

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 13, 2018

The Honorable Rhonda Schnare Schmidlein
Chairman
United States International Trade Commission
500 E Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20436

Dear Madam Chairman:

As the International Trade Commission (ITC) nears a final vote on an antidumping and countervailing duty order on uncoated groundwood paper from Canada (Investigation Nos. 701-TA-584 and 731-TA-1382), we write to ask that you take into full consideration the negative impacts of these tariffs on the newspaper industry and other stakeholders in Illinois and throughout the United States.

We support the Administration's efforts to combat illegal trade practices and ensure a level playing field for American companies. However, we are concerned the tariffs on uncoated groundwood paper from Canada may cause long-term harm to domestic newsprint manufacturers and consumers.

Illinois is home to more than 450 daily and weekly newspapers. The preliminary ITC determination in the uncoated groundwood paper from Canada investigation has found that nearly 35.7 percent of Canadian newsprint imports entered the United States through the Midwest in 2016. Since 2000, demand for North American newsprint has already declined by about 75 percent. Our constituents have indicated that preliminary tariffs have already led to reduced publication size/frequency and reductions in workforce. If these tariffs become permanent this trend will become even more pronounced. Tariffs will jeopardize the amount of news and local coverage that constituents rely on in both big and small communities.

Due to the potential serious economic implications to Illinois print newspapers and newspapers across the country, we urge you to carefully consider the ramifications as you make your final determination. Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully,



Cheri Bustos
Member of Congress



Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress



Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



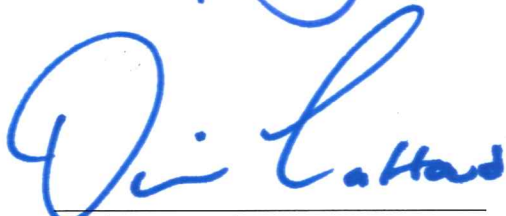
Adam Kinzinger
Member of Congress



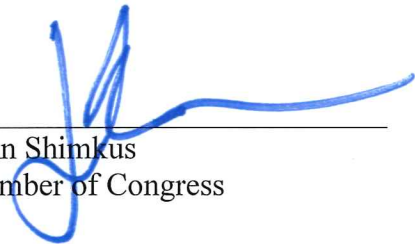
Randy Hultgren
Member of Congress



Rodney Davis
Member of Congress



Darin LaHood
Member of Congress



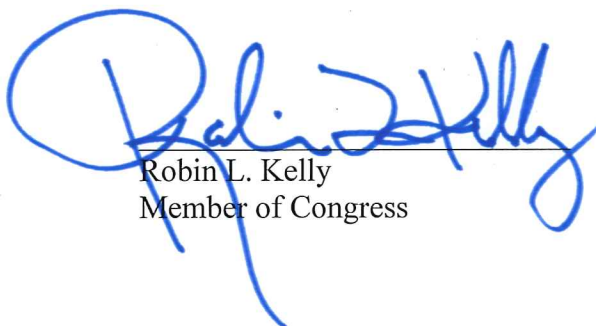
John Shimkus
Member of Congress



Daniel W. Lipinski
Member of Congress



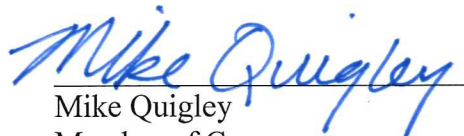
Mike Bost
Member of Congress



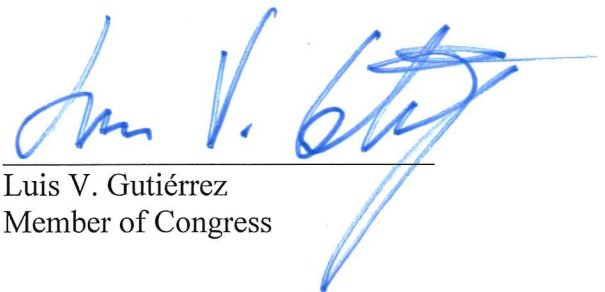
Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress




Peter J. Roskam
Member of Congress




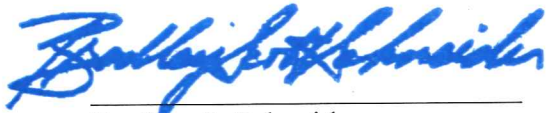
Mike Quigley
Member of Congress



Luis V. Gutiérrez
Member of Congress


Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress


Bill Foster
Member of Congress


Bradley S. Schneider
Member of Congress


Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress