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RANKING MEMBER

ONE HUNDRED SIXTEENTH CONGRESS  
**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE**  
2125 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6115  
Majority (202) 225-2927  
Minority (202) 225-3641  
July 27, 2022

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

Dear President Biden:

We write in strong opposition to any effort by your administration to manipulate the market for crude oil and petroleum products through a ban on exports. Banning oil exports would destroy American jobs and lead to higher energy prices for the hardworking people of this country already suffering under record high inflation. Furthermore, banning American oil exports would punish our allies in Europe and Asia who desperately seek to reduce their reliance on OPEC and Russia for oil. The only beneficiary of a ban on American oil exports would be Russia, which would gain geopolitical leverage over our allies and additional revenue to finance the unjustified war on Ukraine.

Since you have taken office, the prices of crude oil and many energy commodities have risen to record highs. Retail gasoline prices have more than doubled, now exceeding \$6 per gallon in some parts of the country. The energy crisis gripping the nation is exacerbated by your administration's mismanagement of the economy, which has led to the highest level of inflation since 1981.

Your administration's anti-fossil fuel agenda is significantly contributing to higher bills for American families and businesses. During your 2020 presidential campaign, you promised to phase out fossil fuels and end all new drilling. On your first day in office, you followed through on this promise and revoked the Keystone XL pipeline and imposed a moratorium on fossil energy development on Federal lands and waters. Over the past year-and-a-half, you have issued executive orders and regulations to stifle investments in fossil fuels and slow permitting and construction of much needed energy infrastructure. You have also liquidated the nation's

Strategic Petroleum Reserve, leaving America unprepared to respond to an energy supply emergency or a natural disaster. Your administration's anti-fossil fuel regulatory actions, combined with your intent to advance a radical "rush to green" environmental agenda, has done severe damage to America's energy industry.

As you know, America was a net energy exporter in 2019 for the first time since 1952. At the beginning of 2020, prior to the global supply interruptions and demand shocks created by the COVID-19 pandemic, U.S. oil production peaked at 13 million barrels per day, while gasoline prices remained below \$2.50 per gallon. We are deeply concerned that your anti-fossil fuel agenda, including any attempt to impose a ban on American oil exports, destroys the policies that allowed the United States to become the world's leading oil producer and provided the American people with much more affordable and reliable energy supplies.

Imposing an oil export ban would raise the U.S. trade deficit and make us more reliant on foreign oil. In 2015, when Congress passed bipartisan legislation to repeal 1970's-era restrictions on crude oil exports, it found that "the United States upholds a commitment to free trade and open markets and has consistently opposed attempts by other nations to restrict the free flow of energy; and, the United States should remove all restrictions on the export of crude oil, which will provide domestic economic benefits, enhanced energy security, and flexibility in foreign diplomacy."<sup>1</sup> Before your Administration took office, the United States emerged as the world's leading energy producer and a net energy exporter, and American oil production was wisely treated as an arsenal of energy security. Prior to your Administration, and as a direct result of Congress lifting the crude oil export ban, OPEC and Russian power over world oil markets had been substantially diminished, and America's trading partners had a more stable and reliable supplier for crude oil.

A ban on American crude oil or petroleum product exports would be detrimental to our national security and economy. As the House Energy and Commerce Committee noted in its report accompanying bipartisan passage of the legislation lifting the export ban, "export restrictions impose costs on the economy, discourage additional domestic crude oil production, result in higher gasoline prices for consumers, and reduce competition in world oil markets."<sup>2</sup>

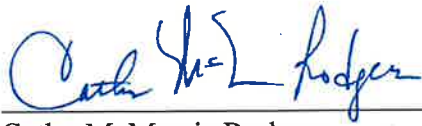
We strongly discourage you from imposing any restrictions on the export of crude oil or petroleum products.

Sincerely,

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<sup>1</sup> To adapt to changing crude oil market conditions, H.R. 702, 114<sup>th</sup> Cong. (2015).

<sup>2</sup> H.R. Rep. No. 114-267 (2015).



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Cathy McMorris Rodgers  
Republican Leader  
Committee on Energy and Commerce



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Fred Upton  
Republican Leader  
Subcommittee on Energy



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Garret Graves  
Republican Leader  
Select Committee on Climate Crisis



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Dan Crenshaw  
Member of Congress



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Robert Aderholt  
Member of Congress



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Rick Allen  
Member of Congress



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Kelly Armstrong  
Member of Congress



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Brian Babin, D.D.S.  
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Jack Bergman  
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Mike Bost  
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Kevin Brady  
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Vern Buchanan  
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Larry Bucshon  
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Michael Burgess, M.D.  
Member of Congress



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Kat Cammack  
Member of Congress



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Mike Carey  
Member of Congress



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Earl L. "Buddy" Carter  
Member of Congress



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Madison Cawthorn  
Member of Congress



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Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



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Liz Cheney  
Member of Congress



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Ben Cline  
Member of Congress



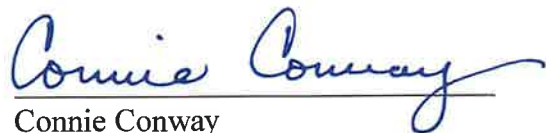
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Michael Cloud  
Member of Congress



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Tom Cole  
Member of Congress



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Connie Conway  
Member of Congress



Rick Crawford  
Member of Congress



John Curtis  
Member of Congress



Byron Donalds  
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Jeff Duncan  
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Neal Dunn  
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Clay Higgins  
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Ashley Hinson  
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Mike Johnson  
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Robert E. Latta  
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Billy Long  
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Richard Hudson  
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Dusty Johnson  
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David P. Joyce  
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Fred Keller  
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Doug Lamborn  
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Jake LaTurner  
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Frank Lucas  
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Tracey Mann  
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Kevin McCarthy  
Member of Congress



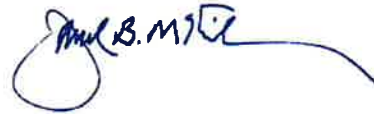
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Lisa McClain  
Member of Congress



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Tom McClintock  
Member of Congress



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David B. McKinley  
Member of Congress



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Peter Meijer  
Member of Congress



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Carol Miller  
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Mary Miller  
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Mariannette Miller-Meeks  
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Markwayne Mullin  
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Dan Newhouse  
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Ralph Norman  
Member of Congress



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Steven M. Palazzo  
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Gary Palmer  
Member of Congress



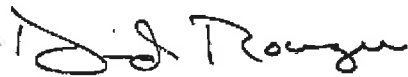
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Scott Perry  
Member of Congress



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Guy Reschenthaler  
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David Rouzer  
Member of Congress



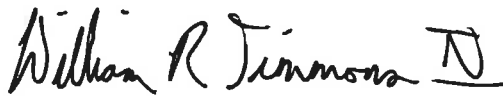
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Austin Scott  
Member of Congress



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Jason Smith  
Member of Congress



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William R. Timmons, IV  
Member of Congress



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Greg Pence  
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August Pfluger  
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Matt Rosendale  
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Steve Scalise  
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Adrian Smith  
Member of Congress



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Elise Stefanik  
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David Valadao  
Member of Congress





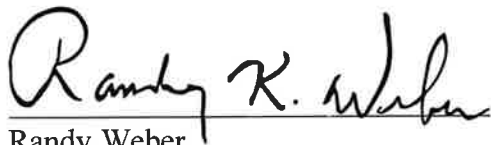
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Beth Van Duyne  
Member of Congress



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Tim Walberg  
Member of Congress



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Randy Weber  
Member of Congress



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Roger Williams  
Member of Congress



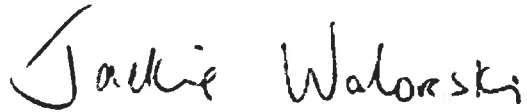
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Steve Womack  
Member of Congress



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Ann Wagner  
Member of Congress



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Jackie Walorski  
Member of Congress



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Bruce Westerman  
Member of Congress



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Robert J. Wittman  
Member of Congress