



**American
Iron and Steel
Institute**

Steelgram

Immediate Attention Requested

March 8, 2010

**To: Members of the Senate Steel Caucus
Senate staff assigned to trade issues**

**PLEASE ENSURE OUR GOVERNMENT ACTS TO ADDRESS FOREIGN UNFAIR
TRADE PRACTICES BY COSPONSORING S. 1982 THE “TRADE ENFORCEMENT
PRIORITIES ACT” REVIVING “SUPER 301”**

Over the past decade, the U.S. has lost more than five million manufacturing jobs which have migrated overseas due in part to some significant challenges to our international competitiveness as a result of foreign unfair trade practices as well as the lack of aggressive national policies to keep these jobs here in America. The Trade Enforcement Priorities Act of 2009, introduced by Senators Sherrod Brown (D-OH), Debbie Stabenow (D-MI), Carl Levin (D-MI), Russell Feingold (D-WI) and Arlen Specter’s (D-PA) would require the USTR to analyze trade barriers listed in the National Trade Estimates Report to determine which have the most adverse effect on U.S. exports and employment, and to take action against these problem practices.

As the Senate continues to work on job creation legislation and advancing the President’s export initiative, it is critical that the U.S. Government act to ensure that foreign governments are living up to their trade agreement commitments and work to eliminate foreign trade-distorting practices, including government subsidies, raw material export restrictions, and other non-tariff barriers. Reviving Super 301, which lapsed in 2001, would be a significant step in prioritizing our trade enforcement strategies and working to ensure that domestic manufacturers are competing on a level playing field.

S. 1982 is critical to advancing the Administration’s goal of doubling the nation’s exports by 2015 and preserving and creating good-paying, manufacturing jobs for Americans.

Request: Please cosponsor S. 1982, The Trade Enforcement Priorities Act, a bill that ensures our domestic manufacturers can compete on a level playing field by reviving “Super 301,” enforcing laws against unfair trade practices, and promoting U.S. exports and economic growth. To cosponsor this legislation, please contact Chris Slevin in Senator Brown’s office at 224-2045.

Thank you for your continued efforts on behalf of American manufacturing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas J. Gibson".

Thomas J. Gibson
President and CEO