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J. Randy Forbes
United States Congress

4th District, Virginia

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The Honorable Henry Waxman
Chairman, House Committee on Energy
and Commerce
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Joe Barton
Ranking Member, House Committee on Energy
and Commerce
2322A Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Waxman and Ranking Member Barton:

On behalf of many of my constituents and thousands of affected homeowners around the country, I am writing to request that the House Energy and Commerce Committee convene a hearing in order to investigate the potentially hazardous effects of Chinese drywall.

From 2004 to 2007, hundreds of thousands of sheets of drywall manufactured in China was imported into the United States and installed in homes. Numerous problems have surfaced in association with Chinese drywall including the corrosion of electrical wiring, home appliance failure, the emission of a strong rotten egg odor, and potential health problems ranging from nosebleeds to nausea to severe headaches.

As you are aware, the federal Interagency Drywall Task Force investigating problems with Chinese drywall has released three preliminary studies to date involving elemental and chemical testing, chamber studies, and indoor air studies. Unfortunately, since the beginning of its investigation in February 2009, no federal standardized inspection or remediation protocol has been recommended or issued. For nearly one year, thousands of American homeowners have been awaiting guidance on how to address these serious safety and health issues. Basic questions regarding the safety and financial viability of these homes remain unanswered. To that end, I am requesting that the House Committee on Energy and Commerce convene a hearing to review the progress of the Interagency Drywall Task Force and ensure Members have the opportunity to hear from expert witnesses and citizens about the health, financial, and legal impacts ramifications resulting from Chinese drywall.

Please contact me or Will Hupman from my staff at (202) 225-6365 / Will.Hupman@mail.house.gov with any questions regarding this request. Thank you in advance for your consideration. With kind personal regards, I am

Yours Truly,

J. Randy Forbes
Member of Congress