June 19, 2019

To: Congressional Steel Caucus Members

Support Rep. Bost Amendment to Increase Funding for ITA Enforcement and Compliance

Background: The International Trade Administration (ITA) Office of Enforcement and Compliance plays a critical role in the application of the trade laws. For example, it conducts AD/CVD investigations to determine if imports are being dumped or subsidized. It also manages the Steel Import Monitoring and Analysis System that collects and publishes steel import data and assists U.S. exporters confronting foreign trade barriers.

Situation: The House Appropriations Committee-passed FY 2020 Departments of Commerce, Justice and Science (CJS) Appropriations Act provides $94.8 million in funding for the International Trade Administration Office of Enforcement and Compliance. Congressman Bost has offered an amendment that would increase this funding by $3 million. This additional funding is necessary for trade actions brought by domestic industry or self-initiated by the agency to be expeditiously investigated and for the strong enforcement of our trade remedy laws.

This additional funding would be offset by an accompanying $3 million reduction for the ITA Office of Global Markets, which would still receive a nearly $58 million increase from what was requested by the Administration.

Request: AISI urges members of the Congressional Steel Caucus to support Congressman Bost’s amendment to increase funding for the ITA Office of Enforcement and Compliance.

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

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Gibson
President and CEO