

April 1, 2020

The Honorable Wilbur Ross
U.S. Secretary of Commerce
1401 Constitution Ave NW
Washington, DC 20230



Dear Secretary Ross,

As you know, U.S. Senator Jim Inhofe recently requested that your office launch an investigation against the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Russian Federation under Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act.

The manipulations created by Saudi Arabia and Russia have thrown the global energy market into turmoil. By flooding the market with crude oil, these nations have caused severe trauma to the oil and gas industry and put our country at risk for long-term, devastating financial impacts.

As Oklahoma's leading advocate for the business community since 1926, the State Chamber of Oklahoma supports the effort of Senator Inhofe to call for an extensive federal investigation into the attempts to artificially lower crude oil prices and harm America's oil and natural gas businesses. If these businesses close or are weakened financially and the infrastructure deteriorates, Americans will be at the mercy of other countries to provide these critical energy resources. Now is the time to prevent the next energy crisis.

The oil and natural gas sector is essential to the economic stability and future growth of our state and our country. Hundreds of thousands of Oklahomans depend, either directly or indirectly, on the industry.

Oklahoma's economy is already suffering as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The actions taken by Saudi Arabia and Russia have doubled the hardship on oil and natural gas producers, harming the backbone of our state's economy and our ability to produce energy for Americans.

It is essential that the federal government respond with decisive action to this declared price war and investigate the actions of these foreign nations. We appreciate your consideration of Senator Inhofe's request.

Respectfully,



Chad Warmington
President & CEO
State Chamber of Oklahoma