



**American
Iron and Steel
Institute**

Steelgram

Immediate Attention Requested

September 15, 2026

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

**Sign Rep. Dingell's Letter to President Trump on Chinese Vehicles
in Advance of Summit with Chinese President Xi**

Background: The rapid expansion of Chinese vehicles in overseas markets – fueled by government subsidies and other non-market actions – poses a substantial threat to U.S. national security, the American automotive sector, and the domestic steel industry and other aspects of the auto supply chain. In recent years, the Chinese government has undertaken a coordinated effort of industrial and trade policies to build strategic excess overcapacity of automotive production and unfairly dominate the global auto market. As a result, China has exported more than 7.2 million passenger vehicles so far in 2026, which is already more than it exported last year. Not only do these efforts negatively affect American auto producers and their workers but, given the connectivity aspects of many of the vehicles, they pose a serious national security threat as well.

The American steel industry offers a cautionary example of how Chinese state-driven subsidies can lead to global overcapacity. All should be concerned that granting Chinese automotive companies the ability to manufacture and sell vehicles and batteries in the U.S. would likewise pose a serious threat to the U.S. auto industry and its supply chain.

Situation: Next week, President Trump is hosting a meeting with his Chinese counterpart. Representative Dingell has recognized the importance of this meeting and is leading a letter to President Trump from members of the House urging him to “maintain strong protections against Chinese automobiles and connected vehicle technologies and ensure that China does not gain access to our market through direct imports, local production, and other avenues of circumvention.” In particular, the letter states clearly that “Chinese automakers should not be permitted to use Canada, Mexico, USMCA, overseas manufacturing, or ownership and technology arrangements to circumvent U.S. protections.” The letter will send a clear signal about the importance of the U.S. maintaining American leadership in automotive and related manufacturing and technology, while continuing to protect U.S. national and economic security.

Request: Please sign Rep. Dingell's letter to President Trump by the deadline of 6:00pm on Friday, September 18th. The draft letter is attached, and the Quill link is here:

<https://quill.senate.gov/letters/letter/39285/opt-in/view/a8d39106-6a72-42d0-9d91-3ceaa18fe0d0/> If you have questions, do not hesitate to reach out to Joshua Shapiro, Legislative Director for Rep. Dingell (Shapiro@mail.house.gov).

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