. Most of these people have seen better days. Some of them used to work in mills that have since shut down. Others have been the victims of downsizing. In the meanwhile the few programs to help the poor and homeless are suffering deep funding cuts, both state and federal.

I feel like the federal government has sold out to the highest bidders. Corporations are being bailed out of debt while private citizens go homeless and hungry. Corporations get tax breaks for laying off American workers and paying cheap, exploitative wages to workers in third-world countries. It seems crystal clear to me that such a government is not working for the average citizen. High ranking government officials receive large campaign contributions and even stock profits from culprit corporations. There are conflicts of interest abound.

Now the federal government wants to make life even easier for these corporate giants to exploit and pollute Central America, while they lay off and downsize the lives of U. S. citizens. Instead, if they really cared about the average American they would admit the damage that the North American Free Trade Agreement have done and have it repealed.