

Administration of Donald J. Trump, 2018

Statement on Proposed Additional Tariffs Against China

April 5, 2018

Following a thorough investigation under section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974, the United States Trade Representative (USTR) determined that China has repeatedly engaged in practices to unfairly obtain America's intellectual property. The practices detailed in the USTR's investigation have caused concern around the world. China's illicit trade practices—ignored for years by Washington—have destroyed thousands of American factories and millions of American jobs. On April 3, 2018, the USTR announced approximately \$50 billion in proposed tariffs on imports from China as an initial means to obtain the elimination of policies and practices identified in the investigation.

Rather than remedy its misconduct, China has chosen to harm our farmers and manufacturers. In light of China's unfair retaliation, I have instructed the USTR to consider whether \$100 billion of additional tariffs would be appropriate under section 301 and, if so, to identify the products upon which to impose such tariffs. I have also instructed the Secretary of Agriculture, with the support of other members of my Cabinet, to use his broad authority to implement a plan to protect our farmers and agricultural interests.

Notwithstanding these actions, the United States is still prepared to have discussions in further support of our commitment to achieving free, fair, and reciprocal trade and to protect the technology and intellectual property of American companies and American people. Trade barriers must be taken down to enhance economic growth in America and around the world. I am committed to enabling American companies and workers to compete on a level playing field around the world, and I will never allow unfair trade practices to undermine American interests.

Categories: Statements by the President : China, additional U.S. tariffs.

Subjects: China : Trade policy; China : U.S. tariff structure, strengthening efforts; Commerce, international : Free and fair trade; Commerce, international : Intellectual property law, strengthening efforts; Trade Representative, Office of the U.S.

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