

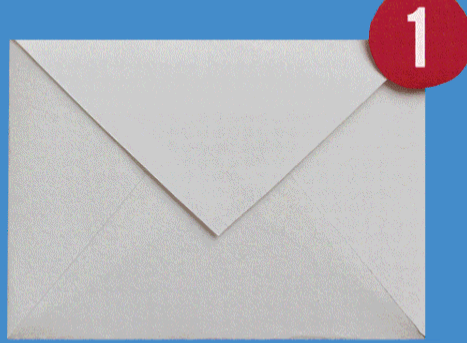
# Footwear & Politics

By Thomas Crockett • Feb 25, 2025

Smart Brevity® count: 1.5 mins...446 words

FDRA has launched a grassroots letter to Congress on tariffs. The Trump Administration announced significant new fees on Chinese-made vessels. More details below.

## Take Action: Send a letter on tariffs



FDRA launched a new [letter](#) to Members of Congress today, urging them to push back on the tariffs. Please take 30-seconds to send a letter to your Member of Congress today.

[Send a letter](#)

**Why it matters:** Members of Congress are feeling the pressure from constituents on many different issues. Now is the time to make our voice heard on tariffs.

- According to press reports, some Republican Senators are [quietly pushing back](#) against economic harm in their states from some of the Administration's early actions. Other Members of Congress have faced angry [town hall meetings](#) with constituents back home.
- Former-Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell wrote an [Op-Ed](#) warning against the impact of Trump's tariffs in his home state.

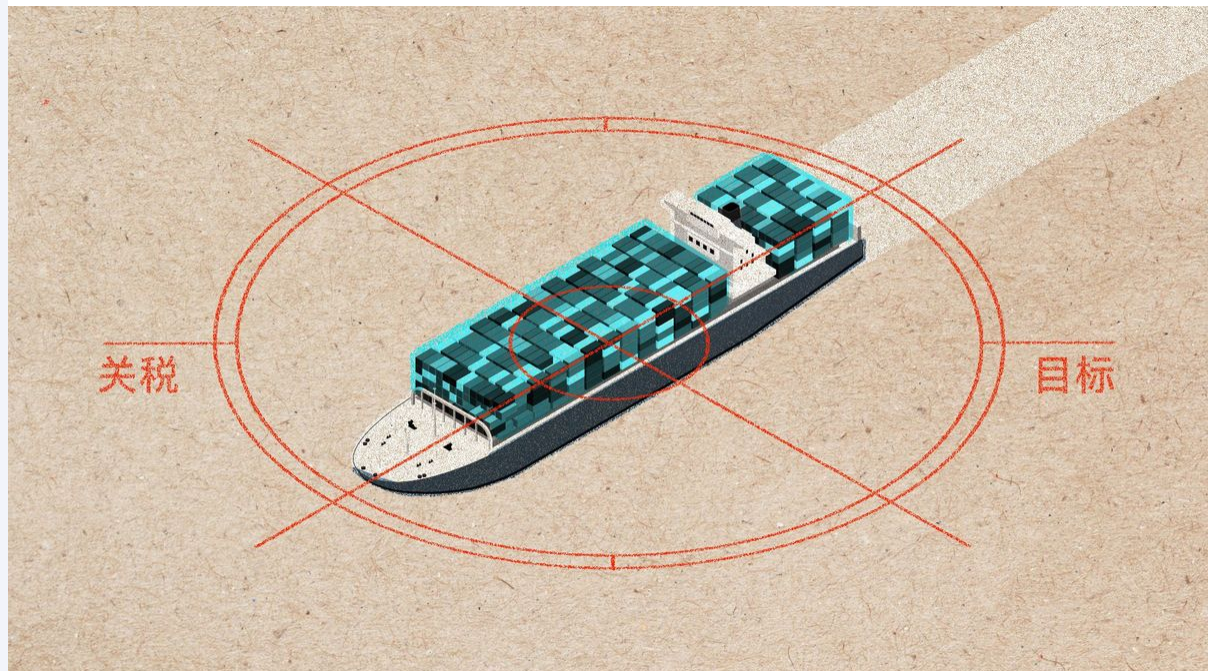
**Key point:** As our letter highlights, our recent survey with Emerson College Polling shows that 82% of registered voters believe tariffs will raise prices at everyday stores.

- **Oh, also:** 72% of Republicans believe lowering the cost of groceries and everyday items should be President Trump's main priority. [See the survey](#)

**Feedback needed:** Another way you can help is to share your personal story with us on how the tariffs have impacted your company.

- The tariff action on China was implemented so quickly that many companies simply did not have enough time to get the goods onto vessels quickly enough ... and now owe money to the U.S. government.
- As we prepare our advocacy to Congress and the Administration, we are gathering stories and examples of how U.S. companies and small businesses have been hurt.
- Please email examples to Matt at [mpriest@fdra.org](mailto:mpriest@fdra.org) or me at [tcrockett@fdra.org](mailto:tcrockett@fdra.org).

## New action against Chinese ships



On Friday, the Trump Administration announced substantial new fees on Chinese-built vessels entering U.S. ports. The initial investigation was launched during the Biden Administration at the request of five labor unions.

**Give me the details:** The Trump Administration is proposing fees of up to \$1.5 million dollars on certain Chinese-made vessels when they enter U.S. ports.

- It will also require 1% of U.S. exports to be shipped on U.S.-flagged vessels. That number will slowly increase, reaching 15% in seven years.
- **Go deeper:** [Read the full list of proposed actions](#)

**What's next:** The Trump Administration will receive feedback from interested stakeholders before the new rules take effect.

- The deadline to provide comments is March 24. FDRA will weigh in on behalf of the industry.

Thanks for reading this week's Footwear & Politics update. Feel free to share this newsletter with others on your team. Have a great rest of the week!

Thomas

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