



Leo W. Gerard
International President

September 28, 2006

VIA FAX

United States Senate
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

Dear Member of Congress:

Enforcing our trade laws against an onslaught of unfairly priced imports must be a priority. Our citizens deserve to know that, when they work hard and play by the rules, their government will stand up for their interests and stop the unfair and predatory trade practices of our trading partners.

I am writing on behalf of the 850,000 members of the United Steelworkers union (USW) to seek your support for action at the International Trade Commission to ensure that unfairly priced imports do not jeopardize their livelihoods and the health of their communities.


On October 17, the International Trade Commission (ITC) will hold a sunset review hearing on imports of corrosion resistant steel. The facts speak for themselves: **This was evidenced by the Department of Commerce when it issued its final determinations in these reviews on June 6 indicating that, if the orders were revoked, imports from every subject country would likely be traded unfairly.** The members of my union, and your constituents, deserve to know that their elected representatives will demand that our trade laws be fully and faithfully enforced. Your support of maintaining the current dumping margins when the ITC holds its hearing on this matter is vital.

This issue should unite all those who seek a fair and level playing field in trade. Our nation's \$700 billion plus-trade deficit is testimony to the fact that the American market is the most open in the world; **we do not need to ease the way for more products – unfairly priced – to flood our markets.** Dumping margins as high as 36% were imposed on certain producers reflecting the significant pricing impact these imports have been having on some of our markets. Lifting these orders could devastate our producers and, in turn, the workers, here in America.

There is no question as to the availability of the product; the question is whether we should allow unfairly priced products to enter our market. **Fairly priced products are available to serve the needs of consumers.** Our laws must be used to stop the cheaters from undermining our nation's interests and jeopardizing the livelihoods of hard-working Americans all across this country. They deserve to know that their elected representatives are putting their interests first.

I hope that we can work together on this vital matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leo W. Gerard". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "L" and "G".

Leo W. Gerard
International President

LWG/pak

c: USW Exec. Board