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**To: Congressional Executive Commission on China**  
**From: Congressman Robert Pittenger**  
**Date: March 1, 2017**  
**Re: Statement for the Record**

Good afternoon. Thank you Chairman Rubio and Chairman Smith for your work and for hosting this important hearing today.

As some of you may know, Chairman Smith and I recently authored an op-ed for the Wall Street Journal that reflected on concerns related to Chinese investment in American financial institutions – thank you Chairman Smith for joining me on that important effort.

Mr. Chairmen, my office and I have worked very closely with Members and staff on this Commission.

We have also worked closely with two distinguished panelists today – former Congressman Frank Wolf and Commissioner Mike Wessel.

Thank you both for your contributions to our important work on U.S.-China policy issues.

Mr. Chairmen, the Chinese government maintains a pervasive and dominant role over private industry in China.

The Chinese economy revolves around the artificial boosting of domestic firms.

Rather than adhering to openness and free market values, economic performance in China is often generated by the government and is driven by government priorities.

Unfortunately, government priorities in China often include the harassment of dissidents, journalists, and religious minorities.

As we consider policy matters related to the World Trade Organization, we must recognize the close relationship between Chinese economic and trade practices, and how their government leverages its economic dominance to further control and oppress Chinese citizens.

Thank you again Mr. Chairmen for hosting this important hearing.

Sincerely,



Robert Pittenger  
Member of Congress