

1 SR53
2 167862-1
3 By Senator Waggoner
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 30-APR-15

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8 URGING THE ALABAMA CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO
9 PROTECT ALABAMA IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURING BY SUPPORTING
10 STRENGTHENED TRADE ENFORCEMENT PROVISIONS
11

12 WHEREAS, iron and steel manufacturing has been the
13 cornerstone of industry in the State of Alabama for over 100
14 years and continues to be a driving catalyst of the state's
15 economy; and

16 WHEREAS, according to the International Trade
17 Administration and the United States Department of Commerce,
18 free trade agreements are intended to protect the interests of
19 the United States of America, enhance the rule of law, and
20 create a more stable and transparent environment for United
21 States companies; and

22 WHEREAS, Alabama iron and steel manufacturers are
23 facing a crippling competitive disadvantage from illegally
24 "dumped" foreign iron and steel products; and

25 WHEREAS, foreign countries, such as China, have
26 failed to uphold their obligations regarding international

1 trade regulation compliance and persistently engage in illegal
2 trade practices; and

3 WHEREAS, illegally subsidized, foreign steel imports
4 are flooding the United States market at historic rates and
5 are being sold at costs far below the fair market cost of
6 production; and

7 WHEREAS, a manufacturer of iron and steel products
8 in the United States must experience significant, sometimes
9 detrimental, damages before injury from "dumping" can be
10 determined as required under the current provisions; and

11 WHEREAS, if injury from "dumping" is determined,
12 damages sought are often irrecoverable given the extent to
13 which the responsible parties evade established trade law; and

14 WHEREAS, domestic iron and steel producers in
15 Alabama have the ability to thrive under fair market
16 conditions as intended by the laws governing trade regulations
17 and agreements, should such laws be enforced; and, now
18 therefore,

19 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE LEGISLATURE OF
20 ALABAMA, That the Alabama State Legislature calls upon the
21 Alabama Congressional Delegation to support fair competition
22 and bolster the enforcement provisions of, and improve the
23 effectiveness of, international and United States trade laws
24 by strengthening the mechanisms available to combat unfair
25 trade practices.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this
2 resolution be sent to each member of the Alabama Congressional
3 Delegation.