



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

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