

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 15, 2014

The Honorable Penny Pritzker  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Madame Secretary:

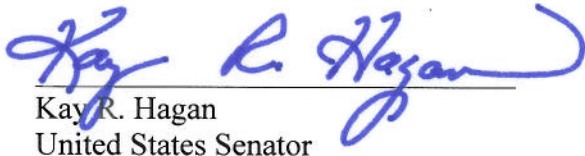
We are writing in strong support of the Department's decision to initiate antidumping and countervailing duty investigations of passenger vehicle and light truck tires from China.


As you well know, China has targeted the passenger vehicle and light truck tire sector for development and there are several hundred tire manufacturing facilities now operating in that country. In 2009, the United Steelworkers (USW) filed a Section 421 petition seeking relief from a flood of similar tires from China that were injuring our producers and their workers. That petition was successful and the relief that was provided helped to restore market conditions. Employment stabilized and companies producing here invested billions of dollars in new plant and equipment.

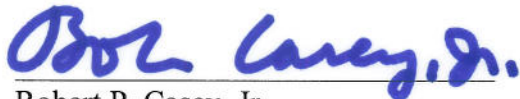
Unfortunately, shortly after relief expired, imports of these tires from China once again skyrocketed. Since the Section 421 relief ended in 2012, imports from China have roughly doubled. In response, on June 3, 2014, the United Steelworkers (USW) filed petitions with the Department alleging dumping and subsidies. The Steelworkers' petitions identified dumping margins as high as 87.99 percent and provided sufficient information for the Department to initiate an investigation on 39 separate subsidies available to tire producers in China. Our laws need to be fairly and faithfully enforced to ensure that workers – our constituents – can be confident that, when they work hard and play by the rules, their government will stand by their side to fight foreign predatory trade practices. Thousands of workers across the country are employed in this sector, making the best tires available.

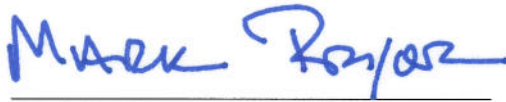
America's laws against unfair trade are a critical underpinning of our economic policies and economic prosperity. Given the chance, American workers can out-compete anyone. But, in the face of China's continual targeting of our manufacturing base, we need to make sure that we act quickly and enforce our laws. That is what we are asking and urge you and your Department carefully analyze the facts and act to restore fair conditions for trade.


Sincerely,

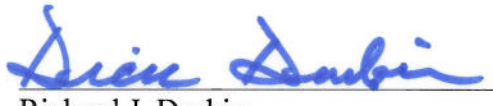
  
Kay R. Hagan  
United States Senator

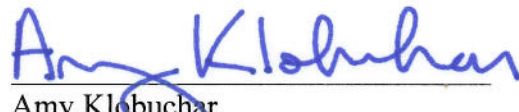
  
Debbie Stabenow  
United States Senator

  
Robert P. Casey, Jr.  
United States Senator

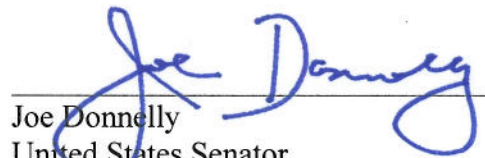
  
Mark L. Pryor  
United States Senator

  
Tom Harkin  
United States Senator

  
Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator

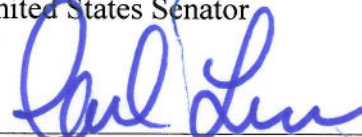
  
Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senator

  
Al Franken  
United States Senator

  
Joe Donnelly  
United States Senator



Sherrod Brown  
United States Senator



Carl Levin  
United States Senator



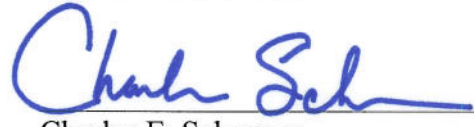
Mark R. Warner  
United States Senator



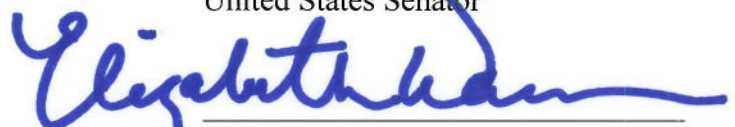
Kirsten E. Gillibrand  
United States Senator



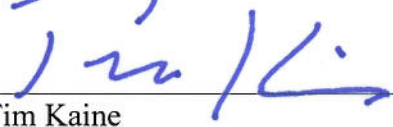
Bernard Sanders  
United States Senator



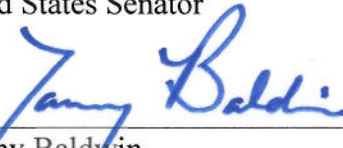
Charles E. Schumer  
United States Senator



Elizabeth Warren  
United States Senator



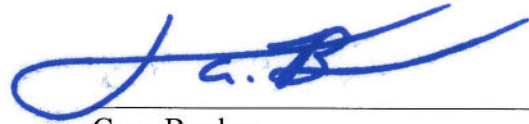
Tim Kaine  
United States Senator



Tammy Baldwin  
United States Senator



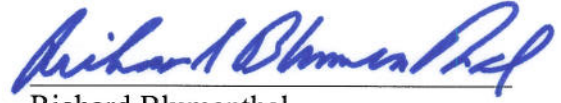
Barbara Mikulski  
United States Senator



Cory Booker  
United States Senator



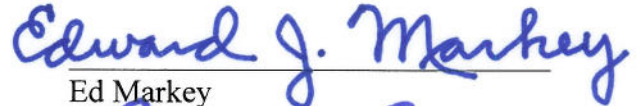
Mark Begich  
United States Senator



Richard Blumenthal  
United States Senator



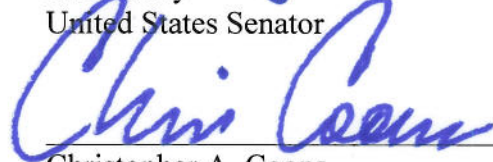
Jack Reed  
United States Senator



Ed Markey  
United States Senator



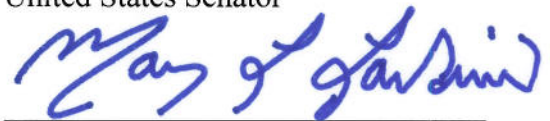
Christopher Murphy  
United States Senator



Christopher A. Coons  
United States Senator



Robert Menendez  
United States Senator



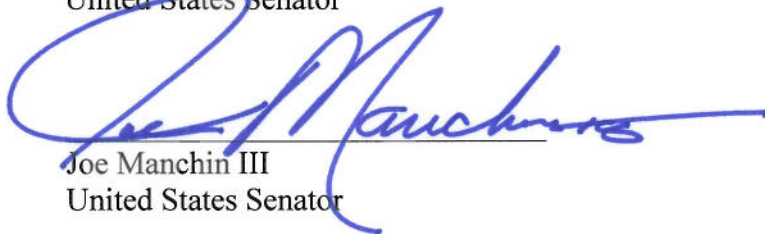
Mary L. Landrieu  
United States Senator



Sheldon Whitehouse  
United States Senator



Jeanne Shaheen  
United States Senator



Joe Manchin III  
United States Senator