

EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER
FIRST DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

ENERGY AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT
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OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1001

April 30, 2019

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President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

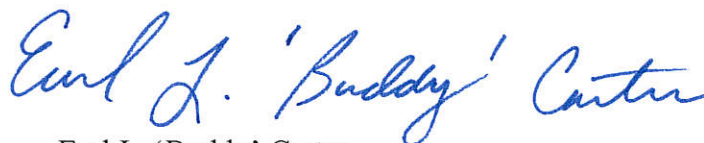
Your actions to rectify unfair trade agreements and the imbalance between domestic and international organizations are clear from your efforts to ensure a fair playing field for American businesses and jobs. Just last year, you continued to fulfill your America First promise by negotiating a deal for greater Qatari transparency and an end to their subsidies for their state-owned airline, Qatar Airways. That included the halt of Qatar Airways' expansion into the United States until such time as they could show the subsidies had ended. It has been just over a year since Qatar made that commitment and it appears that more attention may be needed to address the matter.

Shortly after the agreement was signed, Qatar Airways purchased a large stake in a small, failing Italian regional airline known as Meridiana. This purchase was facilitated using a direct cash injection of 100 million Euros from the State of Qatar. Qatar then rebranded the airline "Air Italy", promptly transferred to it a number of new Qatar Airways widebody airplanes and announced that the new "Air Italy" would be launching service to five cities in United States. Air Italy is in a way a proxy airline for Qatar to get around the deal it signed after pledging to stop this behavior.

These actions undermine competition and have the potential to harm thousands of American workers. I wanted to bring to your attention how the actions to circumvent the agreement raise a number of concerns for American jobs and competition.

Thank you for your continued commitment to protecting American jobs and rectifying unfair treatments. This is an opportunity to ensure American companies are able to compete on a fair playing field.

Sincerely,



Earl L. 'Buddy' Carter
Member of Congress