



# SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE CCP

DEMOCRATS | RANKING MEMBER RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY

August 15, 2025

The Honorable Donald J. Trump  
President of the United States of America  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump,

I write today regarding your Administration's reported approval of export licenses for artificial intelligence (AI) chips, including the China-specific NVIDIA H20 and AMD MI308 for a 15% cut of sales to the People's Republic of China (PRC).<sup>1</sup> This new policy is a clear and present danger to the national security of the United States. Conditioning export control licenses on revenue-sharing violates the Constitution and current U.S. statute, while sending a harmful message to the world that our national security is for sale. I urge you to reverse course on this dangerous policy immediately.

I am equally disturbed by your recent statement signaling openness to permitting exports of a downgraded version of NVIDIA's most advanced "Blackwell" AI chip series to the PRC with 30-50% reduced performance, also in exchange for a cut of revenue.<sup>2</sup> Allowing even downgraded versions of cutting-edge AI hardware to flow to the PRC risks accelerating Beijing's capabilities and eroding our technological edge. Crucially, the PRC can build the largest AI supercomputers in the world by purchasing a moderately larger number of downgraded Blackwell chips—and achieve the same capability to train frontier AI models and deploy them at scale for national security purposes.<sup>3</sup> For the United States to remain a global leader in AI and emerging technologies, we must not incentivize granting licenses for technology exports that strengthen the PRC's AI capabilities or treat our national security tools as bargaining chips.

Export controls exist to protect our national security — not to generate revenue. By statute, export controls are designed to "restrict the export of items which would make a significant contribution to the military potential of any other country . . . which would prove detrimental to the national security of the United States . . . [and] restrict the export of items if necessary to further significantly the foreign policy of the United States or to fulfill its declared international obligations."<sup>4</sup>

Your Administration explicitly recognized that NVIDIA's H20 chips were aiding Beijing's advancement of AI and supercomputing capabilities when the Bureau of Industry and Security imposed restrictions on NVIDIA's H20 chips in April.<sup>5</sup> The H20 has superior memory bandwidth compared to any chip the PRC currently produces, and provides cutting-edge capability for AI "inference," i.e. running an AI system.<sup>6</sup> In addition, NVIDIA's most advanced Blackwell chip—the GB300—has approximately 25 times the computing power of the H20.<sup>7</sup> Maintaining strict restrictions on these chips is essential to preserving America's technological edge and safeguarding our national security interests.

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<sup>1</sup> Sevastopulo, Demetri, and Michael Acton. "Nvidia and AMD to Pay 15% of China Chip Sale Revenues to US Government." *Financial Times*, 10 Aug. 2025, [www.ft.com/content/cd1a0729-a8ab-41e1-a4d2-8907f4c01cac](https://www.ft.com/content/cd1a0729-a8ab-41e1-a4d2-8907f4c01cac).

<sup>2</sup> "President Trump Holds a Press Conference, Aug. 11, 2025." The White House, 11 Aug. 2025, <https://www.whitehouse.gov/videos/president-trump-holds-a-press-conference-aug-11-2025/>.

<sup>3</sup> Burga, Tao, et al. "The H20 Problem: Inference, Supercomputers, and US Export Control Gaps." *Institute for Progress*, 15 April 2025, [ifp.org/the-h20-problem/](https://ifp.org/the-h20-problem/).

<sup>4</sup> 50 U.S.C. § 4811.

<sup>5</sup> NVIDIA Corporation 8-K Filing, 9 April 2025, <https://capedge.com/filing/1045810/0001045810-25-000082/NVDA-8K>.

<sup>6</sup> Burga, Tao, et al.

<sup>7</sup> "NVIDIA Blackwell Ultra AI Factory Platform Paves Way for Age of AI Reasoning." *NVIDIA*, 18 Mar. 2025, [nvidianews.nvidia.com/news/nvidia-blackwell-ultra-ai-factory-platform-paves-way-for-age-of-ai-reasoning](https://nvidianews.nvidia.com/news/nvidia-blackwell-ultra-ai-factory-platform-paves-way-for-age-of-ai-reasoning)

Moreover, the Export Control Reform Act is unambiguous: “No fee may be charged in connection with the submission, processing, or consideration of any application for a license or other authorization or other request made in connection with any regulation in effect under the authority of this title.”<sup>8</sup> By requiring companies like NVIDIA and AMD to pay a percentage of their sales revenue to obtain export licenses, your Administration is flagrantly violating this clear legal prohibition.

Allowing these exports at a profit sends a dangerous signal not only to the PRC but also to our allies, who rely on U.S. leadership and integrity in advanced technology controls. It tells adversaries that America’s most sensitive capabilities can be monetized, while our friends are left questioning our commitment to shared security.

In light of these developments, I request detailed responses to the following questions by August 22, 2025:

1. Under what specific legal authority would the U.S. government extract revenue sharing as a condition for the issuance of export licenses?
2. How would the revenue collected from these arrangements be allocated, managed, and overseen to ensure transparency and proper use?
3. Was Congress informed or consulted at any point during the negotiation or development of this reported revenue-sharing agreement with NVIDIA and AMD? If so, please provide details on the nature and extent of that consultation.
4. Was the interagency referral process established by Congress for export licensing decisions fully followed in the development and approval of this revenue-sharing arrangement?

The American people deserve transparency. Our export control regime must be based on genuine security considerations, not creative taxation schemes disguised as national security policy. I urge you to immediately suspend these arrangements and ensure all export licensing decisions are made in strict compliance with the law to protect U.S. national security.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Raja Krishnamoorthi  
Ranking Member

CC: Secretary of the Treasury Scott Bessent and Secretary of Commerce Howard Lutnick

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<sup>8</sup> 50 U.S.C. § 4815.