

**BILL JOHNSON**  
6TH DISTRICT, OHIO



**WASHINGTON OFFICE**  
317 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

(202) 225-5705

**CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES**  
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TERRORISM, NONPROLIFERATION AND TRADE

June 23, 2011

Mr. Andrew McGilvray  
Executive Secretary  
Foreign-Trade Zones Board, International Trade Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room 2111  
Washington, DC 20230

Re: Proposed Rule; Foreign-Trade Zones in the United States; Advance Approval of Production Activity Involving Imports Subject to Antidumping or Countervailing Duty Orders

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The U.S. Foreign-Trade Zones Board has published proposed regulations that require advance Board approval for any production activity within a Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) involving imports from China and other foreign sources that are covered by antidumping or countervailing duty orders.

I applaud the Board's decision to adopt this advance approval requirement. In my district and in the state of Ohio, the economy and jobs are paramount concerns. Antidumping and countervailing duties assist in offsetting the unfair advantage that dumped and subsidized imports enjoy in competing with products manufactured in the United States. They also protect U.S. companies and workers from injury inflicted by unfairly traded imports. The use of FTZs to evade these duties has very serious consequences, including price and sales declines for domestic producers and job losses for their employees.

It is my belief that the Board should retain the advance approval requirement in the final version of the regulations and should not allow it to be watered down by loopholes inserted during the comment process.

In addition, I urge the Board to ensure that its procedures provide adequate notice and a full opportunity for companies and workers affected by any such request for approval to challenge the request before the Board. Workers in the state of Ohio cannot afford to suffer additional job losses due to unfair import competition in these very difficult times.

Sincerely,

Bill Johnson  
Member of Congress

**MARIETTA OFFICE**  
246 Front Street  
Marietta, OH 45750  
(740) 376-0868

**SALEM OFFICE**  
192 East State Street  
Salem, OH 44460  
(330) 337-6951

**IRONTON OFFICE**  
202 Park Avenue  
Suite C  
Ironton, OH 45639  
(740) 534-9431