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March 3, 2021

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As a Democratic state representative from Cambria County in central Pennsylvania, I'm formally asking that your administration put American workers first by extending the tariffs on foreign steel and aluminum put in place by former President Trump in 2018.

Given your strong ties to Pennsylvania, you are keenly aware of the devastating impact that the decline of the steel and manufacturing industries – much of it due to unfair trade -- has had on our Commonwealth.

Your administration has been hailed as the dawn of a new era of bipartisanship and cooperation, thus, I'd like you to join me, the United Steelworkers, and the American Manufacturing Association in continuing to protect our domestic steel industry from an onslaught of the unfair trade practices.

Western Pennsylvania families have been hurting for decades as good-paying steel and manufacturing jobs disappeared or were shipped overseas as a result of unfair and, in many cases, government-subsidized competition. To help reverse this economically damaging trend, at the state level I have authored a three-bill "American Made Jobs Plan" that would require the use of U.S.-made steel in all underground pipeline projects and would require American-made products be used in any construction project that receives taxpayer funding.

Still, it's imperative that something be done at the federal level. I supported these tariffs under President Trump – and I will continue supporting them with equal vigor under the Biden administration. We must set political affiliation aside and come together on issues that affect us as Americans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Frank Burns", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Frank Burns
State Representative
72nd Legislative District