



# Footwear & Politics

By Thomas Crockett • May 30, 2025

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Yesterday, FDRA led a multi-association [letter](#) to President Trump in response to his recent comments indicating the focus of his tariff policy is not to drive sneaker and T-shirt production to the U.S. The goal of the letter is to build on this positive statement on footwear manufacturing and continue to push for a strategic approach for our industry.

[Read the letter](#)

**Why it matters:** We continue to take a multi-pronged strategy to deal with the substantial tariff threat. The Trump Administration is now considering different tariff options in light of the court’s decision this week.

- **Case on appeal:** The current court case blocking the tariffs is on appeal, and the tariffs have been temporarily reinstated while the court considers the appeal. For more info, read yesterday’s update [here](#).
- **Multiple tariff avenues:** If the court permanently blocks the emergency tariffs, the President will likely choose another tariff tool. See the different options [here](#).

**What they’re saying:** The letter highlights the challenges of domestic footwear manufacturing and the significant tariffs the government already places on our industries, before any new tariffs are added. From the letter:

Thank you for your recent comments indicating that your tariff policy is not focused on driving sneaker and T-shirt production to the U.S. You are absolutely right. We agree that tariff policy cannot scale up a domestic footwear and apparel industry ... This is a historic opportunity to advance our industries through smart, targeted trade policy. We urge you to adopt a pragmatic framework that reduces the tariff burden on footwear and apparel, increases high-value jobs for U.S. workers, and provides relief to hardworking American families.

**As always, we will send out key updates to FDRA members as we receive them.**

Thanks for reading. We’re available for any questions or comments you might have.

Matt and Thomas

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