

United States Senate

October 15, 2025

The Honorable Scott Bessent
Secretary of the Treasury
U.S. Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20220

Dear Secretary Bessent:

I first wish to thank you for your steadfast and courageous leadership as you work with President Trump to build another Golden Age for the American people. I know you agree that an integral part of this objective is confronting and mitigating the threats posed by Communist China to the American Dream and the American way of life.

Following the horrific fires in the Pacific Palisades in January, I, along with Chairman Ron Johnson of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee's Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, have launched an investigation into the contributing causes and failures in response that led to the complete devastation and loss of life and property in the area. The victims of these fires lost nearly everything and have spent months searching for answers, filing insurance claims and building permits as they hope to rebuild their lives and homes.

I was alarmed by recent reports that Communist China-based investors and businesses have taken advantage of this devastation by buying fire-ravaged land on valuable real estate in Southern California. This includes the founders of Hong Kong-based Zuru¹, a company previously focused on making toys, but is now planning on building its pre-fabricated homes in China and shipping them to these lots in the United

¹ Durden, T. (2025, August 24). *Now comes the California Fire Sale: China-based company is buying up land incinerated by firestorms*. ZeroHedge. <https://www.zerohedge.com/personal-finance/now-comes-california-fire-sale-china-based-company-buying-land-incinerated>

States. While this is concerning on its own, they have also articulated their intent to use this to test out new “smart homes” using internet-connected smart appliances² that will not only be connected to our electricity grid, but could be fully capable of sending data on American citizens back to Xi and his thugs in China.

The last thing our nation needs is more Communist Chinese access to our electric grid and to our lives. It’s one of many reasons why we must focus on limiting China’s influence over any land transactions in the United States.

Given the ongoing public debate surrounding Chinese Communist Party (CCP)-affiliated ownership of U.S. land, I encourage you to try to extend the reach of the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS) within the confines of existing law to review such cases.

U.S. law currently allows for the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS) review of real estate transactions if the real estate is in proximity to sensitive U.S. government sites, including specified named military sites. If at all pertinent for your consideration, there are military installations covered by the CFIUS regulations in the Southern California area, including Naval Base Ventura County facilities.³ Whether or not recent transactions are ultimately eligible for review, future ones may be, and the many consequences of Communist China connected affiliates, like Zuru, buying up land in America requires a whole-of-government response.

Communist China and Xi Jinping are enemies of the American people and have shown time and time again that they want access to American data, American markets, and American land in an effort to destroy our very way of life. President Trump and his administration have made countering Communist Chinese land grabs a priority – and for good reason. These calculated land purchases are the latest examples of the CCP’s attempts to destroy us.

² Bell, M. (2025, July 18). *Zuru’s not toying with building - it aims for global disruption*. The Post.

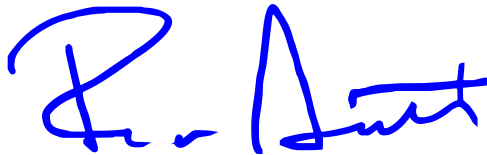
<https://www.thepost.co.nz/business/360762670/zurus-not-toying-building-it-aims-global-disruption>

³ National Archives and Records Administration. *Appendix A to Part 802 - List of Military Installations and Other U.S. Government Sites*. Code of Federal Regulations. <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-31/subtitle-B/chapter-VIII/part-802/appendix-Appendix%20A%20to%20Part%20802>

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I know you, President Trump, and his whole administration is aware of this threat and share my goal of security from China. Please let me know if there is anything I can do legislatively to help promote our nation's America First agenda.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rick Scott", with a stylized, cursive script.

Rick Scott
United States Senator

Cc: The Honorable Marco Rubio, Secretary, U.S. Department of State
The Honorable Kristi Noem, Secretary, U.S. Department of Homeland Security
The Honorable Howard Lutnick, Secretary, U.S. Department of Commerce
The Honorable Pete Hegseth, Secretary, U.S. Department of Defense
The Honorable Chris Wright, Secretary, U.S. Department of Energy
The Honorable Pam Bondi, Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice
The Honorable Jamieson Greer, United States Trade Representative
The Honorable Michael J.K. Kratsios, Director, Office of Science and Technology Policy
The Honorable Lori Chavez-DeRemer, Secretary, U.S. Department of Labor
The Honorable Tulsi Gabbard, Director, Office of the Director of National Intelligence