

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 27, 2025

The Honorable Jamieson Greer
United States Trade Representative
Office of the U.S. Trade Representative
600 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20508

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

The coffee industry supports thousands of American businesses, from small independent roasters and coffee shops to large retailers, all of whom depend on stable and predictable access to imported coffee. As members of the bipartisan Congressional Coffee Caucus, we urge you to consider removing tariffs on coffee to protect American jobs and ensure the continued vitality of an industry that relies almost entirely on imports.

Unlike many other goods affected by recent tariffs, coffee is not produced at a scale within the United States that can meet domestic demand. Though small quantities of predominantly specialty coffee are grown in Hawai‘i and Puerto Rico, their combined production accounts for less than 1 percent of U.S. coffee consumption.¹ Because there is no viable domestic substitute, tariffs on imported coffee create challenges for the industry.

Sixty-six percent of American adults drink coffee every day, making it the most popular beverage in the country.² But coffee is more than a daily ritual for millions of Americans – it is a vital pillar of our economy and local communities. Nationally, the coffee industry supports more than 2.2 million American jobs, generates over \$100 billion in wages, and contributes an estimated \$343 billion in economic output per year. Every \$1 of imported coffee creates an estimated \$43 in value throughout the supply chain, and coffee shops, roasters, and distributors serve as important economic engines supporting small businesses and creating jobs that help sustain local economies.¹

Lastly, tariffs levied against coffee-producing countries disrupt U.S. partnerships with key coffee-growing regions, particularly in Latin America where the U.S. is a leading export market. The coffee trade supports millions of jobs across the coffee supply chain and is a driver of economic growth in developing countries within Latin America. Meanwhile, the People’s Republic of China has nearly tripled its coffee bean imports over the past decade to become the

¹ 2023 U.S. Coffee Impact Report, National Coffee Association, <https://www.ncausa.org/Research-Trends/Economic-Impact>.

² “More Americans drink coffee each day than any other beverage, bottled water back in second place,” National Coffee Association, April 15, 2025, <https://www.ncausa.org/Newsroom/More-Americans-Drink-Coffee-Each-Day-Than-Any-Other-Beverage-Bottled-Water-Back-in-Second-Place>.

world's fastest growing importer.³ At a time when China has become Latin America's second-largest trading partner and is actively working to undermine the United States' position as the region's top trading partner, we should use all tools at our disposal to counter China's strategic presence in these competitive markets.

As the Trump Administration continues to evaluate and shape U.S. trade policy, we urge you to remove coffee from existing and future tariff measures. We appreciate your consideration and look forward to working together to protect American jobs, preserve trade partnerships, and keep coffee accessible for American consumers.

Sincerely,



JM Tokuda
Member of Congress



William R. Timmons, IV
Member of Congress



Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



Tim Burchett
Member of Congress



Steve Cohen
Member of Congress



Maria E. Salazar
Member of Congress



Sarah McBride
Member of Congress



Scott Perry
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³ "Coffee: World Markets and Trade," USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service, December 2024, <https://www.fas.usda.gov/sites/default/files/2024-12/coffee.pdf>.



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