

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

February 3, 2025

The Honorable Donald J. Trump  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump:

We write today with strong concerns regarding the announcement to impose a 25 percent blanket tariff on Canadian imports with a 10 percent tariff on imported Canadian oil. Constituents in our districts are already facing high energy prices and grocery store costs. We appreciate the announcement of the 30-day pause on implementation; however, the threat of these tariffs still harms the economic well-being of working-class Americans. As hardworking families continue struggling with inflation, the last thing we should do is make the cost of living even more expensive. We urge you to rescind your Executive Order imposing additional tariffs on Canada.

Over the past 35 years, our two countries have enjoyed economic and diplomatic prosperity through trade relations governed first by the 1989 U.S.-Canada Free Trade Agreement, then by the 1994 North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), and now by the 2020 United States Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), which you negotiated and signed into law.<sup>1</sup> Due to that close relationship, trade with Canada brings billions of dollars to the United States every day.<sup>2</sup>

Canada is not our competitor nor our adversary—they are one of our closest allies and trading partners, with tightly intertwined economies, similar values, and shared geography. Our soldiers have fought and bled alongside each other in Normandy, Korea, and Afghanistan. We jointly protect North American airspace through the world's only binational military command, the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD). We share the world's largest source of freshwater and, together, we maintain peaceful trade and security along the world's longest land border. Our cultures enrich each other through the arts and sports, including participation in multiple American-based major leagues. While both are unique, the ties between our countries are deep and form a special bond unlike any other.

The United States and Canada enjoy one of the largest bilateral commercial relationships in the world. Canada is the third-largest source of foreign direct investment in the United States, contributing \$671.7 billion to our economy.<sup>3</sup> They are the largest supplier of U.S. energy imports, including crude oil, natural gas, and electricity, and our largest automotive trading partner, playing a key role in the manufacturing processes of General Motors, Ford, and Stellantis. Canada is also a top supplier of critical

<sup>1</sup> Congressional Research Service, "U.S. - Canada Trade Relations." <https://crs.gov/Reports/IF12595?source=search>

<sup>2</sup> Government of Canada, "Canada - United States Relations." <https://www.international.gc.ca/country-pays/us-eu/relations.aspx?lang=eng>

<sup>3</sup> Congressional Research Service, "U.S. - Canada Trade Relations." <https://crs.gov/Reports/IF12595?source=search>

minerals such as aluminum, steel, copper, and cobalt which is deeply integrated into our overall supply chain to support our domestic and defense industries.

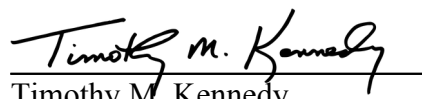
We agree that addressing and removing illicit exports of fentanyl should be a priority, but there are other solutions than an across-the-board tariff on all Canadian products. According to data from the U.S. Customs and Border Protection, less than 1 percent of fentanyl was seized at the northern border in fiscal year 2024.<sup>4</sup> Given the data, there is a real possibility to work together with Canada to quash fentanyl trafficking in the north. Implementing tariffs instead of finding solutions to strengthen our northern border will only harm working-class Americans and not stop the flow of fentanyl into our country. According to the Congressional Research Service, the cost of gasoline, diesel fuel, and other petroleum products could be affected by these tariffs across the country, especially in areas most reliant on Canadian imports.<sup>5</sup> These tariffs will have a detrimental effect on all sectors of our economy, from small businesses to farmers to the auto industry. Our economy depends on cross-border business and trade, and this tax will be passed along to consumers.

As you know, the USMCA is up for joint review in 2026, which includes Canada's compliance with USMCA commitments. This is an opportunity to engage with Canada directly on disputes and deepen cooperation in key supply chains that will put America's consumers and businesses first. Additionally, we urge you to work with Canada to address concerns regarding fentanyl, immigration, and drug trafficking. The simple fact is that our northern border does not experience nearly as much fentanyl trafficking as our southern border.<sup>6</sup> Canada has publicly communicated a willingness to work with the administration and proposed measures to enhance border surveillance, including establishing and funding an aerial intelligence task force and a joint strike force.

At a time when Americans are struggling to pay bills and put food on the table, the last thing they need is higher prices. We urge you to rescind these tariffs against Canada and redirect your efforts to work with our northern border ally to develop a trade deal that benefits all Americans and keeps our northern border safe.

Sincerely,

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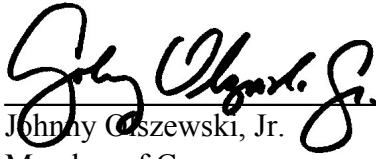
  
Timothy M. Kennedy  
Member of Congress

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<sup>4</sup> U.S. Customs and Border Protection, "Drug Seizure Statistics." <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/stats/drug-seizure-statistics>

<sup>5</sup> Congressional Research Service, "U.S. Petroleum Trade: Crude Oil Imports from Canada and Mexico and Potential Tariffs." <https://crs.gov/Reports/IN12488?Source=ofnote>

<sup>6</sup> U.S. Customs and Border Protection, "Drug Seizure Statistics." <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/stats/drug-seizure-statistics>



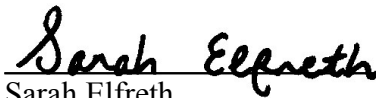
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Johnny Giszewski, Jr.  
Member of Congress



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Valerie P. Foushee  
Member of Congress



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Sarah Elfreth  
Member of Congress



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Rick Larsen  
Member of Congress



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Shri Thanedar  
Member of Congress

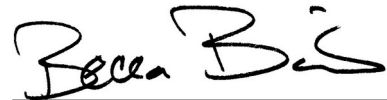
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Jonathan L. Jackson  
Member of Congress



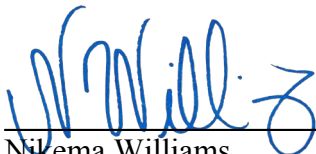
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Vicente Gonzalez  
Member of Congress




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Becca Balint  
Member of Congress



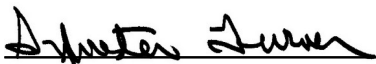
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Nikema Williams  
Member of Congress



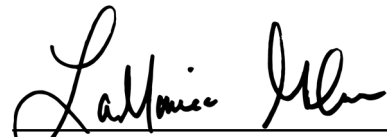
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Adriano Espaillat  
Member of Congress



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Sylvester Turner  
Member of Congress



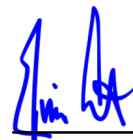
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LaMonica McIver  
Member of Congress



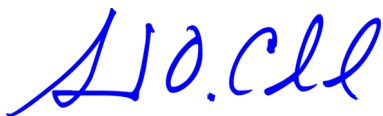
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George Latimer  
Member of Congress

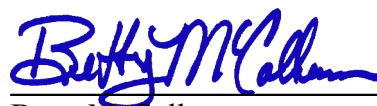


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Jim Costa  
Member of Congress



Salud Carbajal  
Member of Congress



Betty McCollum  
Member of Congress



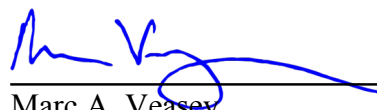
Emanuel Cleaver, II  
Member of Congress



J. Luis Correa  
Member of Congress



Wesley Bell  
Member of Congress



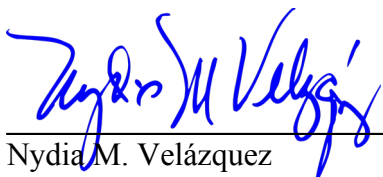
Marc A. Veasey  
Member of Congress




John W. Mannion  
Member of Congress



Paul D. Tonko  
Member of Congress



Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress



Jennifer L. McClellan  
Member of Congress



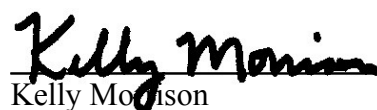
Seth Moulton  
Member of Congress



Kevin Mullin  
Member of Congress



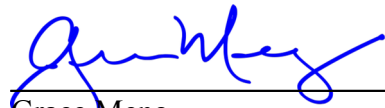
Dina Titus  
Member of Congress



Kelly Morrison  
Member of Congress



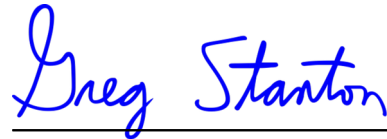
Dan Goldman  
Member of Congress



Grace Meng  
Member of Congress



Rashida Tlaib  
Member of Congress



Greg Stanton  
Member of Congress



Lori Trahan  
Member of Congress



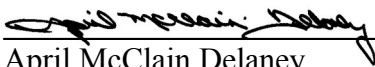
Robert Garcia  
Member of Congress



Lizzie Fletcher  
Member of Congress



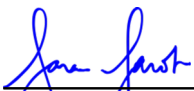
Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
Member of Congress



April McClain Delaney  
Member of Congress



Bill Foster  
Member of Congress



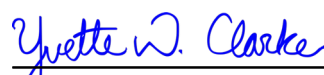
Sara Jacobs  
Member of Congress



Eric Sorensen  
Member of Congress



Herbert C. Conaway, Jr.  
Member of Congress

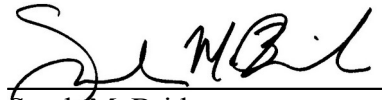


Yvette D. Clarke  
Member of Congress



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Bonnie Watson Coleman  
Member of Congress



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Sarah McBride  
Member of Congress



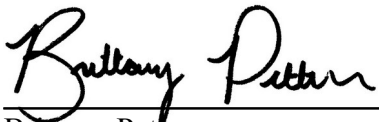
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Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.  
Member of Congress



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Deborah K. Ross  
Member of Congress



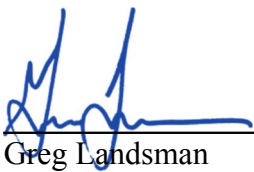
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Brittany Pettersen  
Member of Congress



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Maggie Goodlander  
Member of Congress



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Greg Landsman  
Member of Congress



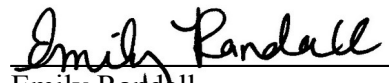
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Troy A. Carter, Sr.  
Member of Congress



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Ritchie Torres  
Member of Congress



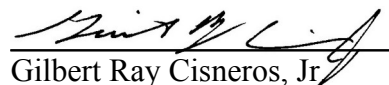
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Emily Randall  
Member of Congress



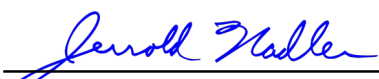
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Joseph D. Morelle  
Member of Congress



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Gilbert Ray Cisneros, Jr.  
Member of Congress



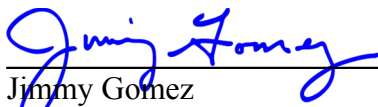
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Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress



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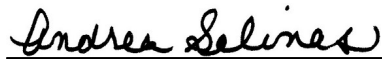
Mike Quigley  
Member of Congress



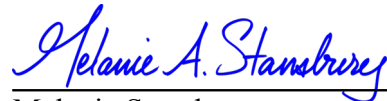
Jimmy Gomez  
Member of Congress



Mike Levin  
Member of Congress



Andrea Salinas  
Member of Congress



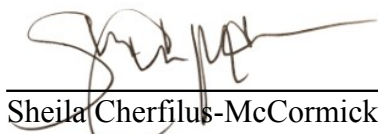
Melanie Stansbury  
Member of Congress



Jasmine Crockett  
Member of Congress



Sydney Kamlager-Dove  
Member of Congress



Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick  
Member of Congress

Cc: The Honorable Jeremy Pelter, Acting Secretary of Commerce  
The Honorable Juan Millán, Acting United States Trade Representative  
The Honorable Marco Rubio, Secretary of State