Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

December 20, 2021

The Honorable Gina M. Raimondo Secretary U.S. Department of Commerce 1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Secretary Raimondo:

We are writing in response to the Department of Commerce's decision to increase antidumping and countervailing duties on certain softwood lumber products from Canada. We are very concerned about the implications this action will have on new housing construction and the costs faced by hardworking American families.

Historically high lumber and building material prices continue to imperil the U.S. housing sector and the jobs of the skilled workers in this sector. Housing construction is an important contributor to the U.S. economy, especially as the nation continues to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. However, this success is at risk as the construction industry faces a dramatic increase in the costs of materials.

While lumber prices began a sharp decline in May, it took months for a meaningful portion of those decreases to reach the construction industry and its customers. Unfortunately, prices began rising again in September and have increased substantially in the past weeks.

Our understanding is the U.S. and Canadian Governments discussed this matter earlier this year and expressed mutual interest in addressing this longstanding dispute. We are supportive of these efforts and request that all parties come to the negotiating table to reach a balanced agreement that counters unfair trade practices. Such an agreement would be in the interests of the United States because it would provide predictability to homebuilders and job security for the millions of hardworking Americans who apply their skills every day in the construction industry. Resolving this matter in a balanced way would help the economy recover from the disruptions of the past year. We, as Members of Congress, stand ready to discuss this issue and potential solutions with you.

Sincerely,

Kevin Hern

Member of Congress

Brian Higgins

Sua Titus

Dina Titus Member of Congress

BI Mill

Bob Gibbs Member of Congress

Bill Johnson

Bill Johnson Member of Congress

Rick Allen
Member of Congress

Mary E Miller
Mary E Miller
Member of Congress

David Kustoff Member of Congress

Neal P. Dunn, M.D. Member of Congress Chris Jacobs
Member of Congress

Michael Turner
Member of Congress

Brian Fitzpatrick Member of Congress

Doug Lamborn Member of Congress

Tim Walberg Member of Congress

Peter Meijer
Member of Congress

Brad R. Wenstrup, D.P.M. Member of Congress Mil 29

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Cindy Axne Member of Congress

Burgess Owens Member of Congress

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Mariannette Miller-Meeks, M.D.
Member of Congress

David B. McKinley, P.E. Member of Congress

J. Luis Correa Member of Congress

Ronny Jackson

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Sharice L. Davids Member of Congress

Jackie Walorski Member of Congress

David G. Valadao Member of Congress

Scott Perry Member of Congress

Betty McCollum Member of Congress

William Timmons
Member of Congress

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Debbie Lesko Member of Congress

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Ben Cline Member of Congress

Donald J. Bacon Member of Congress

Ashley Hinson

Member of Congress

Darin LaHood Member of Congress Jimmy Panetta Member of Congress

Warren Davidson Member of Congress

Dan Bishop Member of Congress

Larry Bucshon, M.D. Member of Congress

John Ow Rose

John Rose

Member of Congress

Chip Roy

Member of Congress

Ron Kind

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Ralph Norman Member of Congress

Bill Posey

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Ken Calvert

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Jodey C. Arrington Member of Congress

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Tony Cárdenas
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Member of Congress

Norma J. Torres

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Roger Heinni S

Roger Williams Member of Congress

David P. Joyce Member of Congress

Fred Upton
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Anthony Gonzalez Member of Congress

Scott Franklin Member of Congress

Scott H. Peters Member of Congress

Clarence Owens
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Dlem Grothmun

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Lloyd Smucker Member of Congress

Steven Horsford Member of Congress

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Tom Emmer Member of Congress

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Steve Chabot Member of Congress

Jim Costa

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Raja Krishnamoorthi Member of Congress

Randy Weber¹

Member of Congress

Elise Stefanik

Member of Congress

Joe Courtney

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Stephanie L. Bire

Stephanie Bice Member of Congress Kelly Armstrong Member of Congress

Vicente Gonzalez
Member of Congress

James Comer Member of Congress

Tedd Budd Member of Congress Billy Long

Member of Congress

Young Kim Member of Congress

Kay Granger Member of Congress

Jay Obernolte

Member of Congress

Andy Harris, M.D. Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Michael Cloud

Ed Perlmutter

Judy Chu Judy Chu Member oi Congress

Cc: The Honorable Katherine Tai, USTR