



STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
KRISTI L. NOEM | GOVERNOR

November 28, 2023

The Honorable Mike Gallagher
Chairman, House Select Committee on the CCP
1211 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Gallagher,

I write to you out of mutual concern for the threat posed by the Chinese Communist Party. I offer my support for [H.R. 4577](#) and urge that it be added to the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA).

As you know, China has taken steps to infiltrate every facet of our way of life. They have taken over our supply chains for critical resources like prescription drugs, technology components, and industrial inputs that are crucial to the construction of our military weapons. As a lifelong farmer and rancher, I am particularly concerned about China infiltrating America's food supply.

Food security is a matter of national security – I know that you agree. From 2010 to 2020, China's holdings of American agricultural land increased by 5,300%. It is clear that their agenda is to control our food supply. We have seen China use fear and control to perpetuate their agenda for generations. If they successfully control our food supply, they will be able to control the United States.

Under your leadership on the Select Committee on the CCP, protecting our nation from this threat has risen to one of the primary policy goals of the House Republican Conference. I appreciate your continued action. In particular, I appreciate your introduction of [H.R. 4577](#), the Protecting U.S. Farmland and Sensitive Sites from Foreign Adversaries Act. Importantly, this bill contains more protections for our agricultural land than the [Senate amendment](#) to the NDAA.

This important legislation must be added to the NDAA because it:

- Authorizes the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS) to consider food security when reviewing transactions;
- Adds the US Department of Agriculture Secretary to CFIUS, giving agriculture a seat at the table;

- Designates six specific countries as “foreign adversaries” – the same six countries South Dakota designated as “Evil Foreign Governments,” including Communist China;
- Creates the term “foreign adversary entity” to include evil foreign governments and organizations or entities controlled or owned by these foreign adversaries;
- Permits the federal CFIUS board to investigate “elevated risk real estate transactions” for transactions involving purchases or leases with foreign adversary entities when a transaction is in close proximity to, or could permit intelligence gathering, or expose national security activities at sensitive sites including airports, maritime ports, or military bases.

The states and Congress must work together to defend our nation from the Chinese Communist Party, especially given the lack of sufficient action from the Biden Administration. This legislation is an important step in that effort – but getting it passed as part of the NDAA will be no small lift.

Congress too-often resists accomplishing meaningful reform. You have an opportunity before you to take a different path. Let me know if I can be of any assistance to you in this effort, including sharing with your Select Committee about the importance of getting this legislation passed. I will continue to highlight the importance of securing America’s food supply. Thank you for your leadership on behalf of the American people.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kristi Noem', with a long, sweeping underline.

Kristi Noem
Governor of South Dakota