

**Testimony of Charles Johnson**  
**President and Chief Executive Officer of the Aluminum Association**  
**Section 332 Investigation on the Economic Effect of Section 301 and 232 Tariffs**  
**July 20, 2022**

Good morning, Chair Johanson, Commissioners, and Commission staff. I'm Chuck Johnson, the President and CEO of The Aluminum Association, the leading voice for the U.S. aluminum industry, representing more than 125 companies up and down the entire industry value chain.

The United States is a deficit market for aluminum, meaning it consumes more of the metal than it is able to produce domestically. Consequently, most of U.S. aluminum industry jobs rely in some way on reliable international supply chains. I'm happy to report that the U.S. aluminum industry is globally competitive and growing. However, the industry has faced a distorted global market in recent years driven primarily by massive growth in government-subsidized and state-owned aluminum production in China.

This dynamic has forced domestic aluminum firms to pursue trade enforcement relief in certain markets using U.S. antidumping and countervailing duty laws. This targeted trade enforcement, along with strong demand for our material, has helped the industry to invest significantly in U.S. operations in recent years.

Against this backdrop, Section 301 tariffs targeted specifically at Chinese industrial policy have provided the U.S. aluminum industry with additional support. The association believes that 301 tariffs are the appropriate tool to address state subsidized capacity, and should be increased.

With respect to Section 232 tariffs, the association and its members did not request relief under this tool, which chiefly aimed to support U.S.-based primary aluminum producers. And while the tariffs have provided some level of stability for aluminum firms up and down the value chain, they have not addressed the fundamental and ever-evolving distortions resulting from China's rampant use of industrial subsidies in the aluminum sector.

So, the 232 tariffs have contributed to current favorable market conditions for the industry, including significant new investment. Any future actions to alter or remove the tariffs should be undertaken carefully with a stepped approach, and in a way that minimally disrupts the US market. But the 232 tariffs have not resulted in the conditions needed for reinvestment in US smelting capacity.

Thank you. Now, I will turn it over to Henry.