



## Make the Sugar Program Work for America

March 16, 2017

### Editorial: “Trump Should Sour on Mexican Sugar Quotas”

A recent *Washington Examiner* editorial examines the U.S.-Mexico sugar trade dispute. The piece argues that U.S. import quotas and other forms of protectionism drive up U.S. sugar prices, and urges the Administration to pursue a free market approach.

Here’s an excerpt:

*“Mexico’s sugar industry announced this week that it suspended exports into the U.S. This comes when the price of American sugar is at its highest in nearly five years, and is 50 percent higher than the world market price. The proximate cause is a bureaucratic scuffle within a wider trade dispute dating back to 2014.*

*“But the root cause is Washington’s absurd sugar policy, which is a corporate welfare program for domestic cane growers and beet farmers. The main subsidy for sugar growers comes in the form of import quotas. Brazilians, Mexicans and Dominicans want to sell us more sugar, and food makers want to buy more too, but the Department of Agriculture won’t let it happen.”*

*“The sugar producers’ gain is the sugar users’ loss. Candy makers and food manufacturers pay more. This drives up the price we all pay for peanut butter at the checkout aisle. ... [Consumers] spend \$2.4 billion a year more than necessary to finance this boondoggle.”*

For the full text of the op-ed, click [here](#).

**Congress, Make the Sugar Program Work for America.**

Learn more at [www.sugarreform.org](http://www.sugarreform.org).

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The Coalition for Sugar Reform is an alliance of consumers, food and beverage manufacturers, trade advocates, environmental groups, taxpayer watchdog organizations, responsible government advocates, think tanks and other interests. Our objective is to reform the federal government’s intrusive, inefficient, restrictive and outdated sugar program - a decades-old subsidy that has repeatedly failed to provide adequate supplies of sugar to the U.S. market.