



**American
Iron and Steel
Institute**

Steelgram

Immediate Attention Requested

June 23, 2026

**To: Members of the U.S. Senate Finance Committee
Senate staff assigned to trade issues**

**AS THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE EXAMINES A HISTORIC SLATE OF
U.S. INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION NOMINEES, IT IS IMPERATIVE
THAT THE COMMITTEE EXERCISE ITS ADVICE AND CONSENT ROLE**

Background: The American steel industry strongly supports vigorous enforcement of our nation's antidumping and countervailing duty laws. The United States International Trade Commission (USITC) plays a vital role in investigating and adjudicating whether dumped and/or subsidized imports are injuring or threatening injury to domestic industries and their workers. Congress created the USITC as an independent, nonpartisan, quasi-judicial entity with six presidentially appointed and Senate confirmed commissioners. Per statute, no more than three commissioners may be of any one political party.

The USITC has three main areas of work: 1) making determinations in investigations regarding whether imports injure or threaten to injure a domestic industry or violate U.S. intellectual property rights, 2) research and analysis on tariffs, trade and competitiveness issues, and 3) maintenance of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule.

Of the functions the USITC performs, it is the adjudication of injury or threat of injury to domestic industries caused by imports that is of particular importance to steel and other domestic manufacturing industries. The injury determination of the USITC is often the deciding factor in whether a domestic industry and its workers will receive import relief from dumped or subsidized imports.

At present, only three of the six Commission seats are filled and two of the current commissioners have served beyond the original terms for which they were appointed. If additional vacancies occur, the ability of the USITC to carry out its statutory responsibilities may be called into question, threatening the integrity of the U.S. trade remedy system.

To ensure a full complement of USITC commissioners, President Trump has nominated five individuals to serve as commissioners:

- Brett Doyle (nominated 1/29/26, PN786-1);
- David Foley, Jr. (nominated 1/29/26, PN786-3);
- Bart Thanhauser (nominated 6/1/26, PN1022-35);
- Samuel Negatu (nominated 6/1/26, PN1022-26); and
- Peter-Anthony Pappas (nominated 6/1/26, PN1022-29).

Situation: The American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) applauds the Senate Finance Committee for promptly holding its June 25th hearings on these five nominees so that it can perform its constitutionally mandated role of providing advice and consent on these important presidential nominations.

Request: AISI urges Finance Committee members to probe the nominees for their understanding about the importance of the USITC's role in protecting American manufacturers from unfair trade practices. While nominees cannot speak to how they would rule on any specific case, AISI believes it is imperative that nominees:

- Recognize the critical role the USITC plays in determining whether U.S. industries and workers receive import relief from unfairly traded imports;
- Understand that USITC determinations are governed by detailed congressionally-mandated statutory requirements;
- Recognize the need to carefully consider the facts of every case and the unique conditions of each industry subject to an investigation; and
- Be aware that their work involves not only new investigations but also careful review of economic impact of existing antidumping and countervailing duty orders.

Sincerely,

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

Kevin M. Dempsey
President and CEO