



White Paper
US House Wire and Wire Products Caucus
September 2017

I. Summary

Following a successful series of trade briefings held during the 113th and 114th Congresses, the Congressional Wire and Wire Products Caucus remains active and has been renewed for the 115th Congress. The Caucus is chaired by Representatives Sam Graves (R-6-MO) and Jim Cooper (D-5-TN). To date, these 37 legislators have joined the caucus:

Robert Aderholt (AL-4-R)
Lou Barletta (R-11-PA)
Diane Black (R-6-TN) - Member of House Ways and Means Committee
Marsha Blackburn (R-7-TN)
Cheri Bustos (D-17-IL)
Andre Carson (D-7-IN)
Chuck Fleischmann (R-3-TN)
Virginia Foxx (R-5-NC)
Paul Gosar (R-4-AZ)
Gene Green (D-29-TX)
Brett Guthrie (R-2-KY)
French Hill (R-2-AR)
David Joyce (R-14-OH)
Marcy Kaptur (D-9-OH)
Adam Kinzinger (R-16-IL)
Bob Latta (R-5-OH)
Sander Levin (D-9-MI) - Member of House Ways and Means Committee
Dave Loebsback (D-2-IA)
Billy Long (R-7-MO)
Blaine Luetkemeyer (R-3-MO)
Luke Messer (R-6-IN)
Richard Neal (D-1-MA) - Ranking Member of House Ways and Means Committee
Robert Pittenger (R-9-NC)
James Renacci (R-16-OH) - Member of House Ways and Means Committee
Tom Rice (R-7-SC) – Member of House Ways and Means Committee
Peter Roskam (R-6-IL) - Member of House Ways and Means Committee
Keith Rothfus (R-12-PA)
Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-40-CA)
“Dutch” Ruppersberger (D-2-MD)
Linda Sanchez (D-38-CA) - Member of House Ways and Means Committee
Terri Sewell (D-7-AL) - Member of House Ways and Means Committee
Jason Smith (R-8-MO) - Member of House Ways and Means Committee
Steve Stivers (R-15-OH)
Mark Takano (D-41-CA)
Peter Visclosky (D-1-IN)
Mark Walker (R-6-NC)
Joe Wilson (R-2-SC)

The Caucus goals are twofold:

1. Education. Briefings are organized for legislators and Congressional staffers on important trade issues (i.e., circumvention of duty orders through transshipment, NAFTA renegotiations, trade enforcement initiatives, etc.). The goal is to provide more information about the wire industry and the issues it faces, particularly with regard to trade policy.
2. Proactive Support of Certain Trade Issues. AWPA provides information and positions about issues that the industry asks Caucus members to support.

Its Mission Statement is as follows:

The US House Wire and Wire Products Caucus is a bipartisan coalition of Members of Congress interested in and concerned with the health of our nation's wire and wire products manufacturers and consumers. Through informational roundtable discussions, public briefings and Member-to-Member communications, the Congressional Wire and Wire Products Caucus works to help educate Congress, the Executive Branch and the broader policy community, on the importance and contributions of domestic wire and wire products manufacturing to our nation's economy, infrastructure and national security.

II. Status

During the 114th Congress, the Caucus hosted a Trade Briefing to discuss the various trade bills under consideration at that time, including Trade Promotion Authority (TPA), Customs Reauthorization, and ENFORCE. Another briefing was held on June 7, 2016 and covered the USTR hearings on the issue of Global Steel Overcapacity and how the agency is enforcing trade agreements, while also engaging and communicating with industry. On September 26, 2017, the Caucus will be hosting its first briefing during the 115th Congress featuring the Republican and Democratic Trade Counsels from the House Ways and Means Committee. They will be discussing the priorities of each party in the international trade arena, as well as the developments and initiatives on which we can expect to see movement during the remainder of the 115th Congress.

III. AWPA Action

Representatives who have wire and/or wire products facilities in their districts and states are being asked to join this Caucus and participate in its educational events. A Dear Colleague was sent on July 10th, by the Co-Chairs Representatives Graves and Cooper, to encourage colleagues to become Caucus members.

To confirm your membership on the Caucus, please contact Janet Kopenhaver, AWPA Director of Government Relations at jkopenhaver@awpa.org.