

**December 11, 2012**  
**Statement of House W&M Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures Chairman Pat Tiberi**  
**Large Residential Washers from Korea and Mexico (Final)**  
**(Investigation Nos. 701-TA-488 and 731-TA-1199-1200)**

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on behalf of the domestic industry that produces residential washing machines. As a member of the House Committee on Ways and Means, and the Representative of some employees of Whirlpool Corporation's clothes dryer facility in Marion, Ohio, my comments today reflect my concern about the effective enforcement of our trade laws and the importance of the Whirlpool Corporation to the Ohio economy. I urge the Commission to carefully investigate the facts of this case and fully enforce our trade laws as it considers Whirlpool's request to impose antidumping and countervailing duties on large residential washers from Korea and Mexico.

This case is important, not only to me and other members of the Ohio Delegation where Whirlpool operates a world-class washer manufacturing plant, but to companies across America deciding whether to make investments in their U.S. facilities. Whirlpool's investment in its Ohio plant meant hiring additional employees and increasing capacity to produce highly competitive washing machines for U.S. consumers. This should be a success story for Ohio and for America. Unfortunately, rather than adding up to an American success story, my understanding is Whirlpool is suffering losses, while investment and jobs in Ohio have also suffered. I should mention that another Ohio company, GE, similarly initiated a large investment in 2010 to make residential washers in Louisville, Kentucky.

What went wrong? Whirlpool argues that it wasn't the economy. Despite a terrible recession that devastated demand for many products, consumer demand for washing machines has stayed strong. It wasn't the product. Just take a look at *Consumer Reports* to read praise for the quality and reliability of Whirlpool washing machines. Whirlpool asserts that what went wrong is that competitors from Korea

and Mexico used unfair pricing to gain market share and floor space with large retailers, preventing Whirlpool from selling its products at prices that allow it to profit from its investment and maintain its production. I understand that two other manufacturers shut down U.S. washer plants during the period covered by this investigation, with one moving to Mexico, and I am told that a negative outcome in this case could mean additional U.S. producers like Whirlpool suffering the same fate.

I appreciate the Commission's careful review of this record before reaching a decision.

Thank you.