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**Kevin M. Dempsey**  
President and Chief Executive Officer

December 11, 2025

The Honorable French Hill, Chairman  
The Honorable Maxine Waters, Ranking Member  
House Financial Services Committee  
2129 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

On behalf of the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI), I write today state the opposition of the American steel industry to two bills the House Financial Services Committee is tentatively scheduled to consider in the next week: the Build Housing More Affordably Act and Section 11 of H.R. 5878, the HOME Reform Act. Both of these bills would limit the application of our nation's Buy America laws and have the negative effect of permitting iron and steel products made overseas to be purchased using American taxpayer funds. This would be antithetical to the bipartisan goal of promoting manufacturing industries and jobs in the United States.

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 carbon, electrical and stainless steels. These steels are critical to America's national and economic security, including roads and bridges, buildings, the electrical grid, defense applications, cars and trucks and all clean energy technologies. AISI also represents associate member companies who are suppliers to or customers of the steel industry.

AISI strongly supports our nation's Buy America laws - including the Build America, Buy America (BABA) provisions of the 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) - which ensure that most federally assisted infrastructure projects are constructed using U.S.-produced iron and steel, construction materials, and manufactured products. Current Buy America statutes ensure that taxpayer funds are used to purchase products of the domestic steel industry and its employees, rather than those of competitor nations. Buy America programs have resulted in key financial investments being made in the domestic steel and associated industries over recent decades. It is important to note that under the existing BABA legislation, project-specific waivers can be issued when necessary to address nonavailability of domestic products or unreasonable costs.

Unfortunately, the bills scheduled for consideration by the committee next week would weaken current federal Buy America statutes and therefore have a negative impact on our industry and workers. The draft Build Housing More Affordably Act would inappropriately exclude eleven major housing programs from their obligation to adhere to federal Buy America procurement policies. This legislation would not only ignore the benefits that the policies have provided to American manufacturers, but also the fact that current statute and programs allow for HUD to issue project specific waivers in the case of domestic product nonavailability or unreasonable costs. Additionally, Section 11 of the HOME Reform Act is unnecessary in that it would limit Buy America application only to “infrastructure” projects funded by the legislation. However, existing HUD policy already allows certain non-infrastructure housing activities to be classified as “private” and, therefore, not subject to Buy America obligations.

AISI opposes these bills as they would allow the use of iron and steel products imported from overseas in housing projects constructed with taxpayer funds. Instead, AISI urges the committee to continue to ensure that the BABA programs are enforced as Congress intended to spur investment in domestic steel manufacturing and jobs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin M. Dempsey". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Kevin M. Dempsey  
President and Chief Executive Officer