



March 13, 2020

The Honorable Larry Kudlow
 Director, National Economic Council
 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
 Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. Kudlow:

We understand the Administration is considering a range of policy options to provide fast relief to offset the grave economic damage that is occurring as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak.

We respectfully and urgently request the immediate elimination of tariffs imposed under Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974 and retroactive refund of duties imposed on U.S. imports of consumer and commercial products from China – such as travel goods, clothing, footwear, headwear, accessories, furniture, building products, baby products, textiles, and back to school items – be implemented as part of this emergency response.

We can think of no other policy tool at the Administration's disposal that would have such a fast and beneficial impact as the immediate and retroactive removal of these tariffs.

Such a move would instantly put billions of dollars back into the U.S. economy. This action also would provide certainty to American companies and encourage new hiring and new investment – moves that are now on hold given the unprecedented uncertainty facing the U.S. economy. American consumers would also see benefits given that these tariffs act as a tax that often show up at retail in the form of higher prices. The lifting of these tariffs also requires no congressional action.

Thank you for your consideration of our views.

Sincerely,

Accessories Council

American Apparel & Footwear Association (AAFA)

American Bridal and Prom Industry Association (ABPIA)

American Import Shippers Association (AISA)

California Fashion Association (CFA)

Council of Fashion Designers of America (CFDA)

Fashion Accessories Shippers Association (FASA)

Fashion Jewelry and Accessories Trade Association (FJATA)

Footwear Distributors & Retailers of America (FDRA)

Gemini Shippers Association

Halloween Industry Association (HIA)

International Prom Association (IPA)

International Wood Products Association

Juvenile Products Manufacturers Association (JPMA)

National Retail Federation (NRF)

North American Association of Uniform Manufacturers and Distributors (NAUMD)

Oriental Rug Importers Association (ORIA)

Outdoor Industry Association (OIA)

Promotion Products Association International (PPAI)

Retail Industry Leaders Association (RILA)

Sports and Fitness Industry Association (SFIA)

Travel Goods Association (TGA)

U.S. Fashion Industry Association (USFIA)

U.S. Global Value Chain Coalition (USGVC)