COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND MONETARY POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY, ILLICIT FINANCE AND INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE INDO-PACIFIC SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICA



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United States House of Representatives Young Kim 40th District, California

The Honorable Jose W. Fernandez Under Secretary U.S. Department of State 2201 C St. NW Washington, DC 20520

March 18, 2024

Dear Under Secretary Fernandez:

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the significant challenges American businesses are encountering in the People's Republic of China (PRC) and across the Indo-Pacific. American firms are encountering many obstacles due to the coercive behavior of the PRC. American businesses in the PRC are suffering due to the PRC's oppressive rules. The PRC is regularly conducting raids on American companies' facilities going as far as confiscating computers and telephones that could contain intellectual property. These raids are largely understood to be retaliation for the U.S.'s imposition of human rights sanctions and export controls on PRC firms found to be implicated in human rights abuses or providing goods and services to the People's Liberation Army (PLA).

Ahead of your appearance before the House Foreign Affairs Committee on March 21st, I respectfully request that you prepare to answer the following questions, as well as transmit a written response to my office:

- 1. What actions are the Department of State taking to address the PRC's retaliatory actions against American companies operating in the PRC?
- 2. What measures are the Department of State implementing to mitigate the PRC's economic coercive actions on our partners in the Indo-Pacific?
- 3. What is the Department of State's plan to encourage American businesses to move critical supply chains away from the PRC and towards likeminded and free-trade oriented partners throughout the Indo-Pacific?

We look forward to your response and your testimony before the committee.

Sincerely,

Young Kim Chairwoman Subcommittee on the Indo-Pacific House Foreign Affairs Committee