

North Dakota House of Representatives

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Representative Jeremy Olson

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House Majority Caucus Leader COMMITTEES:

Finance and Taxation Energy and Natural Resources

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Chairman Patten and Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee Members,

My name is Jeremy Olson, Representative from District 26 in Arnegard. I am the prime sponsor of House Concurrent Resolution 3009. This resolution is intended to urge our leaders in Congress to act on the unfair trade practices of the Chinese Communist Party.

It is well-understood that China seeks to dominate global markets through unscrupulous means, such as poor labor standards and intellectual property theft. However, an under-discussed advantage they have is through an inherent subsidy to their production through low or non-existent environmental standards.

This resolution seeks to bring light to a few realities regarding this dynamic:

- American manufacturing is some of the cleanest and most efficient in the world
- China's production is three times dirtier, on average, than their American counterparts
- Without efforts to hold global polluters accountable, manufacturers and energy producers in North Dakota will be at an unfair competitive disadvantage

We have turned a blind eye to what China is doing because we benefit from importing their cheap goods. But we can't forget that what they are doing is undercutting our industries, sending American jobs overseas and taking over the supply chain in critical areas that threaten U.S. national security.

At the same time our own federal government has been holding back the development of our own natural resources. We do things right in North Dakota. We feed and fuel the world, and we take care of our land. We could do more if it weren't for the handcuffs that have been placed on us by federal bureaucracy. We have seen great strides in the last few weeks alone, and now is the time to ensure that Congress has the willpower to back the efforts of this administration.

I hope that this resolution will help push Congress to act.

We need to support our energy industry. We need to help protect our country from the malicious efforts of the Chinese Communist Party that seeks to undermine our industries.

We will continue to work in the Legislature with our business community to ensure our regulatory environment supports their prosperity here in North Dakota, but we will need concurrent effort at the federal level as well.

I ask you for a Do Pass recommendation on HCR 3009. Thank you. I would be happy to answer any questions.

Respectfully,

Jerenz I Okson

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