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June 13, 2018

The Honorable Wilbur L. Ross, Jr.  
Secretary of Commerce  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

A-122-861;  
C-122-862  
Investigations  
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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Dear Secretary Ross:

On behalf of the constituents I represent who are employed in the manufacture of common alloy aluminum sheet in the United States, I write to express strong support for the U.S. Department of Commerce's preliminary antidumping determination in its investigation of imports from China. We appreciate your leadership in ensuring that our country's trade laws are enforced, and are grateful for your efforts in exercising the Department of Commerce's authority to self-initiate the on-going antidumping and countervailing duty investigations on imports of common alloy aluminum sheet from China.

The Commerce Department's investigations are vitally important to my constituents and to addressing the surge of low-priced common alloy aluminum sheet from China entering the United States. Imports of common alloy aluminum sheet from China have nearly doubled their share of the U.S. market between 2014 and 2017, and accounted for nearly 20 percent of the U.S. market in 2017. As a result of unfairly traded imports from China, U.S. producers of common alloy aluminum sheet have been forced to close facilities, terminate valued employees, and reduce prices in an effort to maintain their market share and run their mills at an efficient level in this capital intensive industry. Irrational expansions in China's capacity to produce aluminum sheet that far exceed domestic demand in China, as well as China's slowing economy, suggest that Chinese producers are likely to increase further the volume of their injurious exports to the United States, absent the issuance of a remedy.

The domestic common alloy aluminum sheet industry employs more than five thousand individuals directly and thousands more indirectly. U.S. aluminum sheet producers and their workers have the ability to compete with anyone in the world on a level playing field, but no workforce can compete against heavily subsidized and unfairly priced products. On behalf of my constituents, I encourage you to continue to move these important investigations forward, and I hope very much that the administration moves forward with action that holds China accountable without putting farmers and others at risk of retaliatory action.

Sincerely,

Dave Loeback  
Member of Congress