

**COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515**

January 19, 2022

Elon Musk
Chief Executive Officer
Tesla, Inc.
13101 Harold Green Road
Austin, TX 78725

Dear Mr. Musk,

As Chairmen of the House Ways and Means Subcommittees on Oversight and Trade, we write to better understand your interests in China and compliance with our international trade laws. We are dismayed that Tesla has reportedly opened a showroom in the province that is at the heart of China's Uyghur detainment in camps and forced labor in factories. As the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) commits genocide against the Uyghur peoples and ramps up its hostility towards America and our allies, your misguided expansion into the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region sets a poor example and further empowers the CCP at a fraught moment.

Evidence of the genocide in Xinjiang is well documented. From the farm to finished goods, forced labor in the region appears to be prevalent at all levels of the supply chain because of the CCP's internment of more than one million Uyghurs, as well as forced labor by prisoners incarcerated in the Chinese government's penal system. Numerous credible reports have detailed forced labor and other violations of fundamental human rights under the CCP's rule.¹ Weeks after CCP General Secretary Xi Jinping all but declared himself dictator for life and the CCP politburo standing committee tightened its totalitarian grip over virtually every sector, American business cannot further empower the gross human rights violations of the CCP.

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has exposed the need to strengthen the American supply chain. Enduring weakness in the supply chain, coupled with American companies offshoring jobs and capacity to China, constitutes a growing threat to American national security.

¹ Vicky Xiuzong Zu et al., *Uyghurs for Sale* (March 1, 2020), <https://www.aspi.org.au/report/uyghurs-sale>; Amy K. Lehr and Mariefaye Bechrakis, *Connecting the Dots in Xinjiang: Forced Labor, Forced Assimilation, and Western Supply Chains* (Oct. 16, 2019), <https://www.csis.org/analysis/connecting-dots-xinjiang-forced-labor-forced-assimilation-and-western-supply-chains>; Amy Lehr, *Addressing Forced Labor in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region* (July 30, 2020), <https://www.csis.org/analysis/connecting-dots-xinjiang-forced-labor-forced-assimilation-and-western-supply-chains>; Luke Adams et al., *Global Supply Chains, Forced Labor, and the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region*, Congressional-Executive Commission on China (March 2020), <https://www.cecc.gov/sites/chinacommission.house.gov/files/documents/CECC%20Staff%20Report%20March%202020%20-%20Global%20Supply%20Chains%2C%20Forced%20Labor%2C%20and%20the%20Xinjiang%20Uyghur%20Autonomous%20Region.pdf>.


Recently, the National Critical Capabilities Defense Act (H.R.6329) to strengthen our supply chains was introduced. This legislation would empower the federal government with the tools to prevent more American jobs from going overseas. The 2021 U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission's annual report to Congress found that "nearly 85 percent of [U.S. business] respondents are not considering relocating manufacturing or sourcing from China."² This figure and requisite corporate attitudes must change if we are to stand in opposition to forced labor and human rights abuses that are tantamount to genocide.


As you may know, Congress recently passed into law the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act (Public Law No: 117-78) to ensure that goods made with forced labor in Xinjiang do not enter the United States market. This law creates a rebuttable presumption that goods imported from this region are to be considered made with forced labor. The only other country singled out for such egregious violations of labor and human rights is North Korea. To better understand Tesla's compliance with this and other U.S. trade laws, please answer the following questions by February 2, 2022:

1. Does Tesla source any goods made or manufactured wholly or in part in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region? If so, please list all goods and denote if the good is made or manufactured.
2. Does Tesla have any financial relations with companies connected to the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region? If so, please describe the nature of those relations.
3. Please confirm if the news reports are true that Tesla is planning to expand into the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region. If so, please describe why Tesla is operating in the heart of a region under increased scrutiny for genocide.
4. Please describe how Tesla is not contributing to or financially benefiting from the forced labor practices rampant in the region.
5. Does Tesla plan to expand into other regions in China?

As Chairmen of the Oversight and Trade Subcommittees, our panels are deeply interested in exploring ways to improve U.S. national security imperiled by the offshoring of our industrial capacity and undermining of our national security by contributing to labor abuses. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,


Bill Pascrell, Jr., *Chair*
Subcommittee on Oversight


Earl Blumenauer, *Chair*
Subcommittee on Trade

² U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission, *2021 Report to Congress* (Nov. 2021), https://www.uscc.gov/sites/default/files/2021-11/2021_Annual_Report_to_Congress.pdf.