

Protecting America from Chinese Cars Act

Problem

Vehicles today can collect and transmit massive amounts of data – geolocation of drivers, mapping of critical infrastructure, full-motion video, and more. These “connected vehicles” are roving data collectors – sweeping up information that would threaten our national security if it were to fall into the hands of our adversaries. They are essentially “Tik Tok” on wheels.

Beyond the ability to collect and transmit information back to adversarial nations, connected vehicles could also be remotely accessed and tampered with. This capability in the hands of our adversaries presents a tremendous risk to our safety and security.

The Chinese auto industry is heavily subsidized, allowing them to undercut competitors and quickly flood new markets – as they have in Europe, South America, and elsewhere. In Mexico, Chinese vehicles have quickly gained roughly 15% market share. In January 2026, Canada announced a trade deal with China that will see Canada dramatically reduce tariffs on tens of thousands of Chinese vehicles. The threat of connected vehicles from China is now at our doorstep.

Solution

The *Protecting America from Chinese Cars Act* would prevent connected vehicles from China and other adversarial nations from entering the U.S. Specifically, this bill:

- Prohibits connected vehicles from China and other adversarial nations from entering the United States. This includes connected vehicles manufactured or designed in China, as well as vehicles manufactured by a Chinese company or an entity in which Chinese companies have a greater than 15% stake.
- Establishes a process by which vehicle manufactures can apply for a specific authorization to allow otherwise prohibited vehicles to enter the U.S. Specific authorizations could only be granted under strict conditions, with both transparency and congressional oversight.
- Requires U.S. Customs and Border Protection to develop rules and procedures related to implementing these prohibitions, including a list of prohibited vehicles, within 90 days of the bill’s enactment.