

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

March 27, 2017

The Honorable Wilbur Ross  
Secretary of Commerce  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Secretary Ross:

We write to invite you to visit Lorain, Ohio, to meet with steel companies and steelworkers. This community has been hit hard by the downturn in the steel sector and would benefit from hearing you discuss the Administration's plan to help defend U.S. steel companies from unfair trade practices that have caused numerous facilities to idle and thousands of workers to be laid off across the country.

As you may know, United States Steel Corporation recently announced the permanent idling of its No. 6 Quench and Temper facility in Lorain. This announcement followed news from Republic Steel that it would shutter its nearby facility and lay off 200 workers. In total, more than 1,000 steelworkers in Lorain have been laid off since 2015. A similar trend has been seen nationwide. Between January 2015 and December 2016, more than 14,000 U.S. steelworkers lost their jobs.

If unfair trade practices by China and other trading partners are left unaddressed, more steelworkers will be laid off and more steel mills will be closed. We were pleased to hear President Trump highlight the importance of the steel sector on the campaign trail, and we know you have extensive experience in the sector as well. We hope you will work with us to schedule a visit to Lorain in the near future so you can discuss with these workers and their families the Administration's plan to restore strength to the sector by creating a level playing field for U.S. steel producers.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

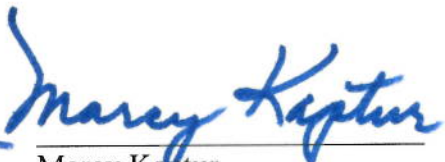
Sincerely,



Sherrod Brown  
United States Senator



Rob Portman  
United States Senator



Marcy Kaptur  
Member of Congress