

How do the Trump tariffs affect Virginians in VA05?

- Two-thirds of the expected job losses resulting from the Trump tariffs will be in the nation's rural areas that voted for Trump. [Washington Post, June 22, 2018 \(citing Brookings Institution data\)](#)
- Virginia soybean farmers are losing income as the price of soybeans falls to a ten-year low. This is in response to China's retaliatory trade tariffs. China is Virginia's largest export market for agriculture and forestry products. In 2017, Virginia farmers sold \$361 million of soybeans to China – nearly 62% of the total agricultural and forestry products Virginia exported to China. [The Virginian-Pilot \(June 22, 2018\)](#)
In 2012, 5th district farmers planted soybeans on over 82,000 acres – the third highest in the Commonwealth. [USDA 2012 Census of Agriculture](#)
- China's tariffs also include tobacco, corn, cotton, beef and whiskey. (Question: will Mr. Riggleman's whiskey distillery business be affected?) [The Republican Standard, May 4, 2018](#)
- The cost of a new car will rise for Virginia car buyers. Imported cars will cost an average of \$5,800 more, and the US-built Toyota Camry will go up \$1,800. [New York Times, June 6, 2018](#)
- The price of a new washing machine has increased 16% from March to May – the biggest price increase on record. [Washington Post, July 5, 2018](#)
- The price of average new home has jumped by an average of \$9,000 thanks to the Trump tariffs, which has almost doubled the price of lumber. The National Association of Home Builders says this increase will price more than a million low- and middle-income Americans out of new home ownership. [CBC News June 22, 2018](#)

Denver Riggleman's positions and/or statements on all of the above: NONE FOUND SO FAR.

Voters in VA05 need to know where he stands. How does he propose to protect individuals, families, farmers, and businesses in VA05 from the harmful affects of these tariffs?

Why Trump's tariffs matter to voters in VA05:

When Trump imposes tariffs on imported goods like steel and lumber, it has two main impacts for Virginians. First, a tariff works like a sales tax. The Trump tariffs raise the price of imported products, and anything that contains them. Foreign countries don't pay the tariffs; we do. For example, a tariff (tax) on imported steel means that anything that contains steel — like cars, appliances, and farm equipment — is more costly to make, and those costs are passed on in higher prices to buyers. In other words, *Virginians are paying for Trump's tariffs in the form of higher prices.* (See the examples in the messaging points/links above).

The second problem is that foreign countries respond to the Trump tariffs with retaliatory tariffs of their own, on products that they import from the United States. That directly hurts U.S. exporters like farmers, who depend on export markets. China has retaliated for the Trump tariffs by imposing a tariff on U.S. soybeans, among other things. The result: Virginian farmers are seeing the collapse of the huge China market for their soybeans, and are losing income as soybean prices fall.

The bottom line is that all Virginians are paying a tax (in the form of higher prices) to prop up the corporate profits of a few American industries. And many Virginia businesses are being hurt by the retaliatory tariffs that harm our exports. In other words, tariffs harm Virginians far more than they help them. //