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Kevin M. Dempsey
President and Chief Executive Officer

February 20, 2026

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Democratic Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
H-204, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Johnson and Leader Jeffries:

On behalf of the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI), I write to express our support for legislative efforts to reform and update aspects of the Clean Air Act (CAA) that will foster American economic growth and job creation while maintaining important air quality standards. Several important CAA reform provisions were included in bills that recently passed the House Energy and Commerce Committee. AISI supports these bills and encourages their swift adoption by the full House of Representatives.

AISI serves as the voice of the American steel industry in the public policy arena and advances the case for steel in the marketplace as the preferred material of choice. AISI's membership is comprised of integrated and electric arc furnace (EAF) steelmakers, steel pipe and tube manufacturers and steel processors and fabricators, reflecting the production and distribution of both carbon and stainless steels. These steels are critical to America's national and economic security, including roads and bridges, buildings, the electrical grid, cars and trucks and all energy technologies. AISI also represents associate member companies who are suppliers to or customers of the steel industry.

The American steel industry leads the world in clean and energy-efficient steel production, making steel with lower CO₂ emissions intensity than the other major steel-producing countries. However, certain aspects of the CAA can result in the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) placing complex air regulatory requirements on industrial facilities that constrain important investments in American facilities while providing limited benefits to human health or the environment. These constraints can lead to the offshoring of valuable jobs to countries with lax environmental regulations. This result benefits no one as American jobs are lost, and global net pollution is increased. AISI believes the CAA requires updating to reduce the complexity and burden associated with CAA permitting, so that companies can make investments and

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create good-paying jobs while maintaining the highest level of environmental performance.

In particular, AISI supports:

- H.R. 4218, the Clean Air and Economic Advancement Reform (CLEAR) Act, to allow technological and economic feasibility factors to be used by EPA for air quality standard decisions, as well as to extend the NAAQS review cycle from five years to 10 years;
- H.R.6387, the Fire Improvement and Reforming Exceptional Events (FIRE) Act, to appropriately permit air emissions resulting from exceptional events to be excluded from the NAAQS attainment designations;
- H.R.6409, the Foreign Emissions and Nonattainment Clarification for Economic Stability (FENCES) Act, to similarly clarify that emissions emanating from outside of the U.S. can be excluded from designation decisions;
- H.R.4214, the Clean Air and Building Infrastructure Improvement Act, to amend the CAA to ensure regulated facilities have EPA's full implementation guidance prior to having to meet final NAAQS standards; and
- H.R.161, the New Source Review Permitting Improvement Act, to clarify that modifications to existing facilities trigger New Source Review (NSR) permitting requirements only when the source's maximum achievable hourly emission rate is increased.

These bills will allow EPA to take a common-sense approach to CAA regulations that will enable facilities to make investments that increase efficiency and reduce emissions without triggering unnecessary permitting requirements. Doing so will continue to foster ongoing air quality improvements while enabling economic growth at American steel industry facilities. AISI supports the legislation listed above and urges their swift passage through the House of Representatives.

Sincerely,



Kevin M. Dempsey
President and Chief Executive Officer

CC: Chairman Brett Guthrie
Ranking Member Frank Pallone