



CBCF EXECUTIVE ORDER TRACKER

Ending Certain Tariff Actions

Executive Order #14389

Date Issued: February 20, 2026

Topic: Tariffs, Economic Opportunity, Global Affairs

WHAT DOES THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER DO?

- This executive order directs all heads of each executive department and agency to review and terminate a specific list of existing tariffs to provide targeted economic relief.
- The order simultaneously asserts the President's authority under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA) to impose new tariffs by declaring that certain trade practices constitute a "national emergency."
- This order is a direct response to the February 2026 Supreme Court ruling limiting the administration's tariff powers by creating a new framework for levying duties on imports deemed a threat to national security or economic stability.



HOW WILL THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER BE ENFORCED?

- This executive order ends certain additional *ad valorem* duties – tariffs calculated as a percentage of a product’s value – that the administration imposed under the IEEPA in response to previously declared national emergencies. It provides that those additional *ad valorem* duties will no longer apply and will stop being collected as soon as practicable.
- The order directs the heads of all executive departments and agencies to take the necessary steps to end these IEEPA-based *ad valorem* duties and allows them to delegate that responsibility within their agencies, consistent with applicable law.
- The order also instructs the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the United States Trade Representative, in consultation with U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the United States International Trade Commission, to determine whether updates to the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States are needed and to make any required changes through publication in the Federal Register.
- Finally, the order makes clear that it does not end the underlying national emergencies or change other trade measures, including duties imposed under Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 and Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974.





HOW DOES THIS IMPACT BLACK COMMUNITIES?

- The impact of this executive order on Black communities is a double-edged sword, with potential for both targeted relief and significant economic harm.
- On one hand, the selective removal of tariffs on certain consumer goods could provide targeted financial relief. Because tariffs function as a regressive tax, their removal from essential items would directly lower costs for Black families. Studies [have shown](#) that the financial burden of tariffs falls most heavily on lower- and middle-income households, a group in which Black Americans are overrepresented. This could immediately improve household purchasing power.
- This potential benefit is overshadowed by the far greater threat posed by the administration's new authority to impose tariffs at will. This power could be used to levy duties on a different, wider range of goods – such as electronics, auto parts, or building materials – dramatically increasing their cost. [Research](#) confirms that tariffs are passed on to consumers through higher prices, meaning Black families would face increased costs for cars, appliances, and technology, effectively canceling out any savings and leading to a net decrease in affordability.
- Furthermore, this trade policy creates economic instability that disproportionately harms Black workers and entrepreneurs. Multiple reports from the [U.S. Chamber of Commerce](#) highlight how tariff uncertainty disrupts supply chains and stifles investment, creating significant hurdles for small businesses. This is especially [damaging](#) for Black-owned businesses, which often operate with thinner profit margins and less access to capital than their counterparts, making them particularly vulnerable to rising costs from tariffs. Industries where Black entrepreneurs are heavily represented – such as beauty, retail, food service, and transportation – rely on imported goods, so increased prices can force businesses to reduce staff, scale back operations, or close entirely. Beyond the financial impact, these businesses serve as community anchors, supporting local employment, reinvesting in neighborhoods, and sustaining cultural and social institutions.



HOW ARE CBC MEMBERS RESPONDING?

Members of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) have spoken out against the Trump Administration's tariff policies and its efforts to create a new framework for levying duties on imports deemed a threat to national security or economic stability.

- In February, **Rep. Terri A. Sewell**, Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Board of Directors, issued the following statement in response to the Supreme Court ruling on President Trump's tariffs: "Today, the Supreme Court affirmed what my Democratic colleagues and I have been arguing all along. President Trump's use of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act to justify his global tariffs is illegal and unconstitutional. The power to regulate trade lies with Congress. As a member of the Trade Subcommittee on Ways and Means, I will continue to hold this president accountable, and I will never stop fighting to lower costs for Alabamians. We must return to a sensible trade policy that levels the playing field for American workers and businesses, respects and deepens our economic ties with our allies, and focuses on combating illegal trade practices from China." [Full Statement](#)