



December 12, 2024

The Honorable Ron Wyden  
Chairman  
Senate Committee on Finance  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Crapo  
Ranking Member  
Senate Committee on Finance  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Wyden and Ranking Member Crapo:

As you know, in late November President Biden announced his intent to nominate Republican Halie Craig and Democrat Jim Coughlan as Commissioners to the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC). The Committee to Support US Trade Laws (CSUSTL) opposes action on ITC nominations this year and asks that you suspend further consideration of these nominations.

In recent years, thousands of companies, farms, fishermen, and unions, across the nation, have seen their communities and local economies destroyed by unfairly traded imports. American workers and consumers sent a clear message through the U.S. elections for the strong enforcement of our trade remedy laws against illegal dumping and subsidization. To be viable, ITC nominees should likewise display a steadfast commitment to remedying unfair and harmful imports.

The ITC plays a vital role in enforcing the nation's trade remedy laws, and additional time for the traditional vetting processes and input from congressional constituents should be allowed to ensure that the Commissioners appointed to this key agency will enforce and apply to the trade remedy laws in the manner intended by Congress. It would, therefore, be particularly inappropriate to confirm any nominee to the ITC that has expressed personal opposition to the use of tariffs to remedy unfair foreign practices.

Further, there is not sufficient time in the current Congress adequately to evaluate the proposed nominations. A rushed review will prevent Congress from confirming that the nominees meet the demanding requirements for an ITC Commissioner, as well as their adherence to the standards and expectations of the American people for strong enforcement of our trade laws.

Thank you for consideration of our request.

CSUSTL is a national organization of companies, trade associations, labor unions, law firms and individuals located in all 50 states of the nation and is committed to preserving and enhancing U.S. trade laws and supporting trade policies that benefit the United States-based productive economy. CSUSTL consists of 434 companies, unions and organizations representing 171 industries, including manufacturing, technology, agriculture, mining, energy, and services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark B. Benedict", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Mark B. Benedict  
President  
Committee To Support US Trade Laws (CSUSTL)