



February 10, 2026

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

Dear Mr. President:

At [Common Sense America](#) (CSA), we're excited to celebrate your success to date and hear your vision for the future during the upcoming State of the Union address. We hope that you'll use the opportunity to highlight your unprecedented and historic efforts to usher in a Golden Age of American prosperity by strengthening domestic manufacturing, building world-class infrastructure, and making more products, goods, and services here at home.

CSA has long advocated for policies that prioritize American prosperity, security, and independence. Our mission is to ensure that American communities and businesses can thrive—and supply chain resilience is a core part of that. Your Administration has championed U.S. manufacturing independence, and as you prepare to address Congress and the nation, we respectfully encourage you to commit to policies that will rebuild American manufacturing capacity, protect workers and communities, and ensure our nation's infrastructure stands on a foundation of quality and independence.

Threats from Abroad: Undermining U.S. Independence

America's supply chains remain vulnerable to geopolitical risk and foreign dependence on imports. One of the most glaring threats facing our economy is access to rare earth minerals, a key area in which China controls roughly [85%-90%](#) of the world's rare earth minerals processing. Rare earth minerals are critical to U.S. national security and are essential in U.S. military systems such as fighter jets, missile guidance systems, and secure communications. The U.S. is at a major strategic disadvantage through overreliance on China.

We commend your decisive action to [increase](#) American mineral production and your administration's focus on fair, reciprocal trade and American manufacturing is precisely what our economy needs. We hope that you can focus the State of the Union on expanding efforts to protect U.S. mineral production to include cement—the foundation of major American construction and infrastructure projects, as you know from your many years as one of the nation's pre-eminent and world-class builders.

Unleashing America's Mining, Energy, and Manufacturing Capabilities

For too long, outdated permitting and regulatory policies have delayed domestic mining, energy, and infrastructure projects. Additionally, [the U.S. has lost millions of manufacturing jobs](#) over the last several decades, harming local communities and weakening our supply

chains. To unleash a Golden Age in American manufacturing, we need to stop pushing investment and production overseas and focus on creating jobs right here at home. Your administration's renewed focus on slashing red tape and reducing overly burdensome permitting policies is crucial to unleashing American mining, energy, and manufacturing dominance.

Securing America's Foundation

Cement is the backbone of American infrastructure. We can't build our roads, bridges, hospitals, schools, airports, data centers, places of worship, and homes without it. Yet the cement industry faces significant challenges that threaten our economic prosperity and our ability to build. In 2024, domestic cement production declined by 4%, while the U.S. imported nearly 25% of cement from untrustworthy foreign sources.

Time and again, faulty imported products from countries like China have endangered Americans and weakened our nation. We can't let the same situation unfold with cement. When foreign cement enters the American market, it often fails to meet rigorous U.S. quality standards and product certifications, which undermines infrastructure durability, creates risks for construction workers and the public, and harms American builders.

America's cement and concrete industry is a significant economic engine that contributes nearly \$160 billion to the U.S. economy and employs 577,000 people. Cement is produced in 34 states and Puerto Rico and is an integral part of our nation's industrial base. We can't let foreign cement competitors continue to threaten our markets. We must strengthen cement production here at home.

Through your strong leadership, you can ensure that we have access to the critical construction materials we need and stand up for the American worker by setting Build America, Buy America standards for cement used in taxpayer funded infrastructure projects, requiring construction material importers to produce cement mill and ASTM quality assurance testing certificates for all imported materials, recognize cement as critical infrastructure, and ease permitting obstacles to new cement plant construction.

Thank you for considering these critical priorities. We look forward to supporting your administration's ongoing work to bolster American manufacturing, expand and secure supply chains, and ensure that core building materials, like cement, are made in America.

Sincerely,



Steve Crim
President and Founder
Common Sense America