

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 4, 2026

U.S. International Trade Commission
500 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20436

Re: ITC Investigation TA-201-79: Quartz Surface Products

Dear Commissioners:

We write to you regarding the current Section 201 (safeguards) investigation into Quartz Surface Products.

As you know, on the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) recently issued an affirmative injury determination in this investigation. As the Commission moves to the next phase in the 201 investigatory process and recommends a potential remedy, we want to express our concern that the petitioner's proposal – a 50% ad valorem tariff and a restrictive quota – will cause negative repercussions to domestic fabricator businesses, eliminate blue-collar jobs, and raise housing prices.

We encourage the Commission to consider the effects that the proposed remedy will have on the domestic quartz fabricator industry and individuals the industry employs. The industry consists of more than 10,000 American businesses who employ about 100,000 workers fabricating quartz. More than 1,000 of these businesses submitted declarations to the ITC in its investigation opposing the imposition of a safeguard because such a restriction would risk hurting, rather than protecting, the profitability and employment of the industry.¹ Economic modeling has shown that a 50-percent tariff would cause domestic employment to decline by over 6,400 employees.² We request the Commission to recommend a remedy that avoids this outcome.

We also ask that the Commission consider the downstream effects the proposed remedy will have on the housing market. The average price of a quartz countertop is \$3,500, and a 50-percent tariff could cost an extra \$504-\$1,036 per kitchen.³ The Leading Builders of America estimates

¹ See ITC Prehearing Staff Report at pp. 1.1, FN2 (reporting receipt of declarations from more than 700 independent fabricators opposing the petition prior to institution); *Quartz Surface Products*, Inv. No. TA-201-79, Respondents' Prehearing Brief, Exh. 1-A (Fabricator Declarations) (containing more than 340 new fabricator declarations opposing the petition).

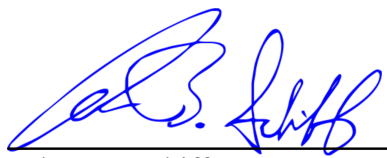
² Travis Pope & Bhargav Prajapati, Capital Trade, Inc., Economic Modeling of the Financial Effects of an Ad Valorem Tariff on U.S. Slab Producers, Submitted in Inv. No. TA-201-79 (Remedy Phase) (Apr. 21, 2026).

³ Quartz tariffs are looming and your kitchen could pay the price (Apr. 3, 2026), at <https://cei.org/blog/quartz-tariffs-are-looming-and-your-kitchen-could-pay-the-price/>.

that, based on input from its members, a 50-percent tariff will likely lead to an average of about \$1,000 in increased costs per home built.⁴ The National Association of Home Builders estimates that a \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home will price over 150,000 U.S. households out of the market.

We believe the ITC should consider the above factors when recommending a remedy in this Section 201 investigation. An overly aggressive remedy is likely harm domestic industries and negatively impact consumers. We urge the Commission to take these concerns into consideration when making its remedy recommendation.

Sincerely,



Adam B. Schiff
United States Senator

⁴ Declaration of Ken Gear, Chief Executive Officer, Leading Builders of America, Submitted in Inv. No. TA-201-79 (Remedy Phase) (Apr. 21, 2026).