June 5, 2020

The Dental Trade Alliance (DTA) and the American Dental Association (ADA) appreciate the work of the Congress and the Administration to date to combat the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19). At this time, we urge Congress and the Administration to support a 90-day suspension of all tariffs on products relevant to responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On May 4, 2020, the U.S. International Trade Commission (USITC) issued a report on imports of medical supplies. After review of this report, the DTA and the ADA agree with Representative Richard Neal (D-MA), chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, that a 90-day suspension of all tariffs on products necessary to respond to the current crisis is warranted. The current patchwork of tariffs on these products is counterproductive at this critical time and is adding unnecessary cost and confusion for manufacturers, distributors, and consumers.

DTA and the ADA also support the bipartisan call for increasing domestic production of these goods in an effort to help resolve the persistent shortages of supplies, equipment, and medicines the United States needs to successfully combat the pandemic and save lives.

Thank you for your consideration of our views. We look forward to continuing to work with you during this critical time to protect the health of our nation. If you would like additional information, please contact Patrick Cooney at patrick@federalgrp.com or (202) 413-2629, and Michael Graham at grahamm@ada.org or 202-789-5167

Sincerely,

Dave Steck
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