



October 30, 2026

The Honorable Jamieson Greer
United States Trade Representative
Office of the United States Trade Representative
600 17th Street NW
Washington, DC 20508

Re: “Request for Comments on Further Suspension of Section 301 Action: China's Targeting of the Maritime, Logistics, and Shipbuilding Sectors for Dominance.” Docket Number USTR-2026-0694.

Dear Ambassador Greer:

The National Foreign Trade Council (NFTC) is writing in response to the Office of the United States Trade Representative's (USTR) invitation, published in the [Federal Register](#) on October 26, 2026, to submit comments on the “Further Suspension of Section 301 Action: China's Targeting of the Maritime, Logistics, and Shipbuilding Sectors for Dominance.”

The NFTC, organized in 1914, is an association of U.S. business enterprises engaged in all aspects of international trade and investment. Our membership covers the full spectrum of industrial, commercial, financial, and service activities, accounting for over \$6 trillion in revenue and employing nearly 6 million people in the United States.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide input on the proposed further suspension, and we appreciate the consideration you provided for our past comments. NFTC strongly supports the suspension for at least two months of the fees on maritime transport services imposed pursuant to the Section 301 investigation into China's Targeting of the Maritime, Logistics, and Shipbuilding Sectors for Dominance.

In [NFTC's initial comments](#) on the proposed remedies in this investigation, we expressed support for your efforts to reinvigorate the U.S. shipbuilding industry. However, we also expressed a number of concerns with the vessel fees and other restrictions adopted in response to this investigation. For example, NFTC remains concerned that the Annex III RoRo vessel provisions extend beyond China to affect carriers from allied nations, and we welcome USTR's careful consideration of the resulting impacts on U.S. manufacturers and exporters. In addition, we recommended the removal of Annex IV, which poses challenges to the continued strength of the U.S. LNG industry and U.S. energy leadership due to unique technical and market realities.

Suspending these fees for at least two months and continuing to engage China to obtain the elimination of the acts, policies, and practices covered in this investigation is an appropriate and welcome decision aligned with the continued dialogues led by President Trump and President Xi Jinping of China.

In addition, we urge USTR to engage in further consultation with stakeholders prior to reimposing any measures at the conclusion of the suspension.

Thank you again for this opportunity to comment. As always, we welcome continued dialogue on ways to improve the Section 301 process while ensuring key national security objectives are met. I would be happy to provide further comment or answer any questions you may have, and can be reached at: tsmith@nftc.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Tiffany Smith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Tiffany" and last name "Smith" clearly distinguishable.

Tiffany Smith
Vice President, Global Trade Policy
National Foreign Trade Council