

In western Pennsylvania, we have been particularly hard hit by the flawed trade policies of the past. Since 2000, our region has lost over 210,000 jobs. Congressman Altmire is committed to rebuilding our nation's manufacturing industry and improving benefits for American workers. He has pledged to support only trade policies that put American workers first and benefit western Pennsylvania's economy and families.

Stamping Our Roads and Bridges "Made in America"

In the last decade, more than 56,000 American factories that supply the products for our roads and bridges have closed or moved overseas and 90,000 more are at risk of shutting down. Billions of dollars are being spent every year on steel and iron from other countries to improve our infrastructure. Congressman Altmire joined the Ranking Member of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Committee to introduce the *Invest in American Jobs Act of 2011*. The legislation strengthens current requirements on transportation and infrastructure investments by ensuring that products used to construct projects across the country are produced in the United States. For more information, see: [[Altmire Fights to Keep Infrastructure Spending in America](#)]

Addressing China's Unfair Trade Practices

On January 13, 2009, Congressman Altmire teamed up with Republican Congressman Tim Murphy in a bipartisan effort to assist our nation's manufacturing community. The Supporting America's Manufacturers Act (H.R. 471) would help to ensure that local manufacturers, such as Wheatland Tube, who have been extremely hard hit by unfair trade policies, have access to the tools necessary to fight back against Chinese imports. For more information, see: [[Altmire, Murphy Work to Help Manufacturers Hurt by Trade with China](#)].

Combating Currency Manipulation

Other countries' consistent currency manipulation has put American manufacturers at an unfair disadvantage. To help provide American companies with a more level playing field, Congressman Altmire helped to introduce the Currency Reform for Fair Trade Act and voted for it when it passed the House in 2009. Congressman Altmire was an original cosponsor when this legislation was reintroduced during this term of Congress. This legislation would require the U.S. government to take action when it determines that another country is deliberately undervaluing or overvaluing its currency against the U.S. Dollar. This would help to ensure that American companies' efforts to compete in the global economy are not undermined by other countries' actions.

Advocating for Domestic Steel Manufacturers

Western Pennsylvania is home to the world's greatest steel manufacturers. Congressman Altmire recognizes their importance to not only the Pennsylvania economy, but to the world. On multiple occasions, Congressman Altmire has testified before the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) on behalf of western Pennsylvania's manufacturers. In 2009, he testified before the ITC and outlined how China's unfair trade practices have impacted western Pennsylvania companies. The ITC ultimately ruled in favor of the domestic steel manufacturers' petition [[Altmire Praises ITC Ruling in Favor of Domestic Steel Manufacturers](#)]. In January 2011, Congressman Altmire testified before the ITC to support American steel producers' petition for relief from these unfairly traded imports, which resulted in a favorable ruling from the ITC for the steel manufacturers [[Altmire Welcomes ITC Ruling in Favor of American Steel Manufacturers](#)]. Again in April 2011, Congressman Altmire testified before the ITC to highlight the need to prevent Brazil, Japan, and Russia from engaging in unfair trade practices by once again flooding American markets with underpriced hot-rolled steel [[Altmire Testifies Before ITC in Support of U.S. Steel Industry](#)]

Assisting Workers Displaced by Trade

Congressman Altmire co-authored and voted in favor of a bill that would improve benefits for workers who have lost their jobs due to trade policies. The legislation would significantly improve the Trade Adjustment Assistance program by providing displaced workers with career counseling, job training, and income support. For more information, see: [[Altmire Introduces Trade Adjustment Assistance Reforms](#)].

The Dangers of Chinese Imports

Congressman Altmire has been a champion in pushing for legislation to address the dangers created by tainted Chinese imports. On numerous occasions, he has called for action to protect American consumers and manufacturers and he voted in favor of the Consumer Product Safety Modernization Act (H.R. 4040), which was signed into law on August 14, 2008.