What People Are Saying About Remaking American Security

Members of Congress

“Standing behind every soldier, sailor, airman or Marine is a proud group of American workers and companies building the platforms and weapon systems essential to our national defense. In my home state of Connecticut, companies like Ansonia Specialty Metals are making products used in nearly every vessel in the U.S. Navy. This report reminds us that if the federal government were to allow these critical defense manufacturers to go out of business, it would have dire consequences for our national security.”

Senator Christopher Murphy (D-CT)

“As this study indicates, America’s national security relies on too many foreign products incorporated into too many American weapons systems. A foreign-based supply chain for America’s military does two things, both bad. First, it makes America’s defense systems vulnerable, which puts America's national security at unnecessary risk. Second, it weakens America’s economy, thereby undermining family incomes and America’s ability to pay for national security. This is why I am helping to lead a bipartisan effort, through the Currency Reform for Fair Trade Act, to protect American manufacturers from damaging and unfair currency manipulation.”

Congressman Mo Brooks (R-AL-05)

“10 years ago I established the House Manufacturing Caucus. Over these years I’ve continued to work across the aisle on manufacturing issues, because I firmly believe that domestic manufacturing is the key to America’s continued prosperity and to our national security. While I am disturbed by some of the trends highlighted in General Adams’ report, I am encouraged that we as a nation are starting to more closely examine this issue. I am also encouraged that almost 100 of my fellow representatives have joined the House Manufacturing Caucus, and I promise that we will continue shining a light on the critical importance of domestic manufacturing and the Defense Industrial Base.”

Congressman Tim Ryan (D-OH-13)

"The reliance on foreign companies for military supplies not only hurts American manufacturing and competitiveness, but also poses risks to our national security," said Brown. "The Department of Defense and the entire Administration must do more to ensure we use taxpayer dollars on domestic supply chains and to ensure the integrity of our military goods and services both here and abroad."

Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH)

“This report highlights the twin challenges of national security and job security. Maintaining a secure manufacturing pipeline should be a top priority for the United States to ensure our ability to respond to evolving security threats and to promote a manufacturing base that sustains high-quality jobs for American workers.”

Senator Bob Casey (D-PA)

"America’s strength lay not necessarily in missiles and military might, but instead in our nation's economic engine that drives the world economy. We cannot expect to maintain this leading role in the world if we continue to ship our manufacturing strength, jobs and dollars overseas to fund the economies of countries who often do not have the best interest of American at heart.”

Congressman Robert Aderholt (R-AL-04)
Military

“America’s vulnerability today is frightening. This report is a wake-up call for America to pay attention to the growing threat posed by the steady deterioration of our defense industrial base. Excessive and unwise outsourcing of American manufacturing to other nations weakens America’s military capability. As a soldier, I’ve witnessed first-hand the importance of our nation’s ability to rapidly produce and field a sophisticated array of capabilities. There is a real risk that supply chain vulnerabilities will hamper our response to future threats.”

John Adams
Brigadier General, U.S. Army (Retired)
President, Guardian Six Consulting

“National security in times of austerity has added risks. For our military to be effective with less manpower and platforms, our advanced weapons systems and military aircraft must maintain near 100% reliability and availability. There is no room for error. Remaking American Security presents an eye-opening look at risk factors created by offshoring the production of critical parts and material. We must do everything we can to mitigate and manage these risks during the current drawdown in defense spending. The first step is to support a strong domestic manufacturing sector.”

Arlen D. (Dirk) Jameson
Lieutenant General, U.S. Air Force (Retired)
Former Deputy Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Strategic Command

“America's Armed Forces need to have the capability to quickly mobilize, deploy anywhere in the world, and return home. Transportation systems, weapon systems and other equipment must be fully operational from the first alert through the last logistical mile of the redeployment operations. Remaking American Security focuses on the critical components necessary to equip, arm, deploy and redeploy our warfighters. In addition, it highlights the dangerous vulnerabilities in our supply chains that can undermine military readiness. Policymakers, concerned with military readiness, should take a close look at how we’re producing the equipment and weapons systems used by the men and women our America's Armed Forces to ensure these outstanding Americans can continue to respond to our nation's call with the necessary speed and decisiveness.”

Larry J. Lust
Major General, U.S. Army (Retired)
Former J-4 (Logistics and Security Assistance), HQ U.S. European Command
Former Deputy G-4 (Logistics), HQ Department of the Army
Former Assistant Chief of Staff of the Army for Installation Management, HQ Department of the Army

“Remaking American Security is a call for change in how we approach military procurement. America’s industrial base is a critical component of our force structure, and the production of ships and advanced weapons systems with parts manufactured here in this country is the best guarantee that our Navy will continue to dominate the seas. We need to align our acquisition strategy with our defense posture to support a strong, innovative domestic manufacturing base.”

Jamie Barnett
Rear Admiral, USN (Ret)
Former Deputy Commander, Navy Expeditionary Combat Command
Former Chief, Public Safety & Homeland Security Bureau, Federal Communications Commission

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Alliance for American Manufacturing (AAM)
www.americanmanufacturing.org • 711 D Street, NW, 3rd Floor • Washington, DC 20004 • 202-393-3430
“Much of our national security depends on the skills and heroism of our warfighters. It also depends on the quality of the weapons, armor, and communications systems that support them. *Remaking American Security* demonstrates the risks inherent in a supply chain that relies increasingly on products and technologies from abroad. It’s time for our national leadership to have a conversation about how to maintain the technological superiority we need to protect our nation from current and future threats.”

Stephen A. Cheney  
Brigadier General, USMC (Retired)  
Chief Executive Officer, American Security Project

“This study highlights major vulnerabilities in the US defense industrial base that potentially translate into an inability to surge or maintain production of defense equipment in times of crisis. The study also shows that some of our components may be subject to interference or manipulation by foreign suppliers.”

Larry Wortzel, Ph.D.  
Colonel, U.S. Army (Retired)  
Commissioner, U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission

**Labor/Industry**

“Allowing our defense industrial base to keep shrinking and our dependence on foreign manufacturers to keep growing will make America weaker, less secure, and less safe. As the U.S. pivots its defense posture to focus on Asia, procurement policies that allow, or in some cases encourage, sourcing of critical defense materials from China and other potentially unreliable suppliers don’t make sense. Self-reliance has always been an American virtue and the key to our nation’s success and prosperity. Manufacturing is important for job creation and a strong economy, and it’s also essential for our national security.”

Scott Paul  
President, Alliance for American Manufacturing

Without a solid economic base of manufacturing, we cannot hope to retain our status as a preeminent world power, neither economically nor militarily. American workers, including hundreds-of-thousands of USW members, make the best and most reliable products in the world, and America’s warfighters deserve no less when they put their lives on the line in protection of our liberty.

Leo Gerard  
International President  
United Steelworkers

“The development and manufacturing of specialty metals, including titanium and titanium alloys, nickel-based alloys and superalloys, and specialty alloys, are core competencies of the United States. Our nation must assure a safe and secure supply of these critical products by enforcing existing laws, such as the Specialty Metals Clause, that preserve domestic defense manufacturing capabilities. The US must also insist on fair trade practices and WTO compliance by our trading partners. From 2004 through 2012, ATI invested approximately $3.7 billion to renew and enhance our capabilities. We have also developed and introduced innovative new products to enable next-generation and future-generation aerospace and defense equipment. The United States must support strong domestic manufacturing and our country’s leading specialty metals industry. A healthy and diversified specialty metals industry and manufacturing base is critical to the strength of our military.”

Richard J. Harshman  
Chairman, President, and Chief Executive Officer  
Allegheny Technologies Incorporated (ATI)
“Our company has produced shipboard tubing for the US Navy for more than 70 years. We understand the importance of manufacturing to military specifications and take pride in delivering a superior product made in America by our skilled and dedicated workforce. Our business has adapted many times over the years to a changing marketplace. The report, Remaking American Security, shines a light on the pressures facing companies like ours. It is our hope that policymakers will focus on strengthening the American defense industrial base so we can continue supporting our military.”

John Barto
Vice President and General Manager
Ansonia Specialty Metals, LLC
Waterbury, CT

“Remaking American Security highlights the fact that a strong American manufacturing base is essential for equipping our military and ensuring our national security. In particular, Nucor applauds this report’s call to preserve and increase U.S. production of steel armor plate to ensure that the American warfighter is protected with American steel. Nucor has invested considerable time and resources to become a significant and reliable supplier of armor plate for the U.S. military, and we are committed to being in this market for the long-term. Nucor wholeheartedly agrees with the report’s conclusion that a healthy and vibrant domestic armor plate industry is critical to the national security interests of the United States.”

Eileen P. Bradner
Senior Director and Counsel, Federal Government Affairs
Nucor Corporation