

**ITC Modernization Alliance Statement
on Confirmation of Howard Lutnick as Secretary of Commerce**

WASHINGTON – On February 18, 2025, Howard Lutnick was confirmed by the United States Senate to serve as Secretary of the United States Department of Commerce. Below is a statement from Sarah Beth Jansen, Executive Director of ITC Modernization Alliance (IMA):

“Congratulations to Secretary Lutnick on his confirmation as the 41st Secretary of Commerce. We look forward to working with the Commerce Department, including the US Patent and Trademark Office, which plays a critical role in promoting American innovators. We applaud the Secretary's recent statements during his confirmation hearing, focusing on enhancing American competitiveness and the abuse of the U.S. patent system by bad-faith foreign actors. We would encourage him to examine this problem as it relates to the International Trade Commission, a venue whose mission it is to promote American competitiveness and guard against unfair trade practices. The IMA looks forward to working with Secretary Lutnick and the Commerce Department to advance these and other policies to promote innovation and support U.S. global competitiveness.”

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The ITC Modernization Alliance (IMA) is a coalition of leaders in the technology, telecom, and automotive industries dedicated to modernizing the International Trade Commission (ITC) and promoting trade practices that safeguard American industry, workforce, and consumers. As some of the world's largest patent holders, and with experience as parties to ITC proceedings, IMA members strongly believe in the core purpose of the ITC and appreciate the opportunity to provide input through the public interest inquiry process.