



December 10, 2015

Dear Members of the US House of Representatives and the US Senate:

The members of the American Wire Producers Association (AWPA) commend the House and Senate conferees for including the Enforcing Orders and Reducing Customs Evasion (ENFORCE) Act as part of the conference report on HR 644, the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015. Together with the American Iron and Steel Institute, the National Association of Manufacturers, the Steel Manufacturers Association and the Coalition to Enforce Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Orders, a diverse group of manufacturers, we have long supported this bill to address the serious problem of duty evasion.

Many of the member companies of the AWPA have successfully used the trade laws to combat unfair imports of their products, particularly from China, only to have the duty orders circumvented by unscrupulous foreign manufacturers using fraudulent evasion tactics. Currently, allegations of evasion go unaddressed, with dumped and subsidized product continuing to enter the US market without properly applied duties – resulting in additional injury to US industry, including the loss of good-paying US jobs, and the loss of significant revenue owed to the US Treasury. The ENFORCE Act will require Customs & Border Protection to investigate allegations of duty evasion and make determinations through a timely and transparent process.

AWPA members supported the passage of Trade Promotion Authority earlier this year, with the understanding that the Customs Reauthorization Bill, including robust enforcement provisions, would be included as part of a comprehensive trade package. Trade facilitation and trade enforcement must occur together to protect US manufacturers from unfair trade practices.

Therefore, the domestic wire industry urges all Senators and Representatives to support US workers and US manufacturers by voting for the passage of the conference report on HR 644 that includes the ENORCE Act.

Sincerely,

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