



ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
SENATOR JEFF MERKLEY, CHAIRMAN  
REPRESENTATIVE JAMES P. MCGOVERN, COCHAIRMAN

October 20, 2021

Acting Commissioner Troy Miller  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20229

Dear Acting Commissioner Miller:

We write to request that U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) provide us with detailed information about enforcement of the January 2021 Withhold Release Order (WRO) on cotton imports from the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR). We are particularly interested in whether CBP has stopped imports from companies that have publicly endorsed the use of cotton from the XUAR and have advertised its use in their products. A list of the companies we have identified thus far is included.

If specific information about this latter request is not readily available in an aggregated form, we ask that you enforce the existing WRO with special attention to these companies or issue an additional WRO for the imports of any company endorsing the use of XUAR cotton.

As a new National Basketball Association (NBA) season begins this week, we are very concerned about the sportswear companies Anta, Peak, and Li-Ning, which have high-profile endorsements from NBA players. We do not want sports stars or other celebrity influencers to knowingly or unwittingly endorse goods made with forced labor or for U.S. consumers to buy these products, which remain available to purchase through Amazon.com and other direct-to-consumer platforms online.

The U.S. Department of State has determined that the systematic use of forced labor in the XUAR is a crime against humanity. The WROs issued by CBP over the past several years are an important step in ensuring that Americans are not complicit in the use of forced labor or in helping to fund the Chinese government's genocide and crimes against humanity in the XUAR. We remain committed to assisting CBP in enforcing these measures consistently and aggressively, including through expanded use of forensic country-of-origin testing and other means, and hope to work with you to ensure CBP has the resources it needs to protect American markets and supply chains from being tainted by the products of forced labor. Companies' public endorsement of the use of cotton from the XUAR, and their advertised use of cotton from the XUAR in their products, warrants special attention from CBP, as it raises specific concerns about the supply chains of these companies.

We also remain committed to passage of the *Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act* in Congress. The U.S. Senate passed the bill unanimously in July 2021, and a version of this bill passed the U.S. House of Representatives in 2020. The effort to consistently enforce laws prohibiting imports made with forced labor is in the economic interests of U.S. workers and consumers and the interests of Uyghurs, Kazakhs, and other predominantly Muslim ethnic minorities in China who face genocide and crimes against humanity.

We look forward to working with you. We await your response to our inquiries.

Sincerely,



Senator Jeffrey A. Merkley  
Chairman



Representative James P. McGovern  
Co-Chairman



Senator Marco Rubio  
Ranking Member



Representative Christopher H. Smith  
Ranking Member

## Companies that support Xinjiang Cotton:

**Brand: Anta Sports<sup>i</sup>**

Industry: Sportswear

**Brand: Asics<sup>ii</sup>**

Industry: Sportswear

**Brand: Hugo Boss<sup>iii</sup>**

Industry: Designer men's and women's clothing

**Brand: FILA<sup>iv</sup>**

Industry: Sportswear; Footwear

**Brand: Kelme<sup>v</sup>**

Industry: Sportswear

**Brand: Li Ning<sup>vi</sup>**

Industry: Sportswear; Footwear

**Brand: Muji<sup>vii</sup>**

Industry: Retail/Household goods

**Brand: Peak<sup>viii</sup>**

Industry: Sportswear; Footwear

**Brand: Semir / 森马**

Industry: Men's and women's clothing<sup>ix</sup>

**Brand: Metersbonwe / 美特斯邦威**

Industry: Men's and women's clothing<sup>x</sup>

**Brand: Inman / 茵曼**

Industry: Men's and women's clothing<sup>xi</sup>

**Brand: Mukzin / 密扇**

Industry: Men's and women's clothing<sup>xii</sup>

**Brand: Hongxing Erke / 鸿星尔克**

Industry: Sportswear and sporting goods<sup>xiii</sup>

**Brand: 361 Degrees / 361度**

Industry: Sportswear<sup>xiv</sup>

**Brand: Xtep / 特步**

Industry: Sportswear<sup>xv</sup>

**Brand: Hotwind / 热风**

Industry: Men's and women's clothing<sup>xvi</sup>

**Brand: Yishion / 以纯**

Industry: Men's and women's clothing<sup>xvii</sup>

**Brand: Urban Beauty / 都市丽人**

Industry: Underwear<sup>xviii</sup>

**Brand: Three Gun / 三枪**

Industry: Men's and women's clothing<sup>xix</sup>

**Brand: Sept Wolves / 七匹狼**

Industry: Men's clothing<sup>xx</sup>

**Brand: Heilan Home / 海澜之家**

Industry: Men's and women's clothing; textiles<sup>xxi</sup>

**Brand: Tries / 才子男装**

Industry: Men's clothing<sup>xxii</sup>

**Brand: Joe One / 九牧王**

Industry: Men's clothing<sup>xxiii</sup>

**Brand: Saint Angelo / 报喜鸟**

Industry: Men's and women's clothing<sup>xxiv</sup>

**Brand: Mercury Home Textiles / 水星家纺**

Industry: Home textiles<sup>xxv</sup>

**Brand: Dohia / 多喜爱家纺**

Industry: home textiles<sup>xxvi</sup>

**Brand: Luolai Home Textiles / 罗莱家纺**

Industry: Home Textiles<sup>xxvii</sup>

**Brand: Beyond Home / Boyang Home Textiles / 博洋家纺**

Industry: Home Textiles<sup>xxviii</sup>

**Brand: Fenteng / 芬腾**

Industry: Clothing and Home Textiles<sup>xxix</sup>

**Brand: Jieyu Towels / Jeyu / 洁玉毛巾**

Industry: Daily use brand<sup>xxx</sup>

**Brand: Youngor / 雅戈尔**

Industry: Men's and women's clothing<sup>xxxi</sup>

**Brand: Grace / 洁丽雅**  
Industry: Daily essentials<sup>xxxii</sup>

**Brand: Space 7 / 七度空间**  
Industry: Daily essentials<sup>xxxiii</sup>

**Brand: Cabbeen / 卡宾**  
Industry: Men's and women's clothing<sup>xxxiv</sup>

**Brand: Peacebird / 太平鸟**  
Industry: Men's and women's clothing<sup>xxxv</sup>

**Brand: All Blu / 幼岚**  
Industry: Men's and women's clothing<sup>xxxvi</sup>

**Brand: Ton Lion / 唐狮**  
Industry: Men's and women's clothing<sup>xxxvii</sup>

**Brand: Antarctic / Nanjiren / 南极人**  
Industry: Men's and women's clothing; home textiles<sup>xxxviii</sup>

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<sup>i</sup> “Chinese Company Anta to Quit BCI, Will Continue to Use Cotton from Xinjiang,” *Global Times*, March 24, 2021.

<sup>ii</sup> “Asics Yaseshi: jiang jixu caigou he zhichi Xinjiang mian” [Asics: Will continue to purchase and support Xinjiang cotton], *Beijing Daily*, March 25, 2021.

<sup>iii</sup> Hugo Boss later retracted their statement saying that it was “unauthorized and has now been deleted.” William Wilkes, “Hugo Boss Under Fire From Chinese Stars Over Xinjiang Pledge,” *Bloomberg*, March 28, 2021.

<sup>iv</sup> Zen Soo and Joe McDonald, “China Erasing H&M from Internet amid Xinjiang Backlash,” *Associated Press*, March 26, 2021.

<sup>v</sup> Kelme Soccer (@KELMEzuqiu), “#Kaermei liting zhongguo Xinjiang mian# meili Xinjiang haoshan haoshui hao mianhua, women youxuan youzhi Xinjiang mianhua!” [#Kelme backs China's Xinjiang Cotton. Beautiful Xinjiang has great scenery and great cotton, we prefer the excellent quality of Xinjiang cotton!], *Weibo*, March 25, 2021, 6:32pm.

<sup>vi</sup> Global Times (@Huanqiu Shibao), “Li Ning gongsi dujia huiying: weijiaru Lianghao Mianhua Fazhan Xiehui, Xinjiang shi zhongyao yuancailiao chandi zhiyi” [Li Ning exclusive response: we have not joined the Better Cotton Initiative, and Xinjiang is an important source for our raw materials], *Weibo*, March 25, 2021, 12:45pm.

<sup>vii</sup> “Wulin liangpin dujia huiying: women zai jixu shiyong Xinjiang mian” [Exclusive response from Muji: We will continue using Xinjiang cotton], *Global Times*, March 25, 2021.

<sup>viii</sup> “Xinjiang Cotton: Western Clothes Brands Vanish as Backlash Grows,” *BBC News*, March 26, 2021; “Liting Xinjiang mian, zhe 30 yu jia Zhongguo pinpai jielian fasheng” [More than 30 Chinese brands successively voice their support for Xinjiang cotton], *Global Times Online*, reprinted in *Ifeng*, March 26, 2021.

<sup>ix</sup> <https://m.weibo.cn/detail/4618458911998292> 3/24/21

<sup>x</sup> <https://m.weibo.cn/detail/4619791074069125> 3/28/21

<sup>xi</sup> <https://m.weibo.cn/detail/4618939922909491> 3/25/21

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- xii <https://m.weibo.cn/detail/4618453548270461> 3/24/21
- xiii <https://m.weibo.cn/detail/4619356580874267> 3/27/21
- xiv <https://m.weibo.cn/detail/4629602394178381> 4/24/21
- xv <https://m.weibo.cn/detail/4619770400342182> 3/28/21
- xvi <https://m.weibo.cn/detail/4620120535860935> 3/29/21
- xvii <https://m.weibo.cn/detail/4618555976846971> 3/24/21
- xviii <https://m.weibo.cn/detail/4619748447093186> 3/28/21
- xix <https://m.weibo.cn/detail/4619133901079764> 3/30/21
- xx <https://m.weibo.cn/detail/4618772948455310> 3/25/21
- xxi <https://m.weibo.cn/detail/4619769678664979> 3/28/21
- xxii <https://m.weibo.cn/detail/4618560351769937> 3/24/21
- xxiii <https://m.weibo.cn/detail/4618596078851608> 3/24/21
- xxiv <https://m.weibo.cn/detail/4618582963522225> 3/24/21
- xxv <https://m.weibo.cn/detail/4619425753861767> 3/27/21
- xxvi <https://m.weibo.cn/detail/4618967714628243> 3/25/21
- xxvii <https://m.weibo.cn/detail/4619805590815211> 3/28/21
- xxviii <https://m.weibo.cn/detail/4618597731405399> 3/24/21
- xxix <https://m.weibo.cn/detail/4618938626871859> 3/25/21
- xxx <https://m.weibo.cn/detail/4621086735733260> 3/31/21
- xxxi <https://m.weibo.cn/detail/4619048585003239> 3/26/21
- xxxii <https://m.weibo.cn/detail/4619054805682258> 3/26/21
- xxxiii <https://m.weibo.cn/detail/4618430768747871> 3/24/21
- xxxiv <https://m.weibo.cn/detail/4621187067937255> 4/1/21
- xxxv <https://www.taobao.com/list/item/640312291198.htm>
- xxxvi <https://m.weibo.cn/detail/4618662054992736> 3/25/21
- xxxvii <https://m.weibo.cn/detail/4618695730790516> 3/25/21
- xxxviii <https://m.weibo.cn/detail/4618613610514400> 3/25/21