

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

August 2, 2018

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump:

We urge you to take executive action to promote the development of a United States value chain for finished rare earth products and counter China's global monopoly in this industry. Using your authority under the Defense Production Act, we believe you can take immediate action to introduce competition in the international marketplace for rare earth materials and parts to the benefit of the United States and our allies.

As you know, rare earth products serve a vital function in a number of key industrial supply chains, including the production of advance technologies essential to our national security. While the United States has abundant rare earth resources, we currently lack a domestic value chain to turn those resources into usable rare earth materials and parts.

As a result, China has monopolized the rare earth resource supply chain and used its market power to force the transfer of advanced manufacturing and intellectual property into its own economy. China's strategy to control rare earth manufacturing and critical parts for our military has been highly effective. According to the U.S. Geological Survey, China controls more than ninety-five percent of the global rare-earth minerals production. At the same time, the United States is one hundred percent import-reliant for all of the seventeen minerals that constitute the rare-earth minerals group. Even more concerning, the United States has no comprehensive strategy to re-establish a domestic value chain. Our inaction has led to a disastrous loss of innovation and advanced manufacturing jobs, and threatens to compromise our national security.

We encourage you to use your existing authority under the Defense Production Act to issue an executive order allowing for a Rare Earth Value Chain Cooperative: a domestic, market-insulated cooperative that would be privately funded and managed. Shielded from China's mercantilism, this American cooperative could break a global monopoly and supply the free world with its advanced manufacturing and national security needs.

Thank you for considering this action. We look forward to working with you on this and many other issues that will strengthen our national security and restore our manufacturing base.

Sincerely,



Dennis A. Ross
Member of Congress



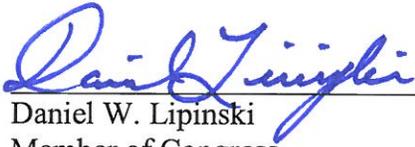
Tim Ryan
Member of Congress



Marcy Kaptur
Member of Congress



Darren Soto
Member of Congress



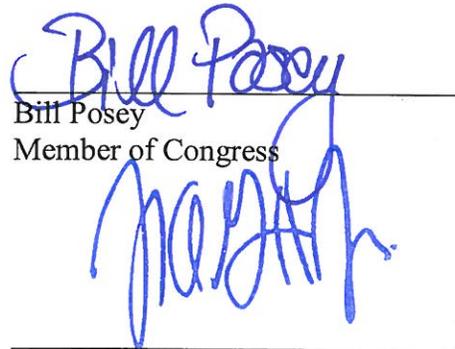
Daniel W. Lipinski
Member of Congress



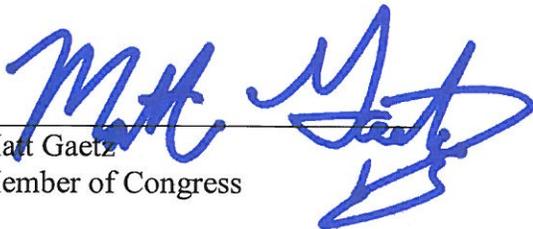
K. Michael Conaway
Member of Congress



Steve King
Member of Congress



Bill Posey
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Matt Gaetz
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Thomas A. Garrett, Jr.
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John Culberson
Member of Congress

CC The Honorable Wilbur Ross
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