

Statement of Rep. Derek Tran
House Committee on Small Business
“Defending Main Street: Combatting CCP Threats to America’s Small Businesses”
Wednesday, March 25, 2026 at 10:00 A.M.
2360 Rayburn House Office Building

Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Madam Ranking Member, for holding today’s important hearing, and thank you to our witnesses for being here today.

As a member who represents Southern California—home to one of the most diverse and globally connected economies in the country—I hear directly from small businesses that are navigating real challenges tied to our economic relationship with China. They are facing growing challenges related to intellectual property theft, unfair trade practices, and an overreliance on supply chains that can be disrupted or leveraged for strategic advantage.

For example, China has created several chokepoints in the pharmaceutical supply chain. They export one-fifth of the world’s antibiotic exports and half of the antibiotic ingredients. If a natural disaster struck, or if the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) decided to withhold ingredients for geopolitical reasons, the effects would ripple through every U.S. hospital, pharmacy, and pediatric practice within weeks - including many small businesses. Large corporations may be able to stockpile or invest elsewhere, but small businesses have a harder time mitigating the risks posed by the CCP. It is harder for them to diversify production, or to access sophisticated legal resources to combat IP theft.

That is why I have worked to find bipartisan solutions. Just last week, I introduced the bipartisan *Combating CCP Influence Act*, which would give Congress a better look at the CCP’s foreign malign influence and its implications for our national and economic security. Another bill I led would help small businesses protect against intellectual property theft by foreign entities like the CCP. These bills will help us both understand the full scale of the risks and give our entrepreneurs the resources to navigate around them.

As we talk about protecting Main Street America, we must stay focused on the actions of the communist Chinese government, not on people, not on ethnicity, and not on the Asian American community which is deeply woven into the fabric of this country.

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