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COALITION PRAISES FORMATION OF SEMICONDUCTOR WORKING GROUP

*E-waste Industry Leaders Encourage Focus on Anti-Counterfeiting Measures to
Protect National Security, Public Safety*

November 29, 2016 – The Coalition for American Electronics Recycling (CAER), the voice of the emerging e-waste recycling industry on Capitol Hill, today lauded formation of the [Semiconductor Working Group](#) by the President’s Council of Advisors on Science & Technology. The Working Group will develop a report on strengthening the U.S. semiconductor industry to benefit the nation’s economic and security interests.

The Working Group will examine a range of issues impacting the industry, including rising costs, the growing complexity of innovation, and trade policy. In addition, CAER called for a focus on counterfeit electronic components, originating primarily from China, that undermine the semiconductor industry while threatening national security and public safety in the United States. Counterfeits are typically reprocessed microchips stripped from e-waste smuggled into China from the United States and other developed countries.

Counterfeit components have raised reliability and safety concerns in a wide range of industries, including defense, telecommunications, energy, transportation, healthcare and automotive. For instance, a [Senate Armed Services Committee study](#) found 1,800 cases of counterfeit parts in military technology, including helicopters, cargo planes, submarines, thermal weapons site, and missile control systems. For more information on counterfeit electronic parts, visit the [CAER website](#).

CAER supports the [Secure Electronics Export and Recycling Act](#) (SEERA – HR 5579) that would choke off the flow of counterfeiters’ feedstock from our shores. HR 5579 was [introduced earlier this year](#) by Rep. Paul Cook (R-CA) and Rep. Gene Green (D-TX).

The bill currently resides in the House Foreign Affairs Committee, which oversees the Export Administration Act (EAA) that regulates export of materials that can compromise national security. Untested, nonworking e-waste falls fits that description because it is used in China to produce counterfeit electronics that are pervasive in military hardware as well as critical infrastructure, medical equipment, consumer goods and more.

CAER includes more than 130 companies and supporting members operating approximately 300 facilities in 35 states and Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia. Visit the CAER website for a complete [member list](#).

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