## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 25, 2012

The Honorable Deanna Tanner Okun Chairman U.S. International Trade Commission 500 E Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20436

Dear Chairman Okun:

We are writing to strongly encourage you to maintain the existing antidumping and countervailing duty orders against unfairly traded imports of lined paper school supplies from China, India, and Indonesia. The maintenance of these trade orders is essential to prevent further injury to an already vulnerable domestic lined paper industry.

Mead Products employs 250 employees in Kettering, Ohio and these are vital products for their company. These trade orders have benefitted the domestic lined paper industry. As a result of the orders, dumped and subsidized imports from China, India, and Indonesia are no longer flooding the U.S. market. These orders have allowed the domestic industry to charge fair prices that are consistent with its raw material costs, strengthen its production operations, expand its capacity, and make important capital improvements. These orders have also enabled the domestic industry to prevent layoffs and keep mills open.

Although the trade orders have benefitted the domestic lined paper industry, it is by no means shielded from the harmful effects of unfair import competition. Without the discipline of the orders in place, increased dumped and subsidized imports would quickly erode all of the gains that the domestic industry has made since the orders were imposed. China, India, and Indonesia all have a demonstrated ability and interest to ship significant quantities of unfairly priced lined paper imports to the United States. At the same time, lined paper purchases are driven by large retailers that import directly, have significant purchasing power, and are able to command the lowest prices. As a result, if the Commission does not maintain the orders on lined paper school supplies from China, India, and Indonesia, subject imports would undoubtedly enter the United States in increased quantities and at low prices, thereby placing domestic operations at risk.

On behalf of the domestic lined paper industry, its employees, and the communities that we represent, we strongly urge you to continue the existing orders against unfairly traded imports of lined paper school supplies. The health and success of the U.S. lined paper industry depends on the full and fair enforcement of the trade laws of the United States.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration of this critical issue.

Sincerely,

Sherrod Brown

United States Senator

Rob Portman

United States Senator