

March 2, 2018

The Honorable Donald Trump
President of the United States of America
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump:

As representatives of thousands of businesses across the United States, we are concerned with the recently released report by the Department of Commerce entitled "The Effects of Imports of Aluminum on the National Security" (the Report).

After reviewing the Report, our industries are worried that all of the remedies recommended are overly-broad, and will have severe detrimental impact on downstream users of aluminum. We understand, and endorse your goal of supporting the domestic aluminum smelting industry, however, it is our belief that rather than strengthening domestic producers, global tariffs and quotas on aluminum will injure their customers and lead to the loss of tens of thousands of American manufacturing jobs. The remedies in the Report will not bring smelting jobs back to the U.S., but trade restrictions on aluminum will lead to more downstream aluminum-containing products coming into the U.S., all imported tariff free. Historical and current data shows that the remedies prescribed in the Report will only raise the global price of aluminum for our industries that use aluminum. In fact, since the Report was released, the Midwest Premium Price for aluminum has increased by 40%.

Most importantly, we are concerned that the remedies in the Report will impede our ability to maintain our current workforce and create new jobs. Approximately 97% of aluminum jobs are downstream jobs. Quite simply, as aluminum costs continue to rise and availability decreases, it impedes the ability for downstream manufacturers, and the suppliers and retailers reliant upon them, to reinvest in their workforce.

Thank you for your efforts to support manufacturing in America. We hope that you will look at the entire aluminum industry and exercise caution when making a final determination about the recommendations in the Report. We believe all of the options provided in the Report will endanger job growth for downstream aluminum users, which would negate any benefit to producers. We look forward to working with you on solutions that will benefit both aluminum producers and aluminum users.

Sincerely,

Aluminum Extruders Council
American Beverage Association
Association of Equipment Manufacturers
Beer Institute
Brewers Association
Can Manufacturers Institute
Flexible Packaging Association
Grocery Manufacturers Association
Motor Equipment Manufacturers Association
National Association of Trailer Manufacturers

National Beer Wholesalers Association
National Confectioners Association
National Electrical Manufacturers Association
National Marine Manufacturers Association
National Tooling and Machining Association
Precision Machined Products Association
Precision Metalforming Association
SNAC International
Truck Trailer Manufacturers Association