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TOM COCHRAN

Monday, February 9, 2026

The Honorable Gregory W. Meeks
Ranking Member
Committee on Foreign Affairs
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Ranking Member Meeks,

On behalf of The U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM), a bipartisan organization representing mayors across the United States, we write to strongly support your joint resolutions to terminate the national emergencies declared on February 1, 2025, used to justify tariffs on Canada and Mexico. We also share concerns about tariffs imposed globally and on other individual countries.

Your resolutions address the inappropriate use of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA) to impose tariffs based on the declarations of national emergency that do not meet the test. The President's use of IEEPA raises serious concerns.

Canada and Mexico remain important neighbors and partners in border security, law enforcement cooperation, and regional economic integration. The recent trade actions have strained relationships with two of our closest allies, largest trading partners, and most important collaborators on economic, security, and public safety challenges across North America.

In American cities, new sweeping tariffs are causing real, long-term economic impacts – already increasing prices for groceries and automobiles, disrupting industries, and threatening small businesses and jobs. They're worsening the housing affordability crisis by raising the cost of essential infrastructure and building materials, making homeownership more difficult.

Last spring, USCM convened nearly 30 mayors from the U.S., Canada, and Mexico in Washington, D.C., to jointly oppose tariffs beyond the USMCA, issuing a statement that highlighted the immediate impact on cities and local businesses. Urgent Congressional action under the National Emergencies Act is needed to review and terminate these declarations.

We believe the unpredictable tariffs jeopardize our global economic standing and reputation as a trusted partner. We urge Congress to restore order and stability to the global trading system before further harm occurs.

(Page Two – USCM Letter of Support)

We commend you and the group of cosponsors—including Representatives Richard Neal, Joaquin Castro, Rick Larsen, Suzan DelBene, and Greg Stanton—for your leadership. On behalf of the nation’s mayors, we urge the House of Representatives to act swiftly to bring these resolutions to the floor.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Cochran". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Tom Cochran
CEO and Executive Director
The U.S. Conference of Mayors