



**American
Iron and Steel
Institute**

Steelgram

Immediate Attention Requested

March 10, 2026

**To: Members of the U.S. House of Representatives
House staff assigned to steel and/or international trade issues**

**Sign Reps. Crawford and Deluzio's Trade Enforcement Letter to the
CJS Appropriations Subcommittee**
Deadline Thursday, March 12th, COB

Background: The American steel industry faces serious threats from unfairly traded imports from a wide variety of countries. Massive foreign government subsidies and other trade-distorting policies in many countries have contributed to massive global overcapacity in steel which can fuel surges in dumped and subsidized imports into the U.S. market, threatening our industry and the good-paying jobs it provides.

The antidumping (AD) and countervailing duty (CVD) laws are critical tools that allow American companies and their workers to fight back against unfairly traded imports that threaten or injure American industries. Enforcing our laws against trade cheats helps ensure that American manufacturers and workers can compete on a level playing field. The American steel industry therefore strongly supports robust funding for those agencies responsible for the administration of these trade laws, as well as to address efforts at circumvention and evasion of trade remedy orders. Given their importance to American economic competitiveness, there also has been long-standing bipartisan support in Congress for adequately funding the Commerce Department's International Trade Administration (ITA) and the U.S International Trade Commission (ITC), the two key agencies tasked with enforcing the AD/CVD laws.

Situation: Representatives Crawford and Deluzio are circulating a letter requesting that the House Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies (CJS), provide robust support for key trade-focused agencies. In fiscal year (FY) 2026, Congress appropriated a total of \$696 million for the ITA and ITC. With this funding, Congress recognized both the need to address the backlog of AD/CVD cases and the vital role ITA and ITC play in supporting American firms and workers harmed by unfairly traded imports. The FY 2027 CJS appropriations legislation should enhance these efforts.

Request: Please sign the trade enforcement letter being circulated by Reps. Crawford and Deluzio by close of business on Thursday, March 12. The text of their letter is attached. Here is the Quill link for member signing: <https://quill.senate.gov/letters/letter/33832/opt-in/view/75ab5f27-9d94-417e-854d-ac7784c21220/> . If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to James Hodges (James.Hodges@mail.house.gov) with Rep. Crawford or Alex Rajakovich (Alex.Rajakovich@mail.house.gov) with Rep. Deluzio.

Sincerely,

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

Kevin M. Dempsey
President and CEO

[[DATE]]

The Honorable Hal Rogers
Chair
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related
Agencies
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Grace Meng
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related
Agencies
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Meng:

As the Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies Subcommittee begins to draft its Fiscal Year 2027 Appropriations bill, we respectfully request increased funding for the United States Department of Commerce (DOC)'s International Trade Administration (ITA) and the United States International Trade Commission (ITC), which were supported at enacted levels in Fiscal Year 2026 of \$562 million and \$134 million respectively, to prioritize and carry out the application of United States trade remedy laws. Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

American industry and workers can compete and succeed in a fair market that responds to the principles of supply and demand. Unfortunately, our domestic manufacturers must increasingly operate in a global market dominated by state-owned and subsidized firms. These firms operate irrespective of market conditions, often permitting them to operate at an economic loss and sell products at less than fair market value.

President Donald Trump's initial Fiscal Year 2026 Budget request to Congress made clear the importance of supporting our domestic manufacturers and working Americans by making targeted investments to strengthen trade enforcement and aggressively protect American innovation. According to the initial budget, these funds would "*address unfair and unbalanced trade through increased antidumping and countervailing duty investigations, and develop the analytical tools necessary to address supply chain and sourcing risks, thereby revitalizing the industrial and manufacturing base essential for America's economic and national security.*" The President's Fiscal Year 2026 Budget focused ITA's work toward addressing fair trade enforcement, facilitating and accelerating investments that create American jobs, and countering China's malign market practices.

Anti-Dumping (AD) and Countervailing Duty (CVD) laws exist to protect United States producers and workers from economic injury resulting from unfairly traded imports. The agency is responsible for enforcing over 700 existing AD/CVD orders against products sold by foreign exporters at dumped prices or unfairly subsidized by their

government, of which many impose remedial antidumping or countervailing duties on unfairly traded Chinese exports. The agency also has many active AD/CVD investigations that require much staff time and resources.

We strongly encourage the Committee to consider these factors when establishing funding levels for Enforcement and Compliance activities at ITA, to ensure the agency has adequate resources and personnel to protect American firms and workers from economic injury caused by unfairly traded imports.

The ITC is an independent, quasi-judicial commission responsible for investigating and making timely and objective determinations involving imports that cause or threaten injury to a domestic industry or are otherwise unfairly traded. Its status as an independent agency whose composition is to be equally split between the parties, providing confidence to affected stakeholders that decisions and remedy recommendations made by the Commission are based solely on facts and relevant law, and are free from political interference. Among the ITC's mission priorities are conducting AD/CVD and safeguard investigations and reviews and other investigations involving unfair imports such as those that infringe United States intellectual property rights under Section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930. These investigations are a necessary precursor for the imposition of remedies such as AD/CVD orders that seek to ensure that U.S. workers and businesses are not forced to compete against unfairly traded imports. The ITC also maintains the U.S. Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) which sets out the applicable tariffs for all goods imported into the United States and is essential to ensuring transparency and administrability of tariffs.

The ITC's caseload has continued to increase in recent years as a result of the filing of new petitions, as well as its work on reviews of existing orders and other investigations. According to the ITC, the average number of instituted and completed AD and CVD investigations more than doubled in the last decade to record levels in 2025 and into 2026, with no signs of abatement. Unfair import investigations under section 337 regarding intellectual property rights, patent and trademark infringement, and other forms of unfair competition are also rising, and required updates to the HTS have grown substantially since January 2025 but overall staffing levels are currently inadequate to handle this heavy workload. For example, as of January 2026, the Commission was experiencing high vacancy rates in offices responsible for statutory anti-dumping (AD) and countervailing duty (CVD) investigations.

We thank the Subcommittee for the increased enacted funding level for Fiscal Year 2026 and how these extra funds will help the ITC to achieve needed staffing levels to meet statutory workload requirements. We believe a funding increase for Fiscal Year 2027 will continue to build on this progress to help the ITC address its growing portfolio of mandates in the trade enforcement area, including additional responsibilities under recent trade agreements and appropriations bills. Without the proper funding to handle the increased and more complex workload it will not have the capacity to meet the tight statutory deadlines associated with trade enforcement.

We strongly encourage the Committee to build on its previous efforts to protect domestic

workers and businesses from unfair trade by providing adequate resources for the ITA and ITC to ensure timely and objective responses to trade remedy complaints and investigations.

[[CLOSING]]

[[SIGNATURES]]