



Make the Sugar Program Work for America

May 22, 2017

Congress Warns Increased Tariffs on Mexican Sugar Imports or Unfair Suspension Agreements Will Hurt U.S. Consumers

On Friday, a bipartisan group of 51 members of the House sent a [letter](#) to U.S. Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross, urging him to take into account how the outcome of the ongoing U.S.-Mexico sugar negotiations will impact American manufacturing jobs in the food and beverage industry and consumer prices. They wrote:

“On May 1, the Department of Commerce declared that after reaching ‘an impasse’ in talks with Mexico on sugar trade disputes, the U.S. government has decided to ‘resume the collection of antidumping (AD) and countervailing duties (CVD) on sugar imports on June 5, 2017, unless an agreement is reached.’ We write to you to express our concerns that an increase in the tariffs on imported sugar will increase the price of food to American consumers.”

The lawmakers also called for “workable, fair” suspension agreements, noting:

“While a higher level of raw sugar should be required in the agreements, this must be done without the government picking winners and losers among private companies, so an improved set of agreements should ensure fair competition and not effectively limit shipments to only certain cane refineries; and

“The 2014 farm bill established price support levels for both raw and refined sugar, and Congress has taken no action to authorize the Administration to increase these support levels, so improved suspension agreements should avoid any reference prices that effectively support U.S. sugar prices significantly above levels debated and approved by Congress, and in no case should reference prices be increased from their levels in the existing suspension agreements.”

It’s Time for U.S. Sugar Policy to Work for America.

Learn more at www.sugarreform.org.

Connect with us.



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 Our objective is to reform the federal government’s intrusive, inefficient, restrictive and outdated sugar program - a decades-old subsidy that has repeatedly failed to provide adequate supplies of sugar to the U.S. market.