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The Wall Street Journal's "A Deere in Tariff Headlights” highlights an economic truth that cannot be ignored. Chairman Smith’s claim that tariffs would boost the American economy is a farce. Tariffs that have been put in place have only hurt Americans. Smith claims that tariffs will help in the long run, boosting the manufacturing of American-made products, yet farmers and manufacturers are suffering.

The consequences do not end in the farm belt. The range of tariffs reaches farther and impacts consumers with higher costs. Groceries are projected to rise nearly 3%, and fresh produce at 4%. Companies have already attempted to offset their cost increases by implementing “shrinkflation”, quietly giving families less food for the same price.

End the tariffs now. Contact your U.S. senators and representatives to demand a repeal of harsh tariffs on key imports. If tariffs remain on key importers, industry workers will continue to suffer. Steel tariffs have already cost jobs in manufacturing; leaving them in place guarantees more layoffs and higher prices.

CORY BOOKER
Washington

Senator Booker is a Democratic U.S. Senator from New Jersey and has been a leader in protecting the Affordable Care Act.