

AMERICANS FOR FREE ★ TRADE

October 4, 2022

The Honorable Katherine Tai
United States Trade Representative
600 Seventeenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20508

RE: Extension of Section 301 China Tariffs Exclusions

Dear Ambassador Tai:

On behalf of the undersigned members of Americans for Free Trade, we are writing to request an immediate extension for the limited China 301 [tariff exclusions](#) which are set to expire on December 31, as well as the [COVID exclusions](#) set to expire this November. It is critical that USTR announce its plans for these exclusions now so that companies can plan accordingly.

Our companies and associations joined together to form Americans for Free Trade in 2018. Our coalition represents every part of the U.S. economy including manufacturers, farmers and agribusinesses, retailers, technology companies, powersports, service suppliers, natural gas and oil companies, renewable energy companies, importers, exporters, and other supply chain stakeholders. Collectively, we employ tens of millions of Americans through our vast supply chains.

In the last four years, American importers, including members of our coalition, have been assessed close to [\\$155 billion](#) in section 301 tariffs on products from China. The exclusions granted earlier this year provided limited relief for some companies. Although all these exclusions will expire in the coming months, to date USTR has made no announcement about whether to extend any of them, or even whether the agency supports having any exclusions process at all. Because American businesses must make supply chain and sourcing decisions many months in advance, the uncertainty created by USTR's inaction compels our companies to incorporate 25 percent price increases into product lines that may soon be without a Section 301 tariff exclusion. Upward pricing pressure of this kind will exacerbate inflation in an economy already teetering on the edge of stagflation, leaving consumers – and particularly low-income consumers – with reduced purchasing power and placing more goods out of their reach.

As American businesses continue to face high inflation, ongoing supply chain challenges, and new COVID variants, we urge USTR to provide additional relief by promptly renewing all the exclusions which are set to expire this year. This move will provide some certainty for American companies and help maintain their competitiveness – especially those who import

products where there is no domestic or other sourcing alternative – as well as ensure continued access to life saving goods.

In addition, we renew our request for USTR to create a more robust exclusions process – one that is open to all products covered by the China 301 tariffs. We know this sentiment is shared by at least [141 bipartisan House members](#) and [41 bipartisan Senators](#) who have previously made a similar request. As long as the section 301 tariffs remain in place, there should be a fair, transparent, and robust exclusions process available so that American businesses can apply for targeted relief.

American families, workers and businesses continue to cope during these unprecedented economic challenges, and we believe the administration should use every available tool to provide economic relief and certainty going forward. Renewing exclusions that are set to expire and opening up a new and robust exclusions process will help provide that.

Sincerely,

Accessories Council	Association for PRINT Technologies
ACT The App Association	Association of American Publishers
Agriculture Transportation Coalition (AgTC)	Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM)
ALMA, International (Association of Loudspeaker Manufacturing and Acoustics)	Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers
American Apparel & Footwear Association (AAFA)	Auto Care Association
American Association of Exporters and Importers (AAEI)	Beer Institute
American Association of Port Authorities	BSA The Software Alliance
American Bakers Association	Building Service Contractors Association International (BSCAI)
American Bridal & Prom Industry Association (ABPIA)	Business Alliance for Customs Modernization
American Chemistry Council	California Retailers Association
American Clean Power Association	Can Manufacturers Institute
American Down and Feather Council	Chemical Industry Council of Delaware (CICD)
American Fly Fishing Trade Association	Coalition of New England Companies for Trade (CONNECT)
American Home Furnishings Alliance	Coalition of Services Industries (CSI)
American Lighting Association	Colorado Retail Council
American Petroleum Institute	Columbia River Customs Brokers and Forwarders Assn.
American Pyrotechnics Association	Computer & Communications Industry Association (CCIA)
American Rental Association	Computing Technology Industry Association (CompTIA)
American Seed Trade Association	Consumer Brands Association
American Specialty Toy Retailing Association	Consumer Technology Association
American Trucking Associations	Council of Fashion Designers of America (CFDA)
Arizona Technology Council	CropLife America
Arkansas Grocers and Retail Merchants Association	Customs Brokers & Freight Forwarders Assn. of Washington State
Association For Creative Industries	Customs Brokers & Freight Forwarders of Northern California
	Electronic Transactions Association
	Energy Workforce & Technology Council

Experiential Designers and Producers
 Association Exhibitions & Conferences
 Alliance
 Fashion Accessories Shippers Association
 (FASA)
 Fashion Jewelry & Accessories Trade
 Association
 Flexible Packaging Association
 Florida Ports Council
 Florida Retail Federation
 Footwear Distributors and Retailers of America
 (FDRA)
 Fragrance Creators Association
 Game Manufacturers Association
 Gemini Shippers Association
 Georgia Retailers
 Global Chamber®
 Global Cold Chain Alliance
 Greeting Card Association
 Halloween & Costume Association (HCA)
 Home Fashion Products Association
 Home Furnishings Association
 Household and Commercial Products
 Association
 Idaho Retailers Association
 Illinois Retail Merchants Association
 Independent Office Products & Furniture
 Dealers Association (IOPFDA)
 Indiana Retail Council
 Information Technology Industry Council (ITI)
 International Association of Amusement Parks
 and Attractions (IAAPA)
 International Bottled Water Association
 (IBWA)
 International Foodservice Distributors
 Association
 International Housewares Association
 International Warehouse and Logistics
 Association
 International Wood Products Association
 ISSA - The Worldwide Cleaning Industry
 Association
 Jeweler's Vigilance Committee
 Juice Products Association (JPA)
 Juvenile Products Manufacturers Association
 Leather and Hide Council of America
 Licensing Industry Merchandisers' Association
 Los Angeles Customs Brokers and Freight Forwarders Assn.
 Louisiana Retailers Association
 Maine Grocers & Food Producers Association
 Maine Lobster Dealers' Association
 Maritime Exchange for the Delaware River and Bay
 Maryland Retailers Association
 Michigan Chemistry Council
 Michigan Retailers Association
 Minnesota Retailers Association
 Missouri Retailers Association
 Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association
 Motorcycle Industry Council
 NAPIM (National Association of Printing Ink
 Manufacturers)
 National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS)
 National Association of Chemical Distributors (NACD)
 National Association of Foreign-Trade Zones (NAFTZ)
 National Association of Home Builders
 National Association of Music Merchants
 National Association of Trailer Manufacturers (NATM)
 National Confectioners Association
 National Council of Chain Restaurants
 National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)
 National Fisheries Institute
 National Foreign Trade Council
 National Grocers Association
 National Industrial Transportation League (NITL)
 National Lumber and Building Material Dealers Association
 National Marine Manufacturers Association
 National Restaurant Association
 National Retail Federation
 National Ski & Snowboard Retailers Association
 National Sporting Goods Association
 Natural Products Association
 New Jersey Retail Merchants Association
 North American Association of Food Equipment
 Manufacturers (NAFEM)
 North American Association of Uniform Manufacturers
 and Distributors (NAUMD)
 North Carolina Retail Merchants Association
 Ohio Council of Retail Merchants
 Outdoor Industry Association
 Pacific Coast Council of Customs Brokers and
 Freight Forwarders Assns. Inc.

Pennsylvania Retailers' Association
PeopleforBikes
Personal Care Products Council
Pet Food Institute
Pet Advocacy Network
Plumbing Manufacturers International
Power Tool Institute (PTI)
PRINTING United Alliance
Promotional Products Association International
Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association
Retail Association of Maine
Retail Council of New York State
Retail Industry Leaders Association
Retailers Association of Massachusetts
RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound
Environment)
RV Industry Association
San Diego Customs Brokers and Forwarders
Assn.
SEMI
Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA)
Snowsports Industries America
Society of Chemical Manufacturers &
Affiliates

Software & Information Industry Association (SIIA)
South Dakota Retailers Association
Specialty Equipment Market Association
Specialty Vehicle Institute of America
Sports & Fitness Industry Association
TechNet
Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)
Texas Water Infrastructure Network
The Airforwarders Association
The Fertilizer Institute
The Hardwood Federation
The Vinyl Institute
Toy Association
Travel Goods Association
Truck & Engine Manufacturers Association (EMA)
United States Council for International Business
United States Fashion Industry Association
US Global Value Chain Coalition
US-China Business Council
Virginia Association of Chain Drug Stores
Virginia Retail Federation
Virginia-DC District Export Council (VA-DC DEC)
Washington Retail Association
Window and Door Manufacturers Association
World Pet Association, Inc. (WPA)