



December 4, 2023

President Joseph R. Biden
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Secretary Janet Yellen
U.S. Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, D.C. 20220

Representative Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Senator Chuck Schumer
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Senator Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20515

Dear President Biden, Secretary Yellen, Speaker Johnson, Leader Schumer, Leader Jeffries, and Leader McConnell:

Numerous governors and state legislatures have taken action to protect our citizens from the imminent national security threat of the Chinese Communist Party (“CCP”). But national security demands a national response from national leaders. The responsibility is now with you—follow the lead of our States and prevent CCP amassing of American lands.

It is no secret the communist regime in China is acquiring swaths of real property throughout the United States.¹ Very recently, Gotion, Inc., a subsidiary of Chinese-controlled Gotion High-Tech, Inc., bought two hundred and seventy acres of land in Green Charter Township, Michigan, not far from the Camp Grayling National Guard facility.² Unfortunately, the Committee on Foreign

¹ E.g., Jerry Dunleavy and Sarah Bedford, *Who owns America: Why Chinese land purchases near US bases have national security experts concerned*. Washington Examiner (April 25, 2023).

² Alan Rappeport, *A Rural Michigan Town Is the Latest Battleground in the U.S.-China Fight*. The New York Times (Oct. 3, 2023); Cathie Crew, *Gotion VP discusses CFIUS review for Green Charter Township facility*. Pioneer (Sept. 6, 2023) (addressing proximity to National Guard facility).

Investment in the United States declined to block—or even review—this plainly alarming transaction.³

Where the Biden Administration has failed to address the threat at hand, states have stepped into the breach to protect this country’s most valued resource—our people. In 2023, a bipartisan group of eleven states enacted foreign ownership laws, including Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Idaho, Louisiana, Montana, North Dakota, Ohio, Tennessee, Utah, and Virginia.⁴ On October 17, 2023, Arkansas even became the first state in the country to act under such a law, ordering Syngenta Seeds, LLC, (“Syngenta”) to divest of one-hundred and sixty acres of land in Craighead County, Arkansas. Syngenta is a wholly owned subsidiary of the China National Chemical Corporation, Ltd.,--an entity recognized by the U.S. Department of Defense as a “Chinese Military Company.”⁵ These States join several others with existing foreign ownership restrictions, including Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Wisconsin, and West Virginia.⁶

For too long, we have allowed dangerous and adversarial governments to infiltrate our country. Our States will tolerate such allowances no longer. The Biden Administration must reckon with the fact that such entities are plain threats to our national security, our farmers, and our citizenry. This is especially true since the CCP enacted a law in 2017 requiring Chinese citizens abroad to collaborate with Chinese security officials on intelligence work—no questions asked.⁷

We are heartened to see some in Congress advance legislation which would mitigate this threat. And we encourage Congressional action to codify our stance into federal law. Until Congress passes such legislation, we urge the Biden Administration to use all available tools to prevent the continued acquisition of American lands by adversarial foreign governments and entities.

This is not about where anyone is from. Our states welcome Chinese Americans and anyone else who has escaped foreign oppression for American freedom. This is about where your loyalties lie. We simply cannot trust those who pledge allegiance to a hostile foreign power.

Thank you for your consideration of our request. If you have questions or would like to learn more about what our States are doing to protect our citizens from hostile actions of the communist regime in China, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

³ Beth LeBlanc, *Feds decline review of Chinese battery plant plans in Big Rapids, company says*. The Detroit News (June 13, 2023).

⁴ *Foreign Investments in Agricultural Land: FAQs & Resource Library*, The National Agricultural Law Center (October 17, 2023).

⁵ *DOD Releases List of People’s Republic of China (PRC) Military Companies in Accordance with Section 1260H of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021*. U.S. Department of Defense (Oct. 5, 2022).

⁶ National Agricultural Law Center (Oct. 17, 2023).

⁷ Murray Scot Tanner, *Beijing’s New National Intelligence Law: From Defense to Offense*. The Lawfare Institute (July, 20, 2017).

Sincerely,



Governor Sarah Sanders
State of Arkansas



Governor Ron DeSantis
State of Florida



Governor Brian Kemp
State of Georgia



Governor Brad Little
State of Idaho



Governor Kim Reynolds
State of Iowa



Governor-elect Jeff Landry
State of Louisiana



Governor Greg Gianforte
State of Montana



Governor Jim Pillen
State of Nebraska



Governor Doug Burgum
State of North Dakota



Governor Kevin Stitt
State of Oklahoma



Governor Henry McMaster
State of South Carolina



Governor Kristi Noem
State of South Dakota



Governor Bill Lee
State of Tennessee



Governor Greg Abbott
State of Texas



Governor Glenn Youngkin
Commonwealth of Virginia



Governor Jim Justice
State of West Virginia



Governor Mark Gordon
State of Wyoming