



September 23, 2026

The Honorable Jamieson Greer
United States Trade Representative
Office of the United States Trade Representative
600 17th Street NW
Washington, DC 20508

Dear Ambassador Greer:

On behalf of the Promotional Products Association International (PPAI) and our nearly 15,000 member companies, I urge the administration to extend suspension of Section 301 maritime vessel fees during this week's summit between President Trump and President Xi.

PPAI represents suppliers, distributors and service providers across the branded merchandise industry. The broader U.S. branded merchandise sector, which includes promotional products, supports approximately \$170 billion in U.S. GDP, nearly 1.2 million American jobs, and \$37 billion in federal, state, and local tax revenues. These jobs span manufacturing, sourcing, decoration, customization, fulfillment, distribution, and other activities that generate significant economic value here in the U.S.

While boosting U.S. maritime capacity is an important goal, resuming the suspended fees would create serious challenges and higher costs for U.S. companies, including many of our members, that rely on ocean transportation to move goods, inputs, and components into and out of the United States. Deferring the Section 301 vessel fees would benefit American importers, exporters, workers, and consumers, both by avoiding increased costs that drive up prices and stifle growth, and by promoting continued reliable access to foreign markets for U.S. businesses.

On behalf of our thousands of member companies, 99% of which are small businesses, PPAI respectfully asks that USTR extend suspension of the Section 301 vessel fees before the hold expires in November.

Thank you for your consideration. PPAI and our members stand ready to work with USTR and other stakeholders regarding policies that strengthen U.S. maritime competitiveness while supporting the American businesses, workers, and consumers that depend on reliable international transportation. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Drew Holmgreen", is placed below the word "Sincerely".

Drew Holmgreen, CAS
President and CEO
Promotional Products Association International (PPAI)