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November 14, 2023

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr. President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Biden:

I write today regarding your meeting this week with President Xi Jinping of the People's Republic of China. I remain deeply concerned about the Chinese government's ongoing efforts to poison our communities with deadly fentanyl, harm American workers through trade cheating, spy on American military facilities, undermine our democracy, and threaten our food supply. As you prepare for your meeting with President Xi, I respectfully request that you raise these important topics and make it crystal clear that the United States will not tolerate actions that harm Americans.

The United States must continue to push the Chinese government to do more to address their role in the fentanyl crisis, including forcing China to stop the manufacturing and export of illicit fentanyl-related precursor chemicals and to dismantle the smuggling and money laundering operations of Chinese criminal organizations. By cracking down on these manufacturing and trafficking rings, the United States will be better positioned to block these dangerous drugs before they can reach our borders.

It is also important that we make sure China is playing by the rules when it comes to trade. When China fails to live up to its trade commitments or unfairly dumps products into the United States, our trade representatives must hold China accountable and defend our producers and manufactures. We have seen the negative impacts that China's unfair trade practices have had on honey producers in Montana and on other industries across the country. Whether it is dumping goods directly from China or routing goods through other countries to avoid tariffs, hard-working Montanans are worse off when China cheats to manipulate our markets or prices.

Finally, the United States must be clear that our nation will not tolerate surveillance efforts such as the Chinese spy balloon incident, online misinformation campaigns through TikTok, or any other conduct that is designed to undermine our democracy. There is no doubt that China is seeking to replace the United States as the leading world power and will use any tactic to achieve this end goal.

I hear directly from Montanans everyday about the drug crisis plaguing our communities and the aggressive actions by China that threaten our way our life. I appreciate that you will be engaging directly with President Xi on our nation's priorities, and I encourage you to highlight these issues during your meeting. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jon Tester

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