

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

January 8, 2026

The Honorable Scott Bessent  
Secretary of the Treasury  
U.S. Department of the Treasury  
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20220

Dear Secretary Bessent:

As you are aware, iRobot recently filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in Delaware as part of a restructuring agreement with Picea Robotics, which serves as iRobot's primary supplier. Under the terms of this agreement, Picea's Hong Kong subsidiary will acquire full control of the company. As of 2022, Picea Robotics was included in the PRC's Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) "Little Giants" program, which assists small to medium-sized enterprises with direct assistance from the central government.<sup>1</sup> As such, this transaction raises substantial national security and data privacy concerns that warrant immediate CFIUS scrutiny.

iRobot, founded in 1990 by roboticists from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, is a pioneer in consumer robotics and is best known for its Roomba line of robotic vacuum cleaners. Critically, modern Roomba devices are equipped with sophisticated mapping technology, cameras, and sensors that collect detailed floor plans and spatial data from tens of millions of American homes. This sensitive information, in the hands of a PRC-funded entity, could be exploited for surveillance purposes or to advance the Chinese Communist Party's broader intelligence-gathering objectives.

The national security implications of this acquisition are clear:

1. **Data Access:** iRobot's devices collect interior mapping data, movement patterns, and potentially audio and visual information from American households. Transfer of this company to PRC control could provide the Chinese Communist Party with unprecedented access to the private spaces of American citizens.
2. **PRC National Security Laws:** Under the PRC's 2017 National Intelligence Law and other statutes, PRC companies and their subsidiaries are legally obligated to cooperate with state intelligence services and share data upon request. Picea Robotics, through its Hong Kong subsidiary, would be subject to these requirements.
3. **Critical Technology Transfer:** iRobot possesses significant intellectual property in autonomous navigation, artificial intelligence, and robotics—technologies with dual-use applications that could benefit the PRC's military-civil fusion strategy.

Accordingly, we request that CFIUS conduct a comprehensive review of this transaction. Given the sensitivity of the data involved and the strategic importance of maintaining American leadership in robotics and artificial intelligence, we further recommend that CFIUS consider

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<sup>1</sup> PICEA Group. "杉川官网 – 突破始于此." Piceacorp.com. Accessed December 19, 2025.  
<https://www.piceacorp.com/>

whether mitigation measures would be sufficient to address these concerns or whether the transaction should be prohibited entirely.

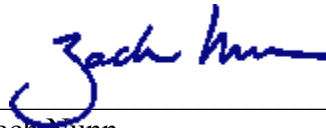
The Chinese Communist Party continues to pursue strategic acquisitions of American companies to advance its technological and intelligence capabilities. We must not allow our bankruptcy laws to become a back door for the CCP to acquire sensitive American technology and access to the private data of American citizens.

We look forward to your prompt attention to this matter and request a brief on the review no later than 8 February 2026.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richie Torres", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Richie Torres  
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Zach Nunn", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Zach Nunn  
Member of Congress

CC:

The Honorable Marco Rubio  
Secretary of State  
2201 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20520

The Honorable Tulsi Gabbard  
Director of National Intelligence  
1500 Tysons McLean Drive  
McLean, VA 22102