March 4, 2021

Dear Colleague:

As co-chairs of the Copper Caucus, we wanted to bring to your attention exciting news about copper as a tool in the ongoing battle against Covid-19. Recently the US EPA announced they have approved copper alloy surfaces as the FIRST and ONLY product to be registered nationwide for long-lasting efficacy claims against viruses, including SARS-CoV-2 and other viral pathogens. With copper facilities in our districts, we have long known about copper’s efficacy against bacteria, including MRSA, and we are pleased EPA is following the scientific data to approve these new public health claims that copper alloys also kill viruses.

With this news we would also like to invite you to join the Copper Caucus. This bipartisan caucus seeks to work together to advance policy positions and legislation which would be helpful to the domestic copper industry and to support the Members’ and the public’s awareness of the benefits of copper and copper alloys in their daily life. With over 40,000 employees in 30 states and 100 Congressional Districts, the domestic copper industry is a key national driver contributing mightily to the economic success of the United States.

Beyond its antimicrobial properties, copper, the world’s oldest metal, is also one of the most versatile. Copper products are 100% recyclable and can be found in pipe, tube, rod, bar, sheet and strip; wire and cable; electronics including phones and computers; and in many other applications. Copper is a key contributor in renewables and energy efficiency, and both electric vehicles and their charging stations are powered by copper.

To that end, we ask that you consider joining the Copper Caucus and help us advocate for initiatives to support this critical industry. If you would like to join the Caucus or have any questions about it or this recent news about copper’s ability to provide long term protection against Covid-19, please contact Kayla Williams (Higgins) at kayla.williams@mail.house.gov or Mike Davin (Latta) at mike.davin@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,

Brian Higgins  
Member of Congress

Robert E. Latta  
Member of Congress