

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

June 20, 2017

The Honorable Wilbur Ross
Secretary of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20230

The Honorable Robert Lighthizer
U.S. Trade Representative
600 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Secretary Ross and Ambassador Lighthizer,

Global overcapacity in basic commodities such as steel and aluminum, and the harm it has inflicted on U.S. businesses and workers, has been a top concern for years for us and many other Members of the Senate Finance and House Ways and Means Committees. For too long, the U.S. industry has suffered at the expense of unfairly traded imports and market distorting economic policies that impair its ability to survive and thrive.

As the Administration works to complete national security reviews of steel and aluminum imports undertaken pursuant to Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, we write to urge you to ensure that the Administration provides stakeholders, including affected workers and business, with a full and fair opportunity to provide views on each review. In addition, we request that you ensure that, with respect to each review, Congress is fully consulted on the approach under consideration by the Administration to evaluating the statutory criteria and on the recommended relief, before a decision is made.

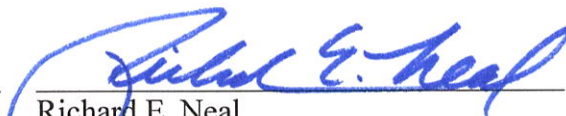
Transparency and due process are cornerstones of good governance. Given the significant implications these proceedings could have for jobs and economic growth across the country, it is particularly essential that the Administration provide full transparency and due process when conducting these investigations. While swift relief is vital, it need not come at the expense of due process.

Furthermore, it is troubling that to date the Administration has not briefed the Committees with jurisdiction over trade matters on either investigation or responded to several individual Member requests for briefings. The only briefing tentatively scheduled will take place at the end of June – immediately before the Administration's self-imposed deadline to issue these reports. Engagement with stakeholders' elected representatives is vital to ensuring that policy decisions reflect the interests of all Americans. In that regard, we request that you immediately brief Committee staff on these matters and respond to all Member requests for individual briefings prior to making a decision. Going forward, we urge you to redouble your efforts at engagement with the Congress on these matters of vital importance to the nation.

Sincerely,



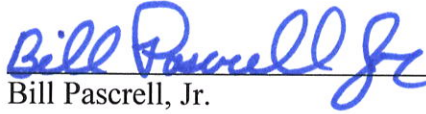
Ron Wyden
Ranking Member, Senate Finance
Committee



Richard E. Neal
Ranking Member, House Ways and
Means Committee



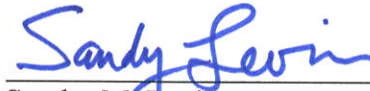
Claire McCaskill
United States Senator



Bill Pascrell, Jr.
United States Representative



Michael Bennet
United States Senator



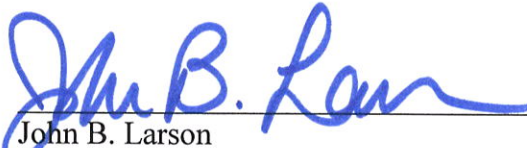
Sander M. Levin
United States Representative




John Lewis
United States Representative



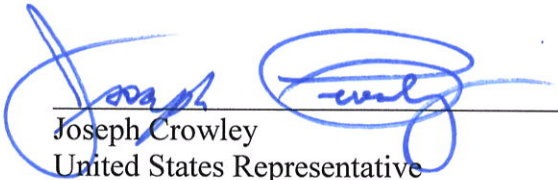
Mike Thompson
United States Representative



John B. Larson
United States Representative



Ron Kind
United States Representative



Joseph Crowley
United States Representative



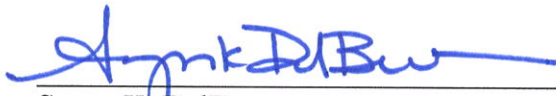
Linda T. Sanchez
United States Representative



Brian Higgins
United States Representative



Terri A. Sewell
United States Representative



Suzan K. DelBene
United States Representative



Judy Chu
United States Representative