

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

June 25, 2020

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

Dear Mr. President:

We write to commend your Executive Order 13924 issued on May 19, 2020, to provide regulatory relief to support the restoration of American jobs and broader economic recovery. One egregious regulation that we believe fits squarely within the purview of E.O. 13924 involves an Obama-Biden Administration regulation on premium cigars. This unique industry is comprised of scores of small manufacturers and thousands of small business retail shops, many of whom were struggling to survive the regulations prior to the pandemic - surely most will be wiped out after the pandemic should the regulations not be rescinded. We are aware your Administration has been reviewing these regulations and urge you to prioritize action. The premium cigar industry has a rich history in Pennsylvania and the state is home to the entire industry supply chain including small business retail stores, tobacco farmers and numerous mail-order businesses employing thousands of Pennsylvanians.

When Congress passed the Family Smoking Prevention & Tobacco Control Act in 2009, it sought to achieve two noble goals - eliminate consumption of tobacco products by underage youth and prevent the scientifically proven negative health effects of addiction to tobacco products. Neither of these elements apply to the premium cigar industry as its products are exclusively marketed to adult consumers who enjoy them in moderation. We are aware that FDA's own research has shown this to be the case.

Efforts to eliminate the applicability of these onerous, job-killing regulations has received broad support over the years including co-sponsorship of former Congressmen Mike Pence, Mark Meadows, Mick Mulvaney and Mike Pompeo. Elimination of these regulations will preserve jobs and small businesses in each of our districts and across the country. If these regulations are permitted to remain in force, these businesses will close their doors and a niche industry which has existed for hundreds of years will be fundamentally destroyed. We appreciate the efforts that have been underway for some time through the Domestic Policy Council and urge you to ensure that a determination is made as quickly as possible to enable these businesses across Pennsylvania to keep their doors open and Americans employed.

Thank you for your consideration of our views.

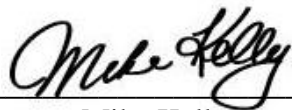
Sincerely,



Daniel P. Meuser
Member of Congress



Glenn 'GT' Thompson
Member of Congress



Mike Kelly
Member of Congress



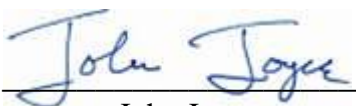
Scott Perry
Member of Congress



Brian Fitzpatrick
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Lloyd Smucker
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