

# AMERICANS FOR FREE ★ TRADE

January 9, 2019

Dear [Senator][Representative]:

Congratulations on becoming a Member of the 116th Congress. We appreciate your dedication to public service and your willingness to make the many sacrifices entailed by Federal service.

Our companies and associations joined together to form Americans for Free Trade ([www.americansforfreetrade.com](http://www.americansforfreetrade.com)), a growing coalition comprised of manufacturers, farmers and agribusinesses, retailers, technology companies, service providers, natural gas and oil companies, importers and exporters, and other supply chain stakeholders who are united in their concern about the negative impacts that indiscriminate tariffs will continue to have on U.S. businesses, workers and consumers.

The 116<sup>th</sup> Congress is beginning during a period of unprecedented economic growth and job creation, yet continued prosperity is not a foregone conclusion. We share the broadly-held concern about the impact to the U.S. economy of the Section 301 tariffs on imports from China, Section 232 tariffs on steel and aluminum imports and corresponding retaliation against U.S. exports. We agree that China must be held to account for its violations of our trade laws and the international trade obligations all nations share. However, imposition of a tariff of up to 25 percent on \$250 billion worth of China products – and the threat to impose a similar duty on \$267 billion more of such products – will not remedy the situation. We continue to see stories on a daily basis about companies, both large and small, who are being harmed by these tariffs. Similarly, the tariffs on imported steel and aluminum, and the resulting retaliatory tariffs on U.S. exports are further harming U.S. companies of all sizes.

Over decades, Americans have built global supply chains that reflect the U.S. economy's strengths and those of its trading partners. These supply chains have made the U.S. economy even more dependent upon relationships with key economic and strategic allies than ever before. Supply chains are extremely complex and they cannot be shifted overnight. The disruption caused by the use of tariffs seeks to harm these key relationships and damage the U.S. economy, which still remains extremely strong.

AFT has joined with Farmers for Free Trade to support the “Tariffs Hurt the Heartland” campaign ([www.tariffshurt.com](http://www.tariffshurt.com)) to highlight and show the negative impacts of the tariffs to businesses large and small, workers and families.

We hope you will lend your support to AFT's efforts across the country and participate in in-district events with affected stakeholders. We also strongly encourage Congress to exercise its

oversight role on trade policy matters to prevent further harm to U.S. workers, consumers, and families that will result from both the existing and proposed tariffs.

We invite you to learn more about the negative impact of tariffs in your state by visiting [www.tariffshurt.com/state-impact-reports](http://www.tariffshurt.com/state-impact-reports). If you have questions about the AFT coalition, please visit [www.americansforfreetrade.com](http://www.americansforfreetrade.com) or contact [info@americansforfreetrade.com](mailto:info@americansforfreetrade.com).

Sincerely,

Accessories Council	Forwarders Assn.
Agriculture Transportation Coalition (AgTC)	Computer & Communications Industry Association (CCIA)
ALMA, International (Association of Loudspeaker Manufacturing and Acoustics)	Computing Technology Industry Association (CompTIA)
American Apparel & Footwear Association (AAFA)	Consumer Technology Association
American Association of Exporters and Importers (AAEI)	Council of Fashion Designers of America (CFDA)
American Association of Port Authorities	CropLife America
American Bakers Association	Customs Brokers & Freight Forwarders Assn. of Washington State
American Chemistry Council	Customs Brokers & Freight Forwarders of Northern California
American Coatings Association, Inc. (ACA)	Distilled Spirits Council of the United States
American Down and Feather Council	Electronic Transactions Association
American Home Furnishings Alliance	Fashion Accessories Shippers Association (FASA)
American Lighting Association	Fashion Jewelry & Accessories Trade Association
American Petroleum Institute	Flexible Packaging Association
American Pyrotechnics Association	Florida Ports Council
American Rental Association	Florida Retail Federation
American Specialty Toy Retailing Association	Footwear Distributors and Retailers of America (FDRA)
Arizona Technology Council	Fragrance Creators Association
Arkansas Grocers and Retail Merchants Association	Gemini Shippers Association
Association For Creative Industries	Georgia Retailers
Association for PRINT Technologies	Global Chamber®
Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM)	Global Cold Chain Alliance
Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers	Grocery Manufacturers Association
Auto Care Association	Halloween Industry Association
BSA   The Software Alliance	Home Fashion Products Association
Business & Institutional Furniture Manufacturers Association (BIFMA)	Home Furnishings Association
California Retailers Association	Household and Commercial Products Association
Coalition of New England Companies for Trade (CONNECT)	Idaho Retailers Association
Coalition of Services Industries (CSI)	Illinois Retail Merchants Association
Colorado Retail Council	Independent Office Products & Furniture
Columbia River Customs Brokers and	

Dealers Association (IOPFDA)	National Grocers Association
Indiana Retail Council	National Lumber and Building Material Dealers Association
Information Technology Industry Council (ITI)	National Marine Manufacturers Association
International Foodservice Distributors Association	National Restaurant Association
International Housewares Association	National Retail Federation
International Warehouse and Logistics Association	Natural Products Association
International Wood Products Association	New Jersey Retail Merchants Association
Internet Association	North American Association of Uniform Manufacturers and Distributors (NAUMD)
Juice Products Association (JPA)	North Carolina Retail Merchants Association
Juvenile Products Manufacturers Association	Ohio Council of Retail Merchants
Los Angeles Customs Brokers and Freight Forwarders Assn.	Organization for International Investment
Louisiana Retailers Association	Pacific Coast Council of Customs Brokers and Freight Forwarders Assns. Inc.
Maine Grocers & Food Producers Association	Pennsylvania Retailers' Association
Maine Lobster Dealers' Association	PeopleforBikes
Maritime Exchange for the Delaware River and Bay	Personal Care Products Council
Maryland Retailers Association	Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council
Methanol Institute	Petroleum Equipment & Services Association
Michigan Chemistry Council	Plumbing Manufacturers International
Minnesota Retailers Association	Power Tool Institute (PTI)
Missouri Retailers Association	Precious Metals Association of North America (PMANA)
Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association	Promotional Products Association International
Motorcycle Industry Council	Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association
NAPIM (National Association of Printing Ink Manufacturers)	Retail Association of Maine
National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS)	Retail Council of New York State
National Association of Chemical Distributors (NACD)	Retail Industry Leaders Association
National Association of Foreign-Trade Zones (NAFTZ)	Retailers Association of Massachusetts
National Association of Home Builders	RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment)
National Association of Music Merchants	RV Industry Association
National Association of Trailer Manufacturers (NATM)	San Diego Customs Brokers and Forwarders Assn.
National Confectioners Association	SEMI
National Council of Chain Restaurants	Snowsports Industries America
National Customs Brokers and Freight Forwarders Association of America	Society of Chemical Manufacturers & Affiliates
National Electrical Equipment Manufacturers Association (NEMA)	Software & Information Industry Association (SIIA)
National Fisheries Institute	South Dakota Retailers Association
National Foreign Trade Council	Specialty Equipment Market Association
	Specialty Vehicle Institute of America
	Sports & Fitness Industry Association
	Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)
	Texas Retailers Association
	Texas Water Infrastructure Network
	The Airforwarders Association

The Fertilizer Institute  
The Hardwood Federation  
The Toy Association  
The Vinyl Institute  
Travel Goods Association  
Truck & Engine Manufacturers Association  
(EMA)  
U.S. Hide, Skin and Leather Association  
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)  
Washington Retail Association  
Window and Door Manufacturers Association  
World Pet Association, Inc. (WPA)