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The Honorable Jamieson Greer
U.S. Trade Representative
Office of the U.S. Trade Representative
600 Seventeenth Street NW
Washington, DC 20506

August 25, 2026

Dear Ambassador Greer:

I write today to express my support for establishing an exemption under Section 301 tariffs for rock salt imported from Chile. Many communities in New York, particularly those in the Hudson Valley, rely on Chilean rock salt to maintain public safety during the winter months. I respectfully urge you to review this matter and promptly enact an exemption for Chilean rock salt.

Each winter, the Hudson Valley experiences snow and ice storms that can create hazardous conditions for drivers and pedestrians alike. That's why municipalities in New York work diligently every year to clear and treat roads, highways, and sidewalks. The availability of affordable road salt is essential to these efforts and helps ensure residents can travel safely following severe winter weather.

Unfortunately, the imposition of these tariffs could significantly increase the cost of imported Chilean rock salt, placing additional financial pressure on municipalities that already operate under limited budgets. Most Hudson Valley communities depend on imported Chilean rock salt for winter maintenance. Under the new tariffs, these costs will skyrocket, forcing local governments to make difficult decisions about how to allocate already limited resources. Municipalities should not have to choose between maintaining essential safety measures and funding other critical public services.

I strongly urge you to consider an exemption for responsibly sourced Chilean rock salt to section 301 tariffs for the benefit of public safety and affordability in New York. Thank you for your attention to this matter and I look forward to hearing back.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael V. Lawler".

Michael V. Lawler
Member of Congress