

United States Senate

November 1, 2019

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

I write to you regarding the threat that the United States faces from Communist China – a nation that never keeps its word. Communist China is stealing our technology and refuses to open their markets to foreign goods as required by their participation in the World Trade Organization (WTO). They are militarizing the South China Sea, even after they promised President Obama they would not, and are continuously breaking the agreement they previously made to allow Hong Kong autonomy and freedom. Communist China is attacking religious freedom by detaining more than one million Uyghurs, a Muslim ethnic minority group in China, in internment and re-education camps. I recently visited Hong Kong where I met with business, pro-democracy, and religious leaders. They told me about their fight for autonomy and freedom against the oppressive regime in Beijing.

I am hopeful the Administration will look into the growing threat of counterfeit goods from Communist China. Recently, the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative identified 11 major online and physical marketplaces in Communist China that sell and distribute counterfeit goods. It also acknowledged that in 2017, 87% of the counterfeit good seizures made by U.S. Custom and Border Protection arrived from China and Hong Kong. Communist China's bad faith practices are not limited to the U.S. In 2016, Communist China and Hong Kong were the source of 80% of counterfeit goods seized around the world.

Even with the great work by our U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers, Chinese distributors are still managing to get their counterfeit goods into the United States. This is unacceptable and we must act.

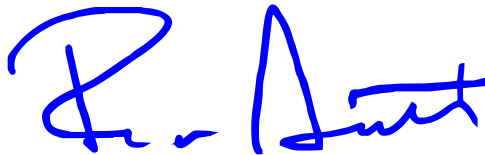
While trade negotiations are ongoing, I urge the White House to implement stronger verification measures at our ports of entry to make sure that counterfeit goods from Communist China do not enter our country. As a member of both the Senate

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Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the Senate Committee on Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs, I stand ready to assist in this effort.

Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to working with you as we continue to support U.S. families and businesses, and fight for freedom across the globe.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rick Scott". The signature is stylized with a large initial "R" and a prominent "S".

Rick Scott
United States Senator

cc: Mr. Peter Navarro, Assistant to the President, Director of the Office of Trade and Manufacturing Policy
Mr. Marc A. Morgan, Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and Border Patrol
Ms. Megan J. Brennan, Postmaster General, United States Postal Service