



**American
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Kevin Dempsey

President and Chief Executive Officer

July 14, 2026

The Honorable Ted Cruz
Chairman
U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce,
Science and Transportation
554 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce,
Science and Transportation
428 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Cruz and Ranking Member Cantwell,

On behalf of the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI), I write to express strong support for the Connected Vehicle Security Act of 2026 (S. 4429). This legislation, sponsored by Senators Bernie Moreno and Elissa Slotkin, would codify existing Commerce Department rules and appropriately prevent Chinese automakers from manufacturing or selling their connected vehicles in the U.S. Doing so will enhance American national security and the competitiveness of the U.S. auto industry and its supply chain, including domestic steel producers.

AISI serves as the voice of the American steel industry in the public policy arena and advances the case for steel in the marketplace as the preferred material of choice. AISI's membership is comprised of integrated and electric arc furnace (EAF) steelmakers, steel pipe and tube manufacturers and steel processors and fabricators, reflecting the production and distribution of carbon, stainless and electrical steels. These steels are critical to America's national and economic security, including roads and bridges, buildings, the electrical grid, defense applications, cars and trucks and all clean energy technologies. AISI also represents associate member companies who are suppliers to or customers of the steel industry.

As they have for decades, American steelmakers must compete with subsidized and dumped foreign-made steel – including steel from China. A recent global study concluded that Chinese steelmakers receive 15 times the level of subsidies than do their competitors in market-based economies. The result has been massive Chinese-fueled global excess capacity and production, causing damaging surges of steel into the U.S. and other markets. The American steel industry has weathered these challenges thanks to key bipartisan support and leadership from successive presidential administrations. Additional key policy measures are essential to ensure that the American steel industry continues to succeed. This is especially the case for policies that regard critical customer groups, like the auto sector.

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As with steel, Chinese vehicles are highly subsidized and the Chinese government is intent on expanding its automotive footprint across the globe through any means necessary. This presents serious national and economic security threats. Legislation that effectively codifies the Commerce Department's Connected Vehicle rule is of critical importance, and Senators Moreno and Slotkin are to be commended for their leadership.¹ By preventing Chinese companies from manufacturing and selling vehicles and batteries in the U.S., this bill would prevent China from undermining the American automotive sector and its entire supply chain. It also would protect our national security interests from the growing threats of foreign adversaries using connected vehicles to harm Americans.

AISI requests all members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation support the Connected Vehicle Security Act of 2026 when it is considered by the full Committee tomorrow. We thank you for your leadership and support of this important legislation.

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 Chief Executive Officer

¹ *Chinese Connected Vehicle Rule*; U.S. Dept. Commerce Bureau of Industry Security (Mar. 17, 2026); available at: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/01/16/2025-00592/securing-the-information-and-communications-technology-and-services-supply-chain-connected-vehicles>