The Honorable Wilbur Ross,
Secretary, Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20230

June 23, 2017

Dear Secretary Ross:

We write to request that you carefully weigh exempting consumer aluminum foil and aluminum container stock (USHTS codes 7607.11.6000 and 7607.11.9090) in the Section 232 investigation prompted by the Presidential Memorandum for the Secretary of Commerce dated April 27, 2017 related to aluminum imports. Without an exemption, there is the potential for significant job losses, and Americans throughout the country could face an immediate increase in consumer prices.

Congress provided the Secretary of Commerce the ability to launch investigations, known as “Section 232 investigations,” to determine whether importing certain foreign products negatively affects national security. The Section 232 process was designed to be, and has historically been, tailored to specific products based on clear national security concerns. Additionally the Secretary of Commerce rarely conducts Section 232 investigations and last conducted such an investigation in 2001. We believe that this action should be narrowly tailored to include only imports closely associated with our national security. We do not believe household aluminum foil or aluminum container stock meet this criteria.

If the Department of Commerce has concerns regarding unfair trade practices, weak trade enforcement, or other related issues in any industry, Congress has provided the appropriate tools to address those issues. In any recommendation for action made as a result of this investigation, we urge you to closely weigh the negative impacts on domestic jobs and businesses that could result from such actions.

Thank you for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact our offices if you or your staff have questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

A. Drew Ferguson IV, DMD
Member of Congress

Diana DeGette
Member of Congress
Rick W. Allen
Member of Congress

Doug Collins
Member of Congress

Tom Graves
Member of Congress

Ken Buck
Member of Congress

Mike Coffman
Member of Congress

Doug Lamborn
Member of Congress

Ed Perlmutter
Member of Congress

Jared Polis
Member of Congress

Scott R. Tipton
Member of Congress

Kevin Cramer
Member of Congress