July 16, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
H-204, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Minority Leader McCarthy:

Our organizations represent manufacturers across all 50 states, key parts of the manufacturing supply chain, and their millions of U.S. workers. We are reaching out to you regarding the Great American Outdoors Act (H.R. 7092), which would invest critical funding to restore our national parks.

Specifically, the bill will address the deferred maintenance backlog across the federal land management agencies and provide mandatory and permanent funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund. This funding is vital to improving the country’s public lands and public resources. Some of the much-needed improvements and repairs include roads, trails, bridges, buildings, recreation sites, restrooms, and water systems. However, just as important is where our parks’ infrastructure is made.

The current version of this legislation has no domestic procurement provisions to ensure that the billions of federal dollars will be spent on American workers and the goods they produce in your states.

Our manufacturing groups strongly urge the inclusion of the bipartisan “Buy America” amendment being sponsored by Representative Paul Gosar (R-Ariz.) and cosponsored by Representatives Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio), Tim Ryan (D-Ohio), Pete Visclosky (D-Ind.), Rick Crawford (R-Ark.) and Louie Gohmert (R-Texas) for the following key reasons:

- With nearly 40 million Americans out of work and U.S. manufacturers continuing to face sluggish demand due the current COVID-19 pandemic, we believe that American parks should be improved with American-made infrastructure and jobs.
- Including strong Buy America language will ensure that federal spending prioritizes American workers and manufacturers and guarantees that taxpayer money is reinvested right back into local communities rather than being sent overseas to the lowest bidder.
- Buy America provisions are well-established and have broad bipartisan support.

Once again, we urge passage of the bipartisan Great American Outdoors Act with the “Buy America” amendment to address this serious omission in this bill and to ensure that American workers and manufacturers are given priority when taxpayers’ dollars are spent. Thank you for your consideration of this important “Buy America” Amendment.

Sincerely,

Alliance for American Manufacturing
American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations
American Foundry Society
American Institute of Steel Construction
American Iron and Steel Institute
Committee on Pipe & Tube Imports

Municipal Castings Association
Non-Ferrous Founders’ Society
Specialty Steel Industry of North America
Steel Founders’ Society of America
Steel Manufacturers Association
United Steelworkers
cc: House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer
    House Majority Whip Jim Clyburn
    House Minority Whip Steve Scalise
    Representative Jim McGovern
    Representative Tom Cole
    Representative Rick Crawford
    Representative Paul Gosar
    Representative Louis Gohmert
    Representative Marcy Kaptur
    Representative Tim Ryan
    Representative Pete Visclosky