



**American
Iron and Steel
Institute**

Steelgram

Immediate Attention Requested

July 28, 2021

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

Support CJS Appropriations Bill to Ensure Sufficient Resources to Combat Unfair Foreign Trade Practices

Background: The American steel industry is essential to our national and economic security, supports nearly two million American jobs and is among the most energy-efficient and cleanest steel industries in the world. However, domestic steel producers must compete in a global market that is often dominated by state-owned or state-supported steelmakers that operate regardless of market considerations. The domestic steel industry has been hit by repeated surges of unfairly traded steel imports over the past decade and rely on strong trade remedy laws to ensure a level playing field. Adequate funding for trade enforcement agencies is therefore necessary to combat the unfair trading practices of foreign producers.

Situation: Earlier this month, the House Appropriations Committee passed the FY2022 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies appropriations bill (CJS) and recommended increased funding for the International Trade Administration (ITA) at the Department of Commerce and for the U.S. International Trade Commission (USITC). Within the ITA, the Office of Enforcement and Compliance (E&C) plays a critical role in the application and enforcement of U.S. trade remedy laws. E&C conducts antidumping (AD) and countervailing duty (CVD) investigations to determine if imports are being dumped or subsidized. It also enforces the U.S. trade laws against foreign importers seeking to circumvent trade remedy orders, while the USITC determines whether dumped and subsidized imports are causing injury to domestic industries.

Last year, 119 AD/CVD petitions alleging unfair trade practices were received by ITA, a record for a single year, up from an average of 53 petitions annually in 2018 and 2019. The seven percent funding increase for ITA in the FY2022 House appropriations package will allow the establishment of a ninth investigative office at E&C to help ensure that the petitions filed by domestic producers are fully investigated. The domestic steel industry supports these funding levels that will ensure the U.S. trade laws are fully enforced.

Request: AISI urges all members of the House of Representatives to support the CJS FY2022 appropriations package (H.R. 4505) when the legislation is considered 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
President and Chief Executive Officer