Members attending the 2023 USAPEEC Annual Meeting in San Antonio next month are in for a real treat.

Doug McKalip, Chief Agricultural Negotiator in the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR), has been confirmed to speak at the event and will offer his special insight into issues critical to the industry.

McKalip has a long and distinguished career, having most recently served as Senior Advisor to Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack on all agricultural matters relating to trade, national security, animal and plant health regulations, and a wide portfolio of domestic and international issues.

He previously served in a leadership capacity in the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Biotechnology Regulatory Services. He also was Senior Advisor for Agriculture and Rural Affairs at the White House Domestic Policy Council where he counseled President Barack Obama on issues involving farm, ranch, and rural policy. McKalip has a master's degree in public policy from the American University in Washington D.C. and a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Pittsburgh. Members who have yet to register for the meeting are advised to act now to take advantage of special early bird discount pricing, which ends April 30. The discounted hotel room rate ends on

May 12.