

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

October 27, 2023

The Honorable Katherine Tai
U.S. Trade Representative
Office of the U.S. Trade Representative
600 17th Street NW
Washington, DC 20508

Dear Ambassador Tai,

On August 3, 2023, you received a submission from American sheep producers urging you to request that the United States International Trade Commission initiate a safeguard investigation under Section 201 of the Trade Act of 1974. The purpose of the investigation would be to determine if lamb and mutton are being imported into the United States in such increased quantities as to be a substantial cause of serious injury to the domestic sheep industry. We urge your favorable consideration of that request.

Based on U.S. Department of Agriculture data, consumption of lamb and mutton in the United States increased by nearly 17 percent from 2018-2022. However, despite this increase in domestic consumption, U.S. sheep and lamb inventory has declined 4 percent since 2018, the continuation of a long-term downward trajectory.

This response by the domestic sheep industry of decreasing production while domestic consumption of lamb and mutton have increased deserves a careful, probing analysis. This is particularly true given the dramatic increase in U.S. market share held by imports since 2012 and the recent 31 percent surge in the volume of imports from 2018 to 2022.

These trends support a prompt and fair investigation by the International Trade Commission of whether the import surge is a substantial cause of serious injury to the United States sheep industry. A request initiated by your office could help ensure the long-term stability and sustainability of this important domestic industry.

We respectfully request your full consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Blake D. Moore
Member of Congress



Harriet M. Hageman
Member of Congress



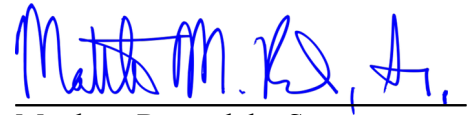
John R. Curtis
Member of Congress



Mark E. Amodei
Member of Congress



Mary E. Miller
Member of Congress



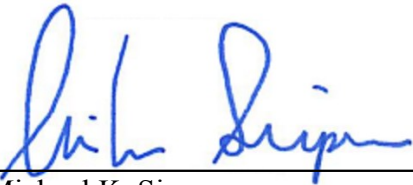
Matthew Rosendale, Sr.
Member of Congress



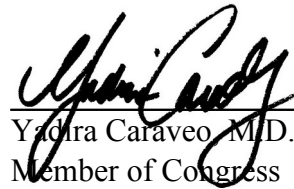
Burgess Owens
Member of Congress



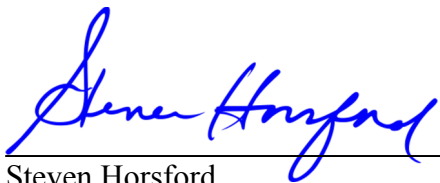
Dina Titus
Member of Congress



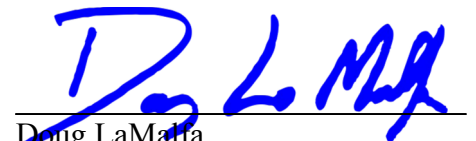
Michael K. Simpson
Member of Congress



Ychira Caraveo, M.D.
Member of Congress



Steven Horsford
Member of Congress



Doug LaMalfa
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Russ Fulcher". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath it.

Russ Fulcher
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susie Lee". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath it.

Susie Lee
Member of Congress