



TENNESSEE FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

June 6, 2025

The Honorable Howard Lutnick
Secretary of Commerce
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20230

RE: Opposition to Renegotiation of the Tomato Suspension Agreement

Dear Secretary Lutnick,

The Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation (TFBF) represents a diverse group of commodity producers across the state and, with over 685,000 members, is the largest general farm organization in Tennessee. On behalf of our member producers, we are concerned about the impacts of increasing imports on tomato growers in Tennessee and nationwide. Thus, we write this letter in strong opposition of the proposed efforts by the Mexican government to renegotiate the U.S.-Mexico Antidumping Tomato Suspension Agreement (TSA). We extend our firm support for the recent decision to terminate the TSA and urge the Department of Commerce to maintain this position.

Over the past 27 years, five separate tomato suspension agreements have attempted to curtail the dumping of Mexican tomato imports with little success. In this time frame, Mexican tomato imports have increased nearly 400 percent, resulting in Mexico occupying over 65 percent of the U.S. tomato market. Simultaneously, the U.S. market share has decreased from 80 percent to approximately 30 percent. Over the years, this reduced market share has forced numerous American tomato growers out of the industry.

America's fruit and vegetable growers have long asked the U.S. government to create a policy addressing unfair trade practices in Mexico. The decision to terminate the TSA is a crucial step in the right direction. By doing this, 20.91% antidumping duties will be imposed on Mexican tomato imports, providing much-needed support fruit and vegetable growers in Tennessee and across the nation. Thus, we urge you to maintain the decision to terminate the TSA, effective July 14, 2025, and impose the necessary antidumping duties on Mexican tomatoes.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eric Mayberry".

Eric Mayberry
President