



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Andy Beshear  
GOVERNOR

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February 3, 2025

Senator Mitch McConnell  
317 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Representative Morgan McGarvey  
1527 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Senator Rand Paul  
295 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Representative Thomas Massie  
2453 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Representative James Comer  
2410 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Representative Hal Rogers  
2406 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Representative Brett Guthrie  
2434 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Representative Andy Barr  
2430 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Gentlemen –

I write to express my serious concerns over harmful retaliatory actions on Kentucky bourbon and request your assistance on avoiding a preventable catastrophe for our Kentucky families.

As you know, bourbon is a key economic driver in the commonwealth. The industry accounts for more than \$9 billion in economic output each year and supports more than 23,100 jobs statewide. Annual payroll tops \$1.63 billion. Ongoing capital investment creates more than 5,600 new jobs each year. Finally, the Kentucky Bourbon Trail – the biggest driver of Kentucky's record-breaking \$13.8 billion-a-year tourism industry – attracts more than 2.55 million visitors to the commonwealth every year.

Federal tariffs imposed yesterday have already led to retaliatory actions on Kentucky bourbon that will be costly, disruptive, and harmful to the many thousands of Kentucky men and women who support their families working in the industry. We, as Kentuckians, are left paying a larger economic price than the rest of the country, at a time when prices are already too high.

Congressional Letter  
February 3, 2025  
Page Two

I urge each member of Kentucky's congressional delegation to stand up and fight for the tens of thousands of Kentuckians in your districts who will be impacted. Our country deserves a more thoughtful and measured approach to foreign trade that, at a minimum, does not threaten one of our flagship industries and pose harm to the Kentucky families who work so hard to sustain it and support themselves.

Sincerely,

  
Andy Beshear  
Governor