



**American
Iron and Steel
Institute**

Steelgram

Immediate Attention Requested

July 30, 2020

**To: Congressional Steel Caucus Members
Staff Assigned to Appropriations, Trade, and/or Steel Issues**

Support Bost-Lamb-Crawford Amendment #76 to CJS Appropriations Bill to Ensure Sufficient Resources to Combat Unfair Foreign Trade Practices

Background: The International Trade Administration (ITA) Office of Enforcement and Compliance plays a critical role in the application and enforcement of U.S. trade remedy laws. For example, it conducts antidumping (AD) and countervailing duty (CVD) investigations to determine if imports are being dumped or subsidized. It also enforces the trade laws against foreign importers seeking to circumvent trade remedy orders.

Situation: Earlier this month, the House Appropriations Committee passed the FY2021 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies appropriations bill (CJS) and recommended full funding for the Enforcement and Compliance office. Congressional Steel Caucus leadership Representatives Mike Bost (R-IL), Conor Lamb (D-PA) and Rick Crawford (R-AR) have offered an amendment that would set minimum funding levels for trade enforcement activities to ensure adequate funding to combat unfair trade practices. In the first nine months of FY2020, the Commerce Department has received nearly 100 AD/CVD petitions alleging unfair trade practices, which is a record for a single year. Setting a minimum funding level for AD/CVD enforcement activities to address allegations of unfair trade practices is critical to ensuring Commerce has the resources available to thoroughly and expeditiously investigate, so that practical remedies can be put in place to keep Americans employed.

Request: AISI urges members of the Steel Caucus to support the Bost-Lamb-Crawford amendment (#76) to ensure sufficient resources for the Enforcement and Compliance office when the CJS appropriations bill is on the House floor.

Thank you for your continued efforts on behalf of domestic steelmakers and the nearly two million jobs supported by the industry.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin M. Dempsey".

Kevin M. Dempsey
Interim President and Chief Executive Officer