

Representative Michael Nigro:

I noticed the upcoming hearing about the impact of tariffs on Vermont businesses. The hearing may be focused on our trade with Canada, but I thought I would share my situation as a small business owner:

My business orders cups with a custom logo printed on them. We typically get them through a small US producer who provides two services: cups they make and print themselves (which are more expensive, but can be made very quickly) and cups they contract to have made in China (which are much less expensive, but can take up to six months to arrive). We have utilized both services based on our needs at that time.

We currently are waiting on the arrival of a \$5,000 order of cups from China. We have no idea what will happen. Will the company demand more money to pay for new tariff? Will the small producer we work with even remain in business based on the tariff impact? Will the Federal government reverse their decision soon, so if we just have our order held a little longer before shipping the tariffs will go back down? We like to purchase US made goods and mostly do... but we just want to know there is some consistency to allow us to plan appropriately.

Mike