

MEDIA MENTION

Tim Brightbill Discusses Trans-Pacific Partnership Negotiations Being Held in Hawaii

Bloomberg News, Bloomberg BNA

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Timothy C. Brightbill, a partner in Wiley Rein's International Trade Practice, was quoted in two articles yesterday by *Bloomberg News* and *Bloomberg BNA* about the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) negotiations taking place this week in Maui, Hawaii.

According to the article, U.S. Trade Representative Michael Froman will attempt to finalize a free-trade agreement with counterparts from 11 other countries, covering approximately 40 percent of all global trade. One key issue for U.S. negotiators is to establish new rules covering state-owned enterprises (SOEs). Other TPP countries are seeking exceptions—also known as non-conforming measures (NCMs)—to these new rules on SOEs.

Mr. Brightbill—who serves as vice chairman of the Industry Trade Advisory Committee on Services and Finance Industries—also told *Bloomberg BNA* that for the rules covering SOE competition policy to function, NCMs should be temporary, so that after a phase-in time to adjust, all countries will be subject to the rules. "The TPP provisions on SOEs will hopefully be a strong first step that will be built on in the Trade in Services Agreement, the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership and the U.S.-China Bilateral Investment Treaty negotiations," he added.

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Practice Areas

International Trade
Trade Policy and Trade Negotiations