

BILL PASCRELL, JR.  
9TH DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

2409 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515  
(202) 225-5751  
(202) 225-5782 FAX

ROBERT A. ROE FEDERAL BUILDING  
200 FEDERAL PLAZA, SUITE 500  
PATERSON, NJ 07505  
(973) 523-5152  
(973) 523-0637 FAX

<http://pascrell.house.gov>  
[bill.pascrell@mail.house.gov](mailto:bill.pascrell@mail.house.gov)



Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
RANKING MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SECURITY  
DEMOCRATIC STEERING AND  
POLICY COMMITTEE

April 20, 2023

I am submitting this statement for the record to express pleasure in joining my Democratic colleagues Representatives Dan Kildee and Terri Sewell in supporting H. J. Res. 39. Rampant trade cheating harms American workers, cons consumers, and sabotages small businesses across our nation. That is why the Ways and Means Committee is considering H. J. Res. 39.

Over one decade ago, we determined that some companies backed by the Chinese Communist Party were engaging in illegal trade practices. President Obama rightly applied tariffs on imports from those companies distorting the market and harming our domestic solar industry.

“Fair trade” cannot exist where one side plays by the rules and the other cheats and circumvents.

Last year the Commerce Department wisely heeded our calls. They opened a probe into the Chinese Communist Party’s corruption of the solar market. In December, our suspicions were basically confirmed. The Commerce Department preliminarily determined that four companies are breaking our trade laws. That cheating is what this resolution is about.

Our bipartisan bill demonstrates how Congress has the ultimate say on our trade laws, supporting American workers, and stopping China’s cheating.

Last Congress, we passed the most significant climate legislation in U.S. history. It provides over \$180 billion for clean energy like solar. Let’s not cripple this industry right as it gets off the ground. Let us give it room and support to grow.

While we are trying to meet our domestic solar deployment goals, we must not undermine our labor and trade laws or lose sight of standing up for fundamental human rights. The Chinese Communist Party has used subsidies and incentives to wrap its tentacles around some of the polysilicon and solar-component industries in Asia. Tragically, these industries are highly dependent on mining and manufacturing in Xinjiang, a region that is largely reliant on Uyghur forced labor.

We cannot build a clean-energy future through dirty coal plants and on the backs of China’s genocidal forced-labor abuses. As the AFL-CIO said in October 2021, the “solar industry, and its entire value chain, should exemplify how the United States meets the climate, equity and economic challenges of the 21st century.”<sup>1</sup> It’s a false choice to achieve our climate goals by abandoning our core American values.

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://aflcio.org/about/leadership/statements/building-clean-energy-jobs-global-solar-supply-chain>

H. J. Res. 39. would empower the administration to crack down on specific Chinese companies circumventing solar tariffs. This resolution will restore fairness to the marketplace.

Today it is our solar industry. Tomorrow it could be steel, lumber, or agriculture that suffer. Congress cannot accept the attacks on our industries under any administration. We must act now.

If I was present for the vote in the Ways and Means Committee on April 19, 2023, I would have supported passage of this resolution by voting yes.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Pascrell Jr". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bill Pascrell, Jr.  
Member of Congress