



April 1, 2025

United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator:

The Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Contractors' National Association (SMACNA) is supported by more than 3,500 construction firms engaged in industrial, commercial, residential, architectural and specialty sheet metal and air conditioning construction throughout the United States. **On behalf of our membership, SMACNA would like to voice its strong support for S.J. Res. 37, a resolution introduced with bipartisan support by Senators Tim Kaine and Rand Paul to terminate the national emergency that was declared to justify tariffs on imports from Canada under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA).**

While imposing large, across the board tariffs on a number of other nations may be justified, Canada is our closest and most important trading partner. Tariff penalties aimed at Canada for non-trade objectives have already caused harsh and unnecessary economic pain for US workers and harm to our nation's construction and related metal fabricating as well as HVAC equipment manufacturing businesses. In fact, it will punish businesses, labor and economies on both sides of the border, and in direct contravention of the provisions featured in the existing USMCA.

At a time when the demand for electrical, mechanical and sheet metal supplies and building materials far exceeds domestic supply chain inventory, establishing record level tariffs on US purchases from Canada is counterproductive at best. Tariffs restricting our access to vitally necessary supplies, or tariff-driven mandates increasing their cost will quickly place construction firms into tenuous and unprofitable economic positions. Industry firms and our members currently work on large, mega projects where supply chain shortages for materials most often are sourced from Canada and a more expansive number of locations and vendors. While we are outspoken supporters of "Buy American" public and private contract provisions, we often must purchase USMCA-compliant Canadian metals and equipment to meet already highly challenging budgetary and project guidelines, often with penalties for late performance and material delays.

SMACNA's membership includes thousands of leading firms specializing in private and public work projects as well as commercial, and industrial infrastructure construction. Based upon our extensive experience on large mega projects where equipment and metal supply issues arise on a regular basis, we urge you to take swift action to approve S.J. Res. 37.

Sincerely,

Stanley E. Kolbe, Jr.
Executive Director, Legislative and Political Affairs



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