

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

August 4, 2025

Hon. Howard W. Lutnick
Secretary of Commerce
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Ambassador Jamieson Greer
United States Trade Representative
Office of the United States Trade Representative
600 17th Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20508

Dear Secretary Lutnick and Ambassador Greer,

As Chairman and Vice Chairman of the bipartisan Congressional Steel Caucus, we write in strong support of the American steel industry and its workers, and we urge you to uphold a robust Section 232 steel program as you engage in negotiations with our trading partners. The domestic steel industry, which includes producers and fabricators, provides for thousands of good-paying jobs across the country and serves as the backbone for the automotive manufacturing, construction, defense, energy, and transportation industries. In order to preserve the health and strength of this critical industry, we must ensure that there are adequate protections and policies in place to allow domestic steelmakers and their workers to compete not just in the U.S. but globally.

Since implementation in 2018, Section 232 measures have been integral in countering unfair trade practices. However, the inability to reach a multi-lateral agreement to contain global excess steel capacity, driven by non-market economies, combined with past agreements that were not dynamic enough to respond to surges weakened the program's effectiveness and allowed for global steel oversupply to quickly flood the U.S. market. It is clear that there must be more robust protections in place.

Now is not the time to waver on our shared commitment to a strong and sustainable American steel industry. Global market conditions are becoming increasingly challenging, with weakening demand coinciding with continued, unchecked capacity expansion. The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) recently projected that global steel overcapacity will grow by nearly 120 million metric tons in the coming years—reaching a staggering 721 million metric tons by 2027. To put this in perspective, that figure is roughly nine times the total U.S. steel production in 2024. In combination with stagnant demand, overcapacity is driving a sustained surge in exports from countries that produce far more than they consume. Notably, exports from China hit a record 118 million metric tons in 2024, displacing production globally.

We support the Administration's efforts thus far to protect American steel production through the strengthening and expansion of Section 232 measures and encourage you to regularly update the Steel Caucus on your efforts. The Section 232 program is critical to the steel industry and to U.S. national security. We urge you not to accept any arrangements that will weaken the program and undermine the President's national security objectives. Additionally, we urge you to continue promoting policies that crack down on unfair trade practices, close prior loopholes that have directly harmed domestic producers, and allow the American steel industry and its workers to thrive.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your continued commitment to supporting the critical national security imperative of maintaining a strong and healthy domestic steel industry.

Sincerely,



Rick Crawford
Member of Congress
Chairman
Congressional Steel Caucus



Frank J. Mrvan
Member of Congress
Vice Chairman
Congressional Steel Caucus