

October 2, 2026

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
House Democratic Leader

Dear Speaker Johnson and Leader Jeffries:

On behalf of the Alliance for Trade Enforcement NOW, we write to share our industry perspective as you consider the future of the House Select Committee on the Strategic Competition Between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party in the 120th Congress.

The Alliance for Trade Enforcement NOW is an industry-led coalition of American businesses and trade associations confronting trade crime firsthand. Our supporters span approximately 140 congressional districts and represent sectors including automotive parts, building products, cabinetry, aluminum extrusions, steel processing, consumer goods, seafood, textiles, e-commerce, warehousing, and logistics.

Our perspective comes from working closely with the Select Committee over several years. What began with individual companies bringing forward examples of trade crime evolved into something much more important: the Committee recognized that these were not isolated incidents, but symptoms of a broader systemic problem affecting American businesses across industries.

The Committee created a bipartisan rallying point around that problem. Members and staff held hearings, conducted investigative reviews, connected affected companies, and asked difficult questions about why unlawful trade practices could persist for years despite credible evidence brought forward by U.S. businesses. In doing so, the Committee was willing to look beyond the foreign perpetrator—pressing Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), the Department of Justice (DOJ), and other agencies on weaknesses in the enforcement system, while also questioning whether large U.S. purchasers whose supply chains were implicated had adequate incentives, controls, and accountability to identify and stop unlawful conduct.

The consequences extend beyond the companies that first identify a violation. Unfair competition threatens American workers throughout the supply chain, including in manufacturing, warehousing, transportation, and fulfillment. That work helped produce a legislative response.

Leaders on the Select Committee rallied a wide-ranging bipartisan coalition to help translate lessons drawn from industry and congressional oversight into the bipartisan Protecting American Industry and Labor from International Trade Crimes (PAIL) Act. The PAIL Act is designed to strengthen DOJ's ability to investigate and prosecute trade-related crimes while improving coordination and accountability across the enforcement system. The House passed PAIL on August 31, 2026, and the bill was received in the Senate on September 14, 2026.

That experience illustrates the Select Committee's value from our perspective: it can identify a systemic problem, bring the right parties together, challenge the system, and help turn what it learns into action.

We recognize that the Committee's mandate extends beyond business and trade. American industry nevertheless provides an important real-world lens into the broader strategic competition with China. The Committee's direct engagement with industry, alongside its work across national security, technology, foreign policy, and other areas, helps Congress understand where the United States is competing effectively, where vulnerabilities are emerging, and where policy may need to respond. In a strategic competition this consequential, maintaining a focused capability to gather information, test it against real-world experience, and identify emerging challenges provides Congress with insight that no single agency, industry, or stakeholder can provide on its own.

We respectfully ask you to continue the Select Committee in the 120th Congress and preserve its bipartisan engagement with American industry and workers.

Respectfully,



David Rashid
Executive Chairman, Plews & Edelman



Betsy Natz
Chief Executive Officer, Kitchen Cabinet Manufacturers Association



Milton M. Magnus III
CEO, M&B Metal Products Company



Bradford Muller
Vice President, Corporate Communications, Charlotte Pipe and Foundry Company



Ron Capranos
President, SHIP8 Inc.



Christopher Carney
General Counsel, FDP Virginia Inc.

Founding Members, Alliance for Trade EnforcementNOW on behalf of participating American manufacturers and businesses, and the American workers they employ.