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CSI Statement on White House Decision to Maintain Section 301 China Tariffs

Washington, D.C. (May 14, 2024) —The Coalition of Services Industries (CSI) today issued the following statement:

Said CSI President Christine Bliss: "While we recognize the need to promote US economic security, it is regrettable that after such a lengthy review the administration has opted to retain all Section 301 tariffs. It is difficult to understand the security rationale for imposing duties that affect so many everyday goods used by American consumers as well as factory inputs that impact both manufacturers and services suppliers. Moreover, the time frame for adapting to dramatically higher tariffs on certain strategic sectors is extremely brief and could prove disruptive. We do appreciate the creation of a tariff exclusion process, but it appears far too narrow.

"Since the existing tariffs have not prompted China to significantly alter its trade practices after nearly five years in effect, we are doubtful that doubling down on the same strategy will prove effective. Unfortunately, we are concerned that sticking with the same unproductive approach will merely hinder US competitiveness without producing the administration's desired outcome of bolstering security."

CSI is the leading U.S. industry association devoted to promoting the trade policy priorities of the U.S. services sector on services and digital issues. Our members include companies that provide financial services, information and communication technology services, telecom services, express delivery and logistics, media and entertainment, distribution, and professional services to all sectors of the economy, including manufacturing and agriculture. CSI members include manufacturers of consumer electronics, telecommunications equipment and health and nutrition products. Our members operate in all 50 states and in nearly 200 countries, representing both large and small firms. CSI also works with counterpart organizations around the globe as co-chair of the Global Services Coalition and the Asia Pacific Services Coalition.