

FDRA's Matt Priest Statement on State of the Union Address

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, **Matt Priest, President and CEO of Footwear Distributors and Retailers of America (FDRA)**, released the following statement:

“We listened closely to the president’s State of the Union address last night, particularly on the heels of the Supreme Court’s tariff ruling. While this decision represents an important moment for consumers and businesses, the real question remains what comes next. The president’s tariffs have pushed shoe prices higher for American families. People were told costs would come down, yet many have experienced higher prices — a reality that has not been lost on the American public.”

“While we did not hear the level of clarity or commitment we were hoping for during the address, the work is far from over. The president now has an opportunity to turn this ruling into real relief — driving tens of billions of dollars back into the American economy to those businesses and consumers who paid the higher taxes. Every company is different, but history shows that when tariffs are removed and competition is allowed to work, markets drive innovation and put downward pressure on prices. That is what American industry — and families — will continue to push for in the days ahead.”

For more information about [FDRA](#) or to schedule an interview with Matt Priest on the state of the footwear industry, please email fdracomms@cgagroup.com

About FDRA

FDRA is governed and directed by footwear executives and is the only trade organization focused solely on the footwear industry. Serving the full footwear supply chain, it boosts its members’ bottom lines through innovative products, training, consulting on footwear design and development, sourcing and compliance, trade and customs, advocacy, and consumer and sales trend analysis for shoe retailers around the world. FDRA supports 500 companies and brands worldwide, representing 98% of the total U.S. footwear industry. Learn more: fdra.org