

U.S. House of Representatives
Rep. Sharice L. Davids
Kansas Third District

November 13, 2025

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC, 20500

The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20250

Dear President Trump and Secretary Rollins,

I write today to urge you to support Kansas farmers and ranchers who are struggling amid deep uncertainty and worsening economic conditions caused by your trade war. Farmers rely on stable, long-term trading relationships, yet reckless tariffs have eroded key markets like China, which has sharply reduced its purchase of U.S. soybeans. Kansas producers are already facing rising input costs and high interest rates, pushing the farm economy toward crisis.

American farmers and ranchers have been in this situation before. According to the United States Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service, during the first Trump Administration, American farmers lost roughly \$27 billion in exports between 2018 and 2019¹. Many producers relied on the Market Facilitation Program and other ad hoc direct income support programs to stay afloat, putting the financial burden on all hardworking Kansans.

Now, due to your administration's self-inflicted trade war, I consistently hear from Kansas producers facing severe economic challenges. This is reflected in the data by increased farm bankruptcy filings. While farmers and ranchers often say they want "trade not aid," in the short term, many producers need assistance to remain solvent and continue operating.

To that end, while restoring trade partnerships remains my ultimate demand, I also urge you to work with agriculture stakeholders and develop a fiscally responsible plan for targeted tariff relief to American producers that:

- Incorporates lessons learned from the 2018 and 2019 ad hoc trade relief programs, as outlined in subsequent Government Accountability Office reports²³⁴;
- Includes strong guardrails and robust government oversight; and
- Ensures small and mid-sized farms receive fair and equitable support.

¹ https://ers.usda.gov/sites/default/files/_laserfiche/publications/102980/ERR-304.pdf?v=13480

² <https://www.gao.gov/products/gao-20-700r>

³ <https://www.gao.gov/products/gao-22-468>

⁴ <https://www.gao.gov/products/gao-22-104259>

Furthermore, I urge you to work with Congress on this relief package. Producers deserve certainty and any tariff relief should not add to the challenge of navigating impulsive trade and policy changes.

Kansas farmers and ranchers deserve trade policies that open doors rather than create new obstacles. I urge your administration to provide certainty for our producers, restore trade relationships, and ensure Kansas farmers can continue doing what they do best — feeding our country and the world.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'SD', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Sharice L. Davids
Member of Congress