

September 11, 2024

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
Senate Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Senate Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Majority Leader Schumer and Minority Leader McConnell:

The undersigned groups represent industries that are vital to America's economic success and thousands of workers across the country. For years China has systematically worked to dominate global trade and supply chains and destroy domestic manufacturing. Our current trade laws are inadequate to deal with China's constantly evolving threat. We are writing to urge you to prioritize American workers and industry and fight back against China's unfair practices by acting on the bipartisan Leveling the Playing Field 2.0.

To dominate critical supply chains, China developed a global infrastructure, transportation, trade and production network referred to as the Belt and Road Initiative. The initiative focuses on products that are the backbone of a modern society, such as steel, energy, and critical minerals. China uses this network to depress or eliminate competing production globally by dumping unfairly priced and heavily subsidized products in other markets. American workers and industry have borne the brunt of China's increasingly predatory economic behavior.

For example, China's steel producers are scrambling to offset domestic slowdowns, which means they will be looking to dump significant amounts of steel globally.<sup>1</sup> One of the most important lines of defense against these actions is the anti-dumping and countervailing duty (AD/CVD) laws, which rely on thorough investigations by both the Department of Commerce and the International Trade Commission. The cases brought recently have demonstrated the broad and harmful effects of dumping and subsidies on our economy, including domestic manufacturing of engines, furniture, hardwood and plywood, solar panels, pipes and tubes, wood moldings, truck trailer chassis, magnesium, paper, industrial materials, shrimp, carrier bags, magnesia bricks, kitchen cabinets, quartz countertops, tires, and others. While companies that manufacture in America spend millions to win an AD/CVD case and wait more than a year for duties to be applied to correct a market disruption, Chinese companies can quickly move their production to other countries to evade our remedies and continue targeting the U.S. market.

The Leveling the Playing Field 2.0 Act was designed to give our government appropriate tools to protect impacted industries and American workers and adequately address the evolving threat China poses to domestic production. The bill creates

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<sup>1</sup> "World's Top Steel Producer Warns of 'Severe' Industry Crisis"  
<https://stocks.apple.com/AWDvQFSz1RLCDtB2ptWYdSg>

“successive investigations,” with streamlined procedures and expedited timelines for petitions targeting production that has moved to another country after an initial AD/CVD case is brought and won. The legislation also explicitly gives the Commerce Department authority to investigate transnational or cross-border subsidies such as those provided through the Belt and Road Initiative.

There is an urgent need to address China’s most dangerous method of destroying American jobs and industries. We encourage you to support American workers and industry by passing the Leveling the Playing Field 2.0 Act. Your actions will send a strong signal that we will not allow China to dominate critical manufacturing.

Sincerely,

Alliance for American Manufacturing (AAM)  
Aluminum Extruders Council (AEC)  
American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC)  
American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI)  
American Shrimp Processors Association  
Cold Finished Steel Bar Institute (CFSBI)  
Committee on Pipe and Tube Imports (CPTI)  
Kitchen Cabinet Manufacturers Association  
Specialty Steel Industry of North America (SSINA)  
Steel Manufacturers Association (SMA)  
U.S. Oil Country Tubular Goods Manufacturers Association (USOMA)  
United Steelworkers (USW)

CC:

Sen. Ron Wyden, Chairman, U.S. Senate Committee on Finance  
Sen. Mike Crapo, Ranking Member, U.S. Senate Committee on Finance