

NATION FORD CHEMICAL

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Dear Editor,

Later this month, I will travel to Washington, D.C. on behalf of my company, Nation Ford Chemical (Fort Mill, SC), to meet with federal lawmakers on Capitol Hill and to advocate for policies that directly impact our business and community. This effort is a part of the Washington Fly-In event organized by the Society of Chemical Manufacturers and Affiliates (SOCMA), a trade association that represents more than 200 specialty chemical manufacturers. While I am there, I will specifically urge Members of Congress, including Rep. Mick Mulvaney, to pass legislation known as the “Miscellaneous Tariff Bill” (MTB)—a critical piece of trade legislation for specialty chemical and other U.S. manufacturers.

The MTB is a compilation of duty suspensions for inputs of various products manufactured in the United States. Passing the MTB would help Nation Ford Chemical reduce its manufacturing costs and avoid a giant tax hike on U.S. manufacturers over the next three years.

Competing in the global marketplace is a challenge. My company already operates at a severe disadvantage compared to other companies in their respective countries due to higher taxes, tort costs and layers upon layers of state and federal regulations that are exclusive to U.S. manufacturers. Other industrialized countries have created duty-free allowances for inputs into manufacturing, i.e. supplies my company relies on to make several dyes and specialty chemicals. They recognize, like we do, that relief from tariffs supports domestic manufacturing, creates savings for consumers and increases global competitiveness for their companies.

While Nation Ford Chemical is considered a small business, it has created over 90 jobs in Fort Mill, SC and is proud to be a growing source of employment in York County for over 35 years. It is also one of thousands of small businesses across the country that fuels the American economy; unequivocally, I know that imports and exports are critically important to the domestic manufacturing industry. It is time Congress recognizes the value of the MTB, as well as the economic bearing trade has on American manufacturing. I look forward to sharing my perspective on Capitol Hill and intend to actively campaign for Congress to swiftly pass the MTB.

Sincerely,

Brooke DiDomenico