

March 25, 2025

President Donald J. Trump The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump:

As members of the Democratic Women's Caucus, we are alarmed by the harm your tariff policies are inflicting on women and families across the country. Whether it's the 25% tariffs on all imports from Canada and Mexico, 25% on steel and aluminum, blanket reciprocal tariffs, or any deviation, the result is the same: higher costs for everyday essentials like groceries, gas, and household goods. Women and families cannot afford the instability and economic hardship created by your ever-changing trade policies.

The chaos of implementing, rescinding, and then reinstating tariffs has real-world consequences. Women and families trying to make ends meet are forced to stretch their budgets even further as prices rise. Small businesses—over 14 million of which are owned by women—struggle to plan for the future when they don't know if the costs of their supplies will skyrocket overnight. The 1.2 million women farmers in America face uncertainty when deciding to buy a tractor if they don't know when or how they will be affected. In addition to the impacts on personal and business budgets, this see-saw approach is causing immense stress on Americans. As elected leaders, it is our duty to address this uncertainty and instill confidence in our communities.

In addition to the impact on women and families, your tariffs are driving up inflation,¹ eroding consumer confidence,² and the stock market is sliding.³ Indeed, the tariffs will cost American families up to \$2,000 a year on average. We recognize that tariffs, when used in a thoughtful way, can be a beneficial policy tool; however, your tariff strategy has been reckless, vengeful, and overall immensely harmful. We urge you to pursue policies that actually lower everyday costs and support hardworking women and families.

¹ Sherter, A. (2025, March 7). *Some economists think U.S. inflation is likely to rise in 2025*. CBS News. https://www.cbsnews.com/news/inflation-trump-tariffs-economists-forecast-2025/

² Khalid, A. (2025, March 7). As consumer confidence sinks, president Trump continues to blame Biden administration. NPR. <u>https://www.npr.org/2025/03/07/nx-s1-5316321/as-consumer-confidence-sinks-president-trump-continues-to-blame-biden-administration</u>

³ Towfighi, J. (2025, March 6). US stocks slide and Nasdaq enters correction as chaos over Trump's tariffs intensifies. CNN Business. <u>https://www.cnn.com/2025/03/06/investing/us-stocks-tariff-uncertainty/index.html</u>

We know that House Republicans voted in favor of your authority to impose the tariffs which is why we call upon you to exercise your authority in a manner that puts women and families first.

Women and working families deserve economic stability, not reckless policy swings that drive up costs and leave them struggling to keep up. And we know that is a shared belief regardless of political party. We call on you to immediately put an end to this see-saw tariff war and commit to policies that lower everyday costs for women and families.

Sincerely,

Teresa Leger Fernández Chair Democratic Women's Caucus

Emilia Strong Sykes Vice Chair Democratic Women's Caucus

Hillary Scholten Vice Chair Democratic Women's Caucus

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