

March 1, 2022

The Honorable Joe Biden  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

**We urge you to take the bold step of eliminating tariffs on shoes and other basic consumer goods through Labor Day 2022. This is one way the government can truly attack inflation successfully.**

We note that some Members of Congress have called for a reduction in gas taxes, and we believe eliminating import taxes should be part of that conversation.

American families need relief, and traditional policies will not address the continued pain Americans feel at the gas pump and local retail stores. More stimulus or subsidizes will only add to inflation.

The government needs to look at what is adding costs and remove those costs; for many basic retail staples like shoes, tariffs amount to a huge hidden tax paid by consumers.

Today, certain kids' shoes face tariff rates of 48 percent and higher, which raises shoe prices at retail. Eliminating these hidden taxes will translate into significant price reductions.

We recognize that eliminating footwear tariffs, even temporarily, will impact government revenues. **However, bold steps are needed to help American families before stagflation takes hold.** Eliminating tariff collections through summer will reduce prices on staples and give us a real shot at keeping our economy on track.

Sincerely,



Matt Priest  
President & CEO  
Footwear Distributors & Retailers of America