

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 15, 2012

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Democratic Leader
House Ways and Means Committee
H-204 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Eric Cantor
Majority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
H-329 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Steny Hoyer
Democratic Whip
U.S. House of Representatives
H-148 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner, Leader Pelosi, Majority Leader Cantor, and Democratic Whip Hoyer:

We write to urge you to act expeditiously to bring to the House floor legislation in response to the decision issued by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit in *GPX International Tire Corporation, et al. v. United States*. This ruling would prevent the Commerce Department from applying tariffs to goods from countries including China that have been illegally subsidized. We were pleased by Ways and Means Chairman Camp's statement acknowledging the need for legislation that clarifies congressional intent that countervailing duties can be applied to goods from nonmarket economies (NMEs) under U.S. law. We ask you to bring this legislation to a vote as soon as possible. As Congress works to help the economy recover, it is particularly imperative that all trade enforcement tools remain available to the federal agencies tasked with ensuring American businesses and workers compete on a level playing field.

The United States is already at a disadvantage to China because Beijing has demonstrated a willingness to pursue national policies that violate international trade law. American manufacturers have suffered as a result. China's Five Year Plans for the clean energy and paper sectors, for example, have resulted in expansive, illegal subsidies to the explicit detriment of American companies. In the paper sector alone, China provided more than \$33.1 billion in subsidies from 2002 to 2009 and during that period overtook the U.S. as the world's largest producer of paper and paper products. American companies in these and other sectors rely on the countervailing duty (CVD) orders in place to combat these illicit subsidies and help them keep their doors open.

If Congress does not respond to the Court's ruling, American manufacturers' disadvantage will increase. There are currently 24 CVD orders in place against goods from NMEs: 23 target illegally subsidized goods from China and one of them targets goods from Vietnam. These orders ensure fair global competition for more than 230 U.S. companies and their workers in more than 200 congressional districts. Prohibiting the Commerce Department from imposing proportionate countervailing duties on goods from NMEs guarantees that these and other impacted American companies will continue to be at a competitive disadvantage to their Chinese counterparts.

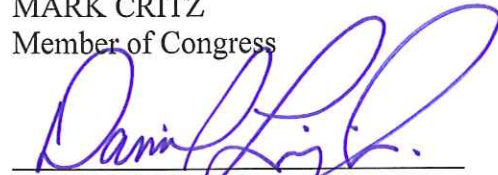
In 2010 our trade deficit in goods with China reached a new record of \$273 billion, a milestone expected to be passed in 2011. Without a complete set of tools to combat Beijing's persistent pattern of international trade law infringement, our trade imbalance will continue to skyrocket, and the number of American jobs sent offshore will continue to increase. Given the short timeline of the appeals process, there is not much time to address this. That is why we urge you to bring to the floor immediately legislation overturning the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Court's decision so that it may be signed into law as soon as possible.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter. We look forward to working with you to ensure American companies and workers compete on a level playing field.

Sincerely,


MICHAEL H. MICHAUD
Member of Congress


MARK CRITZ
Member of Congress



DANIEL LIPINSKI
Member of Congress



THADDEUS MCCOTTER
Member of Congress


STEVE STIVERS
Member of Congress


REID RIBBLE
Member of Congress


STEVEN LATOURETTE
Member of Congress


MARCY KAPTUR
Member of Congress


TIM RYAN
Member of Congress


LARRY KISSELL
Member of Congress


WALTER JONES
Member of Congress


ADAM KINZINGER
Member of Congress



PETER DEFAZIO
Member of Congress



HANK JOHNSON
Member of Congress



BOB GIBBS
Member of Congress



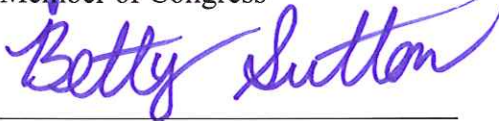
MIKE TURNER
Member of Congress



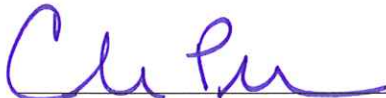
LINDA SANCHEZ
Member of Congress



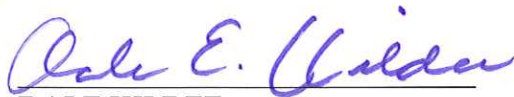
JASON ALTMIRE
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BETTY SUTTON
Member of Congress



CHELLIE PINGREE
Member of Congress



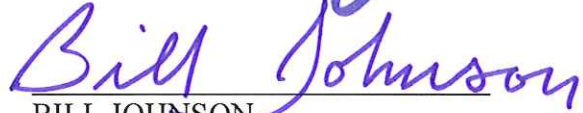
DALE KILDEE
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TIM HOLDEN
Member of Congress



DONALD MANZULLO
Member of Congress



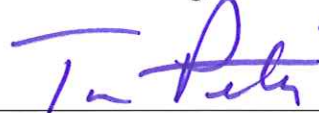
BILL JOHNSON
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GENE GREEN
Member of Congress



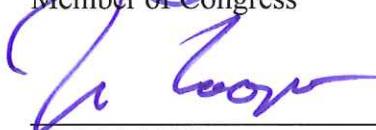
TAMMY BALDWIN
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THOMAS PETRI
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JAMES RENACCI
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JIM COOPER
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MARCIA FUDGE
Member of Congress



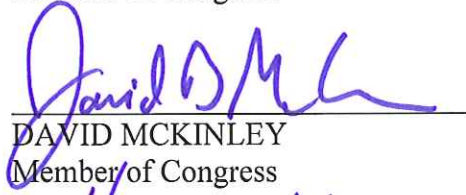
JAN SCHAKOWSKY
Member of Congress



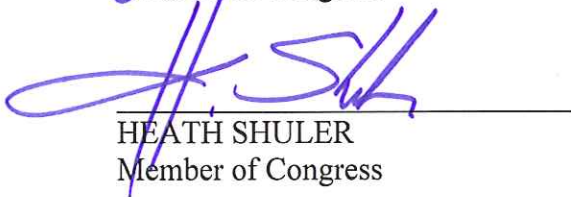
MIKE MCINTYRE
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DENNIS KUCINICH
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DAVID MCKINLEY
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HEATH SHULER
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LOUISE SLAUGHTER
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ROBERT SCHILLING
Member of Congress



TIM JOHNSON
Member of Congress



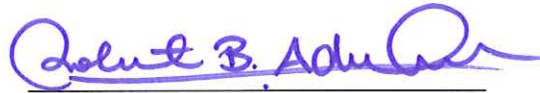
GWEN MOORE
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NICK RAHALL
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HANSEN CLARKE
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ROBERT ADERHOLT
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PETER VISCLOSKY
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