

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 17, 2020

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Acting Commissioner Mark A. Morgan
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
1300 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, D.C. 20229

Dear Mr. President and Acting Commissioner Morgan,

The Chinese Communist Party's nefarious agenda is beyond dispute. In Wuhan, Hong Kong, and Xinjiang, Chinese leaders have hidden the truth, abused natural rights, and caused untold suffering. While considering further steps to counter the Chinese regime's dangerous behavior, we encourage you to continue to examine options already available to ensure American consumers and businesses do not participate in China's natural rights abuses such as forced labor or ethnic slavery.

One potent tool in existing statute is Section 307 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. § 1307). Under this provision of law, the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is directed to prohibit goods from importation if he determines that those goods have been produced, wholly or in part, by convict, forced, or indentured labor.

Reports of forced-labor "reeducation camps" in China's Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region are particularly alarming. There is significant, publicly available evidence suggesting that religious and ethnic minority citizens in Xinjiang are being forcibly detained, indoctrinated, and conscripted into labor against their will. Most recently, according to media reports, Uyghurs have been forcibly transported to work in factories in COVID-19 infected areas to keep supply chains running. Disturbing reports of forced acts of sacrilege, anti-religious statist indoctrination, and forced abortions and sterilizations abound from the region.

We were pleased to see this week that CBP invoked its Section 307 authority to block the importation of certain goods from Xinjiang. While we applaud all that you have done to combat Chinese aggression and abuses of natural rights, we encourage you to continue to investigate the region to determine whether any additional withhold release orders ought to be issued. Such an investigation could further strengthen the United States' already robust response to the oppression and evil perpetuated by this communist regime.

Sincerely,



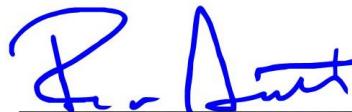
Michael S. Lee
United States Senator



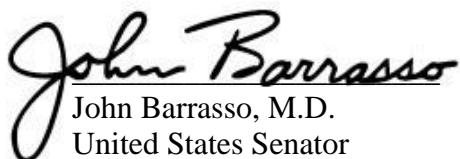
Roy Blunt
United States Senator



Mike Braun
United States Senator



Rick Scott
United States Senator



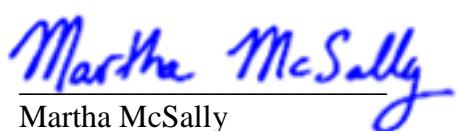
John Barrasso, M.D.
United States Senator



M. Michael Rounds
United States Senator



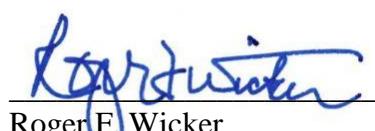
Thom Tillis
United States Senator



Martha McSally
United States Senator



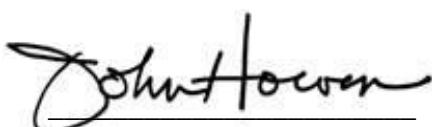
John Thune
United States Senator



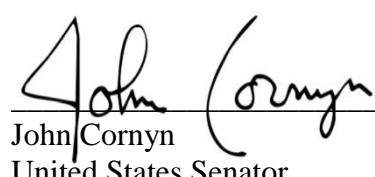
Roger F. Wicker
United States Senator



James M. Inhofe
United States Senator



John Hoeven
United States Senator



John Cornyn
United States Senator