

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:

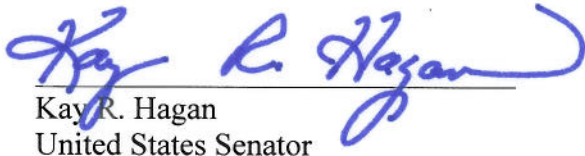
We are writing in strong support of the Department's decision to initiate antidumping and countervailing duty investigations of passenger vehicle and light truck tires from China.

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.

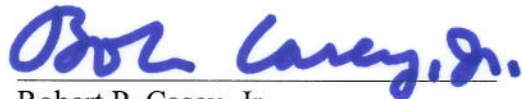
Unfortunately, shortly after relief expired, imports of these tires from China once again skyrocketed. Since the Section 421 relief ended in 2012, imports from China have roughly doubled. In response, on June 3, 2014, the United Steelworkers (USW) filed petitions with the Department alleging dumping 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.

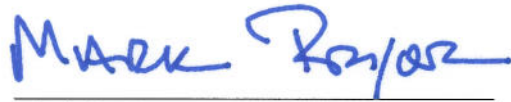
America's laws against unfair trade are a critical underpinning of our economic policies and economic prosperity. Given the chance, American workers can out-compete anyone. But, in the face of China's continual targeting of our manufacturing base, we need to make sure that we act quickly and enforce 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

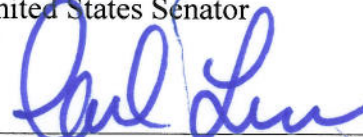

Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator


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



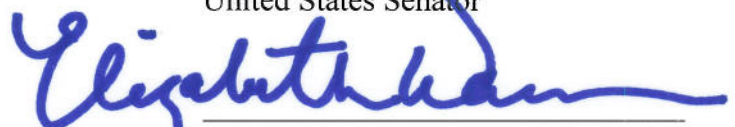
Kirsten E. Gillibrand
United States Senator



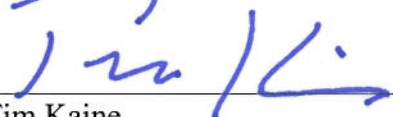
Bernard Sanders
United States Senator



Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator



Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator



Tim Kaine
United States Senator



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator

Barbara Mikulski

Barbara Mikulski
United States Senator

J. A. B.

Cory Booker
United States Senator

Mark Begich

Mark Begich
United States Senator

Richard Blumenthal

Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator

Jack Reed

Jack Reed
United States Senator

Edward J. Markey

Ed Markey
United States Senator

Christopher Murphy

Christopher Murphy
United States Senator

Chris Coons

Christopher A. Coons
United States Senator

Robert Menendez

Robert Menendez
United States Senator

Mary L. Landrieu

Mary L. Landrieu
United States Senator

Sheldon Whitehouse

Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator

Jeanne Shaheen

Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator

Joe Manchin III

Joe Manchin III
United States Senator