

March 18, 2020

The Honorable Donald J. Trump President of the United States of America The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Mr. President:

As you consider emergency measures to mitigate the economic harm from the spread of the coronavirus, Americans for Free Trade urges you to consider taking swift action on a policy that would provide tax relief to millions of American farmers, manufacturers, families, and consumers without having to wait on action from Congress: suspending the additional tariffs placed on certain imports under Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974 and Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act. These tariffs are taxes that Americans pay.

According to research by Trade Partnership Worldwide LLC, suspending the Section 301 and 232 tariffs currently imposed on imports from China, and China's associated retaliation, would provide a boost to the U.S. economy of over \$75 billion, or 0.4 percent of U.S. GDP, returning discretionary income to families, encouraging capital expenditures by private companies, and instilling market confidence in decisive action to address the current economic situation. Moreover, as a set of policies that were implemented using executive authority, suspending these tariffs can be taken quickly and decisively by your Administration without further authorization steps from Congress.

Americans for Free Trade represents every part of the U.S. economy including manufacturers, farmers and agribusinesses, forest products, retailers, technology companies, service suppliers, natural gas and oil companies, importers, exporters, and other supply chain stakeholders, among them many small and family-owned businesses from across the nation.

Together, we urge you to provide tariff relief as one of the measures to help those hurting financially from the economic effects resulting from the current public health crisis.

Sincerely,

Accessories Council
ACT | The App Association
Agriculture Transportation Coalition (AgTC)
ALMA, International (Association of
Loudspeaker Manufacturing and Acoustics)

American Apparel & Footwear Association
(AAFA)
American Association of Exporters and
Importers (AAEI)
American Association of Port Authorities
American Bakers Association

## AMERICANS FOR FREE TRADE

American Bridal & Prom Industry Association (ABPIA)

American Chemistry Council

American Coatings Association, Inc. (ACA)

American Down and Feather Council

American Fly Fishing Trade Association

American Home Furnishings Alliance

American Lighting Association

American Pyrotechnics Association

American Rental Association

American Specialty Toy Retailing Association

American Wind Energy Association

Arizona Technology Council

Arkansas Grocers and Retail Merchants

Association

**Association For Creative Industries** 

Association for PRINT Technologies

Association of American Publishers

Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM)

Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers

Auto Care Association

Beer Institute

Business & Institutional Furniture

Manufacturers Association (BIFMA)

California Retailers Association

Chemical Industry Council of Delaware (CICD)

Coalition of New England Companies for

Trade (CONECT)

Colorado Retail Council

Columbia River Customs Brokers and

Forwarders Assn.

Computer & Communications Industry

Association (CCIA)

Computing Technology Industry Association

(CompTIA)

Consumer Brands Association

Consumer Technology Association

Council of Fashion Designers of America

(CFDA)

CropLife America

Customs Brokers & Freight Forwarders Assn.

of Washington State

Customs Brokers & Freight Forwarders of Northern California

Distilled Spirits Council of the United States

**Electronic Transactions Association** 

Fashion Accessories Shippers Association (FASA)

Fashion Jewelry & Accessories Trade Association

Flexible Packaging Association

Florida Ports Council

Florida Retail Federation

Footwear Distributors and Retailers of America (FDRA)

Fragrance Creators Association

Game Manufacturers Association

Gemini Shippers Association

Georgia Retailers

Global Chamber®

Global Cold Chain Alliance

**Greeting Card Association** 

Halloween Industry Association

Hide Council of America

Hobby Manufacturers Association

Home Fashion Products Association

Home Furnishings Association

Household and Commercial Products Association

Idaho Retailers Association

Illinois Retail Merchants Association

Independent Office Products & Furniture

Dealers Association (IOPFDA)

Indiana Retail Council

Information Technology Industry Council (ITI)

International Foodservice Distributors Association

International Housewares Association

International Warehouse and Logistics Association

International Wood Products Association

**Internet Association** 

ISSA - The Worldwide Cleaning Industry Association

Juice Products Association (JPA)

Juvenile Products Manufacturers Association

Licensing Industry Merchandisers' Association

Los Angeles Customs Brokers and Freight

Forwarders Assn.

Louisiana Retailers Association

Maine Grocers & Food Producers Association

Maine Lobster Dealers' Association

## AMERICANS FOR FREE \* TRADE

Maritime Exchange for the Delaware River and Bay

Maryland Retailers Association

Methanol Institute

Michigan Chemistry Council Michigan Retailers Association Minnesota Retailers Association

Missouri Retailers Association

Motor & Equipment Manufacturers

Association

Motorcycle Industry Council

NAPIM (National Association of Printing Ink Manufacturers)

National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS)

National Association of Chemical Distributors (NACD)

National Association of Foreign-Trade Zones (NAFTZ)

National Association of Home Builders National Association of Music Merchants

National Association of Printing Ink

Manufacturers

National Association of Trailer Manufacturers (NATM)

National Confectioners Association National Council of Chain Restaurants National Customs Brokers and Freight Forwarders Association of America

National Foreign Trade Council **National Grocers Association** 

National Lumber and Building Material

Dealers Association

National Marine Manufacturers Association

National Restaurant Association National Retail Federation

National Ski & Snowboard Retailers

Association

National Sporting Goods Association

Natural Products Association

New Jersey Retail Merchants Association North American Association of Uniform

Manufacturers and Distributors (NAUMD)

North Carolina Retail Merchants Association

Ohio Council of Retail Merchants

**Outdoor Industry Association** 

Pacific Coast Council of Customs Brokers and

Freight Forarders Assns. Inc. Pennsylvania Retailers' Association

**PeopleforBikes** 

Personal Care Products Council Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council

Petroleum Equipment & Services Association

Plumbing Manufacturers International

Power Tool Institute (PTI)

Promotional Products Association International Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association

Retail Association of Maine Retail Council of New York State Retail Industry Leaders Association Retailers Association of Massachusetts

RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment)

**RV** Industry Association

San Diego Customs Brokers and Forwarders Assn.

Snowsports Industries America

Society of Chemical Manufacturers & Affiliates Software & Information Industry Association (SIIA)

South Dakota Retailers Association Specialty Equipment Market Association Specialty Vehicle Institute of America Sports & Fitness Industry Association **TechNet** 

Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)

Texas Retailers Association

Texas Water Infrastructure Network The Airforwarders Association

The Fertilizer Institute The Hardwood Federation The Tov Association The Vinyl Institute Travel Goods Association

Truck & Engine Manufacturers Association (EMA) United States Council for International Business United States Fashion Industry Association

US Global Value Chain Coalition

**US-China Business Council** 

Virginia Retail Merchants Association



Virginia-DC District Export Council (VA-DC DEC)

Window and Door Manufacturers Association World Pet Association, Inc. (WPA)

Washington Retail Association

CC: Ambassador Robert Lighthizer, United States Trade Representative Secretary Steven Mnuchin, Department of the Treasury Secretary Wilbur Ross, Department of Commerce Secretary Sonny Perdue, Department of Agriculture Administrator Jovita Carranza, Small Business Administration Director Larry Kudlow, National Economic Council