

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

November 28, 2017

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Trump:

We write in advance of the upcoming Global Steel Forum meeting to underscore the importance of addressing global steel overcapacity to the U.S. steel industry and its workers. Until net steel capacity in China and other countries is reduced, unfairly traded steel imports will continue to flood into the U.S. and domestic steel companies and American steelworkers will be at risk for more layoffs and idled facilities.

The Forum presents an opportunity for this Administration to meet with our trading partners at very high-levels and discuss the solutions, including enforcement actions, needed to respond to global steel market distortions. In addition, the meeting will allow the U.S. to continue building support among other countries whose steelworkers and producers are similarly facing the consequences of the worldwide steel excess. We know diplomacy alone will not convince countries, particularly China, to permanently reduce steel production capacity. But it is critical that we continue to grow and maintain a coalition of our trading partners who agree this is a top global economic priority and who will commit to taking meaningful action to address it.

International negotiations to reduce steel capacity are unlikely to produce real results without trade enforcement actions that address its underlying causes. Therefore, we urge your Administration to develop a comprehensive enforcement plan to address the global steel crisis. Most immediately, we urge you to reach a swift conclusion in the Section 232 investigation into steel imports. We appreciate your Administration's recent reaffirmation of China's nonmarket economy status, and we applaud the recent strong preliminary determinations in steel-related trade cases. Steel overcapacity, however, cannot be resolved with only these short-term solutions. We believe a long-term enforcement approach is the only way to obtain the relief American steel industry and its steelworkers need.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter. We look forward to working with you to prioritize the global steel overcapacity problem and to ensure American steel companies and steelworkers are able to compete on a level playing field.

Sincerely,



Sherrod Brown
United States Senator



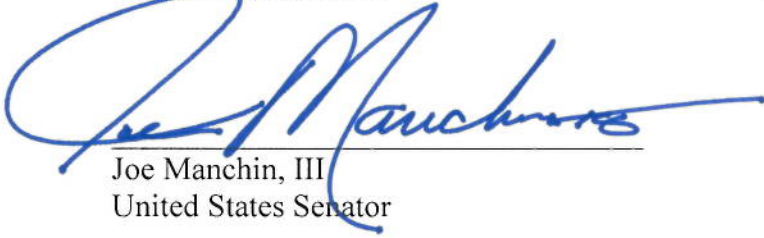
Rob Portman
United States Senator



Todd Young
United States Senator



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