

Footwear & Politics

By Thomas Crockett • Apr 10, 2025

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The President announced yesterday he is increasing tariff rates for Chinese products to 125 percent. The new White House documents, however, suggest the rate is actually 145 percent.

Critical FDRA member-only information below.

New documents from White House indicate 145 percent tariff rate



The White House sent out new documents at 11:00 p.m. ET last night that indicate **the new tariff rate for Chinese products is actually 145 percent not 125 percent.**

- This is different than the message sent by President Trump in a Truth Social post yesterday announcing the tariff increase.
- **We have reached out directly to the White House to confirm the rate is 145 percent.**

Tell me more: The [CSMS message](#) provides a new tariff number — “9903.01.63: Articles the product of China, including products of Hong Kong and Macau, will be assessed an additional ad valorem rate of duty of 125%” — but it does not say anything about removing the “emergency” fentanyl-related tariff HTS number.

- This would mean the new “emergency” reciprocal rate for Chinese products is 125 percent stacked on top of the previous “emergency” 20 percent fentanyl-related tariff ... stacked on top of the 301 tariffs ... stacked on top of high general rates for footwear.

Oh, also: The newly-released [executive order](#) indicates, in the case of China, all goods coming in will face the additional tariffs *immediately*.

 **FDRA President & CEO Matt Priest** appeared on PBS last night to discuss the latest developments. Watch below:



The 90-Day Pause: The President is delaying the reciprocal tariffs on countries other than China for 90 days. We believe 🇻🇳 Vietnam will be one of the first in line to negotiate a deal. According to our sources, U.S.-Vietnam talks have already started.

- **Yes, but:** The 10 percent universal rate still applies to almost every country in the world.

We will keep you updated with additional details as they become available.

Join FDRA for congressional meetings on tariffs

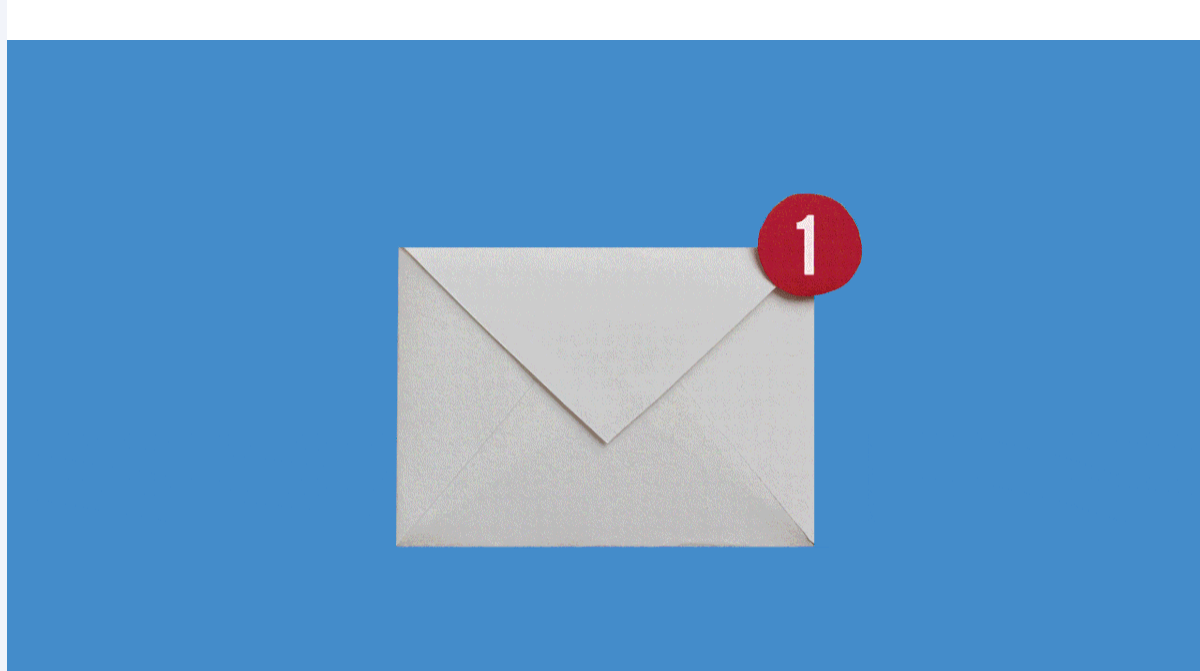


If you are planning to come to D.C. for the FDRA Shoe Executive Strategy Summit, we invite you to join us for meetings with members of Congress and congressional staff on April 30th (afternoon) and May 1st (all day).

Get involved: For those considering participating in our fly in, please note the following updates:


- Capitol Hill meetings will begin after the completion of the Summit on Wednesday afternoon, 4/30, with additional meetings scheduled for Thursday, 5/1. We hope to wrap up around 2 p.m. on Thursday.
- **Given the timeliness of our issues and the Hill schedule, we will need a commitment by this Friday, 4 p.m. ET if you will be participating.** We will be creating a very targeted approach to which members and staff we meet with based upon company representation. We appreciate your understanding of this deadline.
- Please email me at tcrockett@fdra.org to sign up for the Hill Days.

New letter to Congress: Stop the emergency tariffs




FDRA has launched a new [letter](#) to members of Congress, urging Congress to stop the President’s emergency tariffs. Please take 30-seconds to send a letter to your member of Congress today.

[Send the letter](#)

 **Why it matters:** Members of Congress are feeling the pressure from constituents on many different issues, and some Republicans are starting to push back on the emergency tariffs:

- During a key congressional trade hearing this week, Senator Thom Tillis (R-NC) asked the U.S. Trade Representative Jamieson Greer, “Whose throat do I get to choke if this proves to be wrong?” [Read more.](#)

 **Get involved:** We encourage you to share the letter with family and friends and put out a note to everyone in your company asking them to take 30 seconds to email the letter to their member of Congress.

Please keep the questions coming. We’re on stand-by to handle your inquiries in realtime.

Matt and Thomas

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