Commission should grant such treatment. *See* 19 CFR 201.6. Documents for which confidential treatment by the Commission is properly sought will be treated accordingly. All information, including confidential business information and documents for which confidential treatment is properly sought, submitted to the Commission for purposes of this Investigation may be disclosed to and used: (i) by the Commission, its employees and Offices, and contract personnel (a) for developing or maintaining the records of this or a related proceeding, or (b) in internal investigations, audits, reviews, and evaluations relating to the programs, personnel, and operations of the Commission including under 5 U.S.C. Appendix 3; or (ii) by U.S. government employees and contract personnel,[2] solely for cybersecurity purposes. All nonconfidential written submissions will be available for public inspection at the Office of the Secretary and on EDIS,.[3]

This action is taken under the authority of section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1337), and of §§ 201.10 and 210.8(c) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR 201.10, 210.8(c)).

By order of the Commission.

Issued: September 4, 2026.

Sharon Bellamy,

Supervisory Hearings and Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 2026–18379 Filed 9–8–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7020–02–P

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

Request for Comments Regarding Implementation of 19 U.S.C. 1338(g)

AGENCY: The United States International Trade Commission

ACTION: Request for comments regarding implementation of 19 U.S.C. 1338(g) in investigation No. MISC–053.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 338(g) of the Tariff Act of 1930, the United States International Trade Commission (Commission) has a duty to ascertain and at all times to be informed of discriminations against the commerce of the United States pursuant to section 338(a), (b), and (e) and to provide the President with this information as well as recommendations. In furtherance of this duty, and as described in further detail below, the Commission invites comments from interested persons regarding how the Commission can best meet its statutory obligations under Section 338(g).

DATES: To ensure consideration, written comments must be submitted on or before November 9, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Lisa R. Barton, Secretary to the Commission, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436, telephone 202–205–2595. General information concerning the Commission may be obtained by accessing its internet server at *https://www.usitc.gov.* Hearing-impaired persons are advised that information can be obtained by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal on (202) 205–1810.

Notwithstanding Commission Rule 201.8(d), 19 CFR 201.8(d), you may submit comments, identified by docket number MISC–053, by any of the following methods:

—*Agency Website: https://www.usitc.gov.* You may submit comments on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS) at *https://edis.usitc.gov.* For help accessing EDIS, please email *EDIS3Help@usitc.gov.*

—*Email:* Submit comments via to *Secretary@usitc.gov.* Include docket number MISC–053 in the subject line of the message.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name and docket number (MISC–053, along with written comments addressing the topics on which the USITC seeks information. All comments received will be posted without change to *https://www.usitc.gov,* including any personal information provided.

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received, go to *https://www.usitc.gov* and/or the U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Room 112, Washington, DC 20436.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Margaret Macdonald, General Counsel, Office of OGC (202–205–2561, or *Margaret.Macdonald@usitc.gov*) . The media should contact Jennifer Andberg, Office of External Relations ((202) 205–3404, or *Jennifer.Andberg@usitc.gov*). Hearing-impaired individuals may obtain information on this matter by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal at 202–205–1810. General information about the Commission is available by accessing the Commission website at *www.usitc.gov.* Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission should contact the Office of the Secretary at (202) 205–2000.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Pursuant to section 338(g) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1338(g)) the Commission is statutorily required to ''ascertain and at all times be informed'' of any country practicing certain discriminatory actions that burden the commerce of the United States, and when such actions are identified to bring them to the attention of the President and provide recommendations. The Commission's role in providing the President with information and recommendations is mandatory pursuant to the statute.

A review of the history of the Commission's work under Section 338 and its predecessor Section 317 of the Tariff Act of 1922 [i] demonstrates that the Commission previously played a robust and active role implementing these statutes.

Early in its history, the Commission established common rules of procedure for Section 317 investigations, and allowed significant public participation in these investigations.[ii] With the passage of the Tariff Act of 1930, the Commission's procedures for Section 338 activities became more informal and less public, but continued nonetheless.[iii] Across the years, the Commission's Section 317 and Section 338 work led it to identify a range of discriminatory trade actions, ranging from inconsistent duty calculation methods by French customs officials to Australia's requirement that U.S.

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[2] All contract personnel will sign appropriate nondisclosure agreements.

[3] Electronic Document Information System (EDIS): *https://edis.usitc.gov.*

[i] Section 338(g) originated at Section 317 of the Tariff Act of 1922 and was reenacted with minor changes as section 338(g) of the Tarriff Act of 1930.

[ii] The Commission structured its Section 317 activities as formal investigations into ''discriminations'' by individual foreign countries against U.S. commerce broadly, or against specific U.S. exports, and would initiate investigations on its own initiative, at the request of the president, or based on petitions filed by private parties. The Commission would also routinely send out questionnaires to U.S. consular officials and U.S. exporting firms to support its research and information gathering in this work. U.S. Tariff Commission, *Seventh Annual Report of the U.S. Tariff Commission* (1923), Appendix III at 54–55: *https://www.usitc.gov/publications/year_in_review/fy_1923_annual_report.pdf.*

[iii] In the decade following the Act's passage, most of the Commission's work was made up of communications with the U.S. State Department, which would gather complaints, data, and information, upon which the Commission would determine its advice. Complaints were also initiated by State Department officials who sought advice from the Commission as to whether foreign acts violated Section 338. The Commission determined it was necessary to have less public engagement in this work given the sensitive nature of investigations.

products include their ''inland carriage'' in duty assessments. The Commission routinely reported on its Section 317 and Section 338 activities in its annual reports into the 1940s. Following World War II, the establishment of the most-favored-nation obligation—Article I of the {multilateral} General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade of 1947—led some policymakers to question whether Section 338 was a ''dead letter,'' but Congress retained Section 338 in law even when creating new tariff authorities.[iv]

The Commission does not currently have an established practice for identifying applicable discriminatory actions, collecting information relevant to those allegedly discriminatory actions from the public or other sources, or providing the President with the information it collects and its subsequent recommendations. Therefore, the Commission is considering whether establishing a practice will help it better fulfill its statutory obligations. The Commission's statutory mandate under Section 338 is to determine the facts and to provide recommendations. Thoroughness, impartiality, and nonpartisanship are essential to carrying out this work, and the Commission is committed to these principles.

The Commission is requesting comments on the types of activities of foreign countries that interested persons believe fall within the scope of section 338(a), (b), and/or (e) of the Tariff Act of 1930, including how those activities burden commerce in the United States. The Commission is also seeking comments on how the Commission should ascertain and at all times be informed on activities of a foreign country that would satisfy Section 338(a), (b), and/or (e) of the Tariff Act of 1930, including obtaining information from interested persons regarding foreign discriminatory conduct, and what barriers or impediments may prevent members of the public from providing relevant information to the Commission. Finally, the Commission is seeking information on what form(s) its communications to the President pursuant to Section 338(g) should take to communicate its findings and recommendations. The information received under this request for comments will inform how the Commission moves forward with its section 338(g) responsibilities.

[iv] Indeed, in creating Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974, a report by staff of the Senate Finance committee proposed that existing trade laws, including Section 338, should be amended or repealed rather than ''left as dead letters on the statute books.'' Staff of S. Comm. on Finance, 92d Cong., *A Survey of Issues to be Studied by the Subcommittee on International Trade* 14 (Comm. Print 1971). Officials from the Treasury Department countered that Section 338 was a ''useful authority against foreign countries which discriminate'' against the commerce of the United States and requested that the bill ''not repeal section 338.'' *Trade Reform Act of 1973: Hearing Before the H. Comm. on Ways and Means,* 93rd Cong. 2144–2241 (1973) (statement from Office of Secretary of the Treasury). The Trade Act of 1974 did not alter or repeal Section 338.

II. Topics on Which USITC Seeks Information

The Commission invites comments from interested persons providing information on any or all of the following topics:

1. Section 338 (19 U.S.C. 1338) addresses ''unreasonable'' and ''discriminatory'' conduct by foreign governments. What makes conduct ''unreasonable'' or ''discriminatory'' in the context of international commerce? How should the Commission understand those terms for the purposes of Section 338?

2. Information regarding the specific methods and mechanisms by which foreign countries burden United States commerce via:

a. Imposing, directly or indirectly, any unreasonable charge, exaction, regulation, or limitation on the disposition in, or transportation in transit through, or re-exportation from such country of any article wholly or in part the growth or product of the United States, that is not equally enforced with respect to like articles of every foreign country;

b. Discriminating, directly or indirectly, against the commerce of the United States by law or administrative regulation or practice, by or in respect to any customs, tonnage, or port duty, fee, charge, exaction, classification, regulation, condition, restriction, or prohibition, in such manner as to place the commerce of the United States at a disadvantage compared with the commerce of any foreign country; or

c. Discriminating or imposing unequal burdens on the commerce of the United States as described above but with the beneficiary being the industry of a third county.

3. How the Commission should obtain relevant information, including:

a. Processes the Commission should use to obtain information;

b. The degree of sensitivity for the relevant information, and whether safeguards for confidential business information or privacy laws are sufficient protection for this information;

c. Factors that would discourage members of the public with relevant information from sharing it with the Commission, including, for example, the risk of public disclosure that a party provided the Commission with information might prompt direct or indirect reprisal from a foreign government.

d. Steps the Commission should take to mitigate risks that would discourage members of the public with relevant information from sharing it with the Commission.

4. How the Commission should analyze information provided by the public, and how the Commission should convey information and recommendations to the President, including:

a. Should the Commission investigate and report on specific allegations or just use aggregated information;

b. Should the Commission's policy be to use information relating to Section 338 issues for other purposes (such as Section 332 reports), or should the provider of the information have to grant permission for additional uses;

c. When crafting recommendations for the President, what factors should the Commission consider when identifying appropriate options;

d. Historically the Commission did not make the reports it provided to the President public, should the Commission continue this practice?

e. Historically, the Commission would also provide some information about its work under 338(g) to the public. Should the Commission continue this practice? If so, what sort of information would be useful to the public?

5. Is there any additional information the Commission should know to help it best fulfill its obligations under Section 338(g)?

III. Submission Instructions

Written submissions: Interested persons are invited to file written submissions and other information concerning the matters to be addressed in this request. All written submissions should be addressed to the Secretary, and should be received no later than 5:15 p.m., November 9, 2026. All written submissions must conform to the provisions of section 201.8 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR 201.8). Filings must be made through the Commission's Electronic Document Information System (EDIS, *https://edis.usitc.gov*) or via email. Persons with questions regarding electronic filing should contact the Office of the Secretary, Docket Services Division (202–205–1802), email *EDIS3help@usitc.gov,* or consult the Commission's Handbook on Filing Procedures.

Confidential business information: Any submissions that contain confidential business information (CBI) must also conform with the requirements in section 201.6 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR 201.6). Section 201.6 of the rules requires that the cover of the document and the individual pages be clearly marked as to whether they are the ''confidential'' or ''nonconfidential'' version, and that the CBI is clearly identified by means of brackets. All written submissions, except for CBI, will be made available for inspection by interested persons.

All information, including CBI, submitted may be disclosed to and used: (i) by the Commission, its employees and Offices, and contract personnel (a) for developing or maintaining the records of this or a related proceeding, or (b) in internal investigations, audits, reviews, and evaluations relating to the programs, personnel, and operations of the Commission including under 5 U.S.C. Appendix 3; or (ii) by U.S. government employees and contract personnel for cybersecurity or other security purposes. The Commission will not otherwise disclose any CBI in a manner that would reveal the operations of the firm supplying the information.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: September 4, 2026.

Sharon Bellamy,

Supervisory Hearings and Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 2026–18385 Filed 9–8–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7020–02–P

JOINT BOARD FOR THE ENROLLMENT OF ACTUARIES

Meeting of the Advisory Committee; Meeting

AGENCY: Joint Board for the Enrollment of Actuaries.

ACTION: Notice of Federal Advisory Committee meeting.

SUMMARY: The Joint Board for the Enrollment of Actuaries gives notice of a closed teleconference meeting of the Advisory Committee on Actuarial Examinations.

DATES: The meeting will be held on October 23, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Time).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elizabeth Van Osten, Designated Federal Officer, Advisory Committee on Actuarial Examinations, 202–317–3648, *elizabeth.j.vanosten@irs.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that the Advisory Committee on Actuarial Examinations will hold a teleconference meeting on October 23, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Time). The meeting will be closed to the public.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss topics and questions that may be recommended for inclusion on future Joint Board examinations in actuarial mathematics, pension law and methodology referred to in 29 U.S.C. 1242(a)(1)(B).

A determination has been made as required by section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. 1009(d), that the subject of the meeting falls within the exception to the open meeting requirement set forth in 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(9)(B), and that the public interest requires that such meeting be closed to public participation.

Dated: September 4, 2026.

Thomas V. Curtin, Jr.,

Executive Director, Joint Board for the Enrollment of Actuaries.

[FR Doc. 2026–18389 Filed 9–8–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830–01–P

JOINT BOARD FOR THE ENROLLMENT OF ACTUARIES

Invitation for Membership on Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Joint Board for the Enrollment of Actuaries.

ACTION: Request for Applications.

SUMMARY: The Joint Board for the Enrollment of Actuaries (Joint Board), established under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), is responsible for the enrollment of individuals who wish to perform actuarial services under ERISA. To assist in its examination duties mandated by ERISA, the Joint Board has established the Advisory Committee on Actuarial Examinations (Advisory Committee) in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA). The current Advisory Committee members' terms expire on February 28, 2027. This notice describes the Advisory Committee and invites applications from those interested in serving on the Advisory Committee for the March 1, 2027–February 28, 2029, term.

DATES: Applications for membership on the Advisory Committee must be received by no later than December 4, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Send applications electronically with APPLICATION FOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE inserted in subject line to *NHQJBEA@irs.gov.* See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for application requirements.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elizabeth Van Osten, Designated Federal Officer, 202–317–3648, *elizabeth.j.vanosten@irs.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. Background

To qualify for enrollment to perform actuarial services under ERISA, an applicant must satisfy certain experience and knowledge requirements, which are set forth in the Joint Board's regulations. An applicant may satisfy the knowledge requirement by successful completion of Joint Board examinations in basic actuarial mathematics and methodology and in actuarial mathematics and methodology relating to pension plans qualifying under ERISA.

The Joint Board, the Society of Actuaries, and the American Society of Pension Professionals & Actuaries jointly offer examinations acceptable to the Joint Board for enrollment purposes and acceptable to the other two actuarial organizations as part of their respective examination programs.

2. Scope of Advisory Committee Duties

The Advisory Committee plays an integral role in the examination program by assisting the Joint Board in offering examinations that enable examination candidates to demonstrate the knowledge necessary to qualify for enrollment. The Advisory Committee's duties, which are strictly advisory, include (1) recommending topics for inclusion on the Joint Board examinations, (2) developing and reviewing examination questions, (3) recommending proposed examinations, (4) reviewing examination results and recommending passing scores, and (5) providing other recommendations and advice relative to the examinations, as requested by the Joint Board.

3. Member Terms and Responsibilities

Members are appointed for a two-year term. The upcoming term will begin on March 1, 2027, and end on February 28, 2029. Members may seek reappointment for additional consecutive terms.

Members are expected to attend approximately four meetings each calendar year and are reimbursed for travel expenses in accordance with applicable government regulations. Meetings may be held in-person or by teleconference. In general, members are expected to devote 125 to 175 hours, including meeting time, to the work of the Advisory Committee over the course of a year.